


**Town of Rowley  
Inspection Dept.**

P.O. Box 618  
39 Central St.  
Rowley, MA 01969  
(978)948-2186  
FAX (978)948-3796  
building@townofrowley.org

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Board of Building Regulations and Standards  
Massachusetts State Building Code, 780 CMR, 7<sup>th</sup> edition

## DEMOLITION SIGN-OFF

FOR OFFICIAL USE

\_\_\_\_ Permit #  
\_\_\_\_ Check #  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Fee

### 780 CMR 5112 DEMOLITION OF STRUCTURES

**5112.1 Service connections:** Before a *building* or *structure* is demolished or removed, the owner or agent shall notify all utilities having service connections within the *structure* such as water, electric, gas, sewer and other connections. **A permit to demolish or remove a building or structure shall not be issued until a release is obtained from the utilities**, stating that their respective service connections and appurtenant equipment, such as meters and regulators, have been removed or sealed and plugged in a safe manner.

UTILITY:	Signature:	Date:
Board of Health		
Water Department		
Gas Utility		
Rowley Lighting Plant (electric)		
Cable/Telephone		
Conservation Commission		

- I certify that the utilities have been notified of the demolition of the building or structure at \_\_\_\_\_ (address) \_\_\_\_\_ and service connections have been removed, sealed or plugged. All applicable releases from utilities are attached.
- Description of structure(s) to be demolished: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Total Cost: \_\_\_\_\_
- I am aware that all buildings are subject to Mass DEP asbestos regulations at 310 CMR 7.15. Failure to identify and remove all asbestos containing material prior to its being impacted by demolition activities can result in significant penalty exposure.
- Historic District Commission review and approval is necessary for all demolition permits. Permit will not be issued until the Inspection Office receives the appropriate Certificate of Appropriateness from the Historic District Commission. (date rec'd) \_\_\_\_\_

(Signature of Owner) \_\_\_\_\_ (date) \_\_\_\_\_

(print name) \_\_\_\_\_ (map/parcel #) \_\_\_\_\_

### What is Asbestos? Is it hazardous to your health?

Asbestos is a naturally occurring, mostly fibrous mineral and may consist of any one of a number of silicates. Asbestos is used in a variety of products because of its physical properties, which make it resistant to heat, fire, and many caustic chemicals. Asbestos has been used extensively as fireproofing, an insulating agent, and for decorative purposes, among many other uses.

The physical properties that give asbestos its resistance to heat and decay are linked with several adverse human effects. Asbestos tends to break into a dust of microscopic fibers. Because of their size and shape, these tiny fibers can remain suspended in the air for long periods of time and can easily penetrate bodily tissue when inhaled. Because of their durability, these fibers can remain in the body for many years.

Asbestos is known to cause asbestosis and various forms of cancer. *Asbestosis* is a chronic disease of the lungs which makes breathing progressively more difficult, and can lead to death. Cancer can result from breathing asbestos fibers and *lung cancer* is the most frequent. *Mesothelioma*, an incurable cancer of the chest and abdominal membranes, almost never occurs without exposure to asbestos. Asbestos related diseases have a long latency period and do not show up until 10 to 40 years after exposure. Each exposure increases the likelihood of developing an asbestos-related disease.

Material containing 1% asbestos fibers or more by weight is regulated. For this guide the term asbestos includes asbestos containing material and waste materials contaminated with asbestos.

### Does Asbestos have to be removed?

If asbestos is in good condition and it does not pose a health hazard, no laws or regulations require that it be removed. However, building owners are required to keep asbestos in good repair to prevent releases of visible or particulate asbestos emissions under state and federal regulations. If a demolition/renovation or repair activity could cause damage to asbestos-containing material, then it is required that the asbestos be removed prior to the activity. Demolition of a building requires that all asbestos be removed prior to demolition.

### Do I need to conduct a thorough asbestos inspection prior to any renovation or demolition activity?

All residential, commercial and institutional buildings are subject to Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) asbestos regulations at 310 CMR 7.15. **Therefore, owners and/or operators (e.g. building owners, renovation and demolition contractors, plumbing and heating contractors, flooring contractors, etc.) need to determine all asbestos containing materials (both non-friable and friable) that are present at the site and whether or not those materials will be impacted by the proposed work prior to conducting any renovation or demolition activity.**

Examples of commonly found asbestos containing materials include, *but are not limited to*, heating system insulation, floor tiles and vinyl sheet flooring, mastics, wallboard, joint compound, decorative plasters, asbestos containing siding and roofing products and fireproofing.

Failure to identify and remove all asbestos containing material prior to its being impacted by renovation or demolition activities can result in significant penalty exposure, and higher clean-up, decontamination, disposal and monitoring cost.