

This is the most recent letter from the Campus Environmental Health and Safety Department, which explains the current status of Asbestos Containing Materials (ACM) in Bannockburn Village.

State of California Assembly Bill 3713 requires that owners of buildings known to have been constructed with building materials, that included asbestos containing material, (ACM) notify their employees annually of its presence, potential health risks and procedures to be followed to minimize exposure to asbestos. This notice is intended to satisfy that requirement.

Do not vacuum ceiling material particles. In 1986, Design and Construction at UCR retained a consultant to survey all campus buildings to identify any asbestos containing material (ACM) that was used in construction and to make recommendations for its management. Copies of this report are available for review by contacting the Physical Plant office at 827-4214. Since ACM was used extensively in some building materials produced during the time when many of the buildings at UCR were constructed, ACM was found to be present in some of the insulation on steam and hot water pipes, steel beams, sprayed acoustic ceiling plaster, duct and joint insulation, some floor and ceiling tiles, drywall and joints, adhesives, lath and plaster, asbestos cement pipe and sheets, and certain roofing.

Since the main health risks associated with asbestos are related to the inhalation of asbestos fibers, ACM is categorized according to its ability to become airborne (friable or non-friable). Friable ACM is relatively soft and can be crumbled or reduced to powder by hand pressure. The resulting powder can become airborne and possibly inhaled. Non-friable materials are relatively non-hazardous because they are hard and do not become airborne easily (for example, Transite and floor tiles). If asbestos is inhaled in large quantities, several diseases can develop, including a type of lung cancer; cigarette smoking tends to increase this risk. Health risks to campus employees are considered to be very low because:

- * Most of the ACM that is in areas accessible to UCR faculty, staff, students and visitors is non-friable and not likely to become airborne.
- * Intact, encapsulated, and/or undisturbed ACM does not pose a health risk.
- * Abatement projects are typically performed quickly and monitored by qualified individuals from Physical Plant, HDRS, EH&S, outside consultants/laboratories, and/or contractors.
- * To keep the risk low, comply with the following:

Non-certified UCR employees, students, or contractors shall not remove, disturb, or attempt to renovate (e.g., drill into or saw) or repair materials known or suspected to contain asbestos.

Your cooperation will help to keep UCR a safe and healthy place to work.

