



## Extract – Guidance Note on Asbestos Cement Fences – Remediation Measures

Monitor the condition of the fence on a regular basis. This may not need to be too frequent for Asbestos Cement Materials (ACM) fences in better condition. Monitoring of poorer condition fences may need to be more frequent in the interim before they are repaired or replaced, or to monitor temporary repairs, in case those fences rapidly deteriorate further;

Remove vegetation that may be abrading or threatening to break fence panels. This should be standard practice for any ACM fence unless the fence will soon be removed;

Sealing any broken edges on the fence with exterior grade PVA glue or paint after first gently wetting with a fine water spray to reduce the release of asbestos dust;

Repairing any small holes in the fence with patching material, again after wetting down. One way of doing this may be to stick an all-weather industrial strength adhesive tape over the hole and if necessary painting over it to match the surrounding area.



Taped fence hole from reverse side

For cracks, sealing the edges would be the first step and then the gap could be filled with an outdoor silicone product;

For larger holes it may be possible to place or glue (do not drill and bolt) a protective board over the hole. However, removal and proper disposal of the damaged ACM fence panel is recommended, noting that the profile of new non-ACM panels is not compatible with the ACM.

If there are a number of damaged panels then it is logical to replace the whole fence.

**Never re-use ACM panels;**

Replace the ACM fence capping with new metal capping, or covering it over with new capping without damaging the ACM fencing panels.

In addition to the above, another good measure can be painting the whole fence on the concerned house owner's side with two coats of a long lasting outdoor paint.

1. A high volume **low pressure** spray gun is a safe and efficient way of doing this.
2. A high pressure sprayer **must not** be used as it can release ACM fibres from the fence.
3. If brushes or rollers are used then the surface should be wetted first and the equipment should be disposed of as ACM waste afterwards.



Painted ACM fence (with fasteners removed and with metal capping). Branches need trimming

For heavily leaning fences, engineering solutions are not advisable except for interim stabilisation to prevent collapse or further damage. They should be removed and replaced.

If the maintenance or removal involves considerable disturbance to the ACM fence or it is in a poor condition (including ACM capping) the use of an asbestos professional or asbestos removalist is strongly recommended.

### **Asbestos for Disposal to Be Separated, Wrapped and Labelled**

1. **Separate** asbestos-containing products from other material for disposal;
2. **Wrap** or contain asbestos-containing products so fibres are not released when being transported;
3. **Label** or mark the package with the words 'CAUTION ASBESTOS' (or similar) in letters no less than 50 millimetres high.

Not all landfills accept asbestos waste. Asbestos-containing material must be disposed of at a site Licensed to accept asbestos waste by the Department of Environment Regulation) under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.

### **METROPOLITAN DISPOSAL FACILITIES – ASBESTOS**

<b>Premises</b>	<b>Suburb</b>	<b>Contact Number</b>
Mindarie Regional Council	Mindarie	9606 6300
Eastern Metro Regional Council	Gidgegannup	9574 6235
City of Cockburn	Henderson	9411 3444
City of Armadale	Forrestdale	9399 3935
Waste Stream	Kwinana	9439 1300
City of Rockingham	Baldivis	9528 0333
West Australian Landfill Service	South Cardup	9350 7134
Eclipse Resources	Postans	9380 3333
Shire of Waroona	Waroona	9733 7800
Shire of Gingin	Gingin	9575 5100
Premium Waste Management	Waroona	9733 2289