

CALGARY MOLD REMEDIATION

Disposal & Landfill

Where asbestos and other abatement waste goes
in Calgary and area: Shepard landfill, packaging,
permits, appointments and fees

4 Expert Answers from Remediation IQ

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Is a permit needed to bring asbestos to a Calgary landfill?

Yes. The City of Calgary requires an Industrial Waste Permit before asbestos can be accepted at the Shepard landfill, and an appointment must be booked in advance. Both apply whether you are a resident bringing material in directly or a commercial hauler.

What you need before you go to Shepard

The Industrial Waste Permit Application carries no fee and is valid for up to one year. Appointments must be requested by 10 a.m. the day before you plan to drop off. The landfill accepts asbestos Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., by appointment only, and is closed on holidays. Shepard is the only City of Calgary facility that accepts asbestos; no other Calgary landfill is approved for it.

Packaging must meet the City of Calgary's requirements: material is wetted before bagging, double-bagged in 6-mil polyethylene, double-wrapped and sealed with duct tape or similar. Loads with rips, tears or openings can be turned away or charged a hard-to-handle surcharge of \$275 per load. The current disposal rate is \$220 per tonne.

Beyond the City's permit and appointment, asbestos waste is regulated as a dangerous good for transport under Alberta's Dangerous Goods Transportation and Handling Act. A shipping document with the UN number, UN 2590 for chrysotile asbestos, is required for the haul. Alberta Environment's disposal guidelines note that asbestos waste containing more than 1 per cent asbestos by weight is exempt from the provincial hazardous waste regulation when managed under those guidelines, so no Alberta manifest is needed, but the transport document still is. Never describe asbestos waste as ordinary construction debris when arranging disposal; ask the contractor and the landfill how the load will be classified, especially if test results show a trace or borderline result.

The OHS Code also requires that asbestos waste be stored, transported and disposed of in sealed, impervious, labelled containers. That overlaps with the City's packaging rule but comes from a different authority: the OHS Code binds the contractor doing the abatement work, while the City's packaging and permit requirements govern what Shepard will accept.

One practical note: the City's Asbestos Abatement Information Form must be submitted before a building or demolition permit is released for any building to be renovated or demolished. That form is separate from the Shepard Industrial Waste Permit. A building permit is not a permit to perform abatement work; jurisdiction for the abatement itself sits with the Government of Alberta, not the City.

When you are comparing two written abatement quotes, set the disposal line items side by side: check that each quote names Shepard specifically, states the tonnage estimate, includes the \$220-per-tonne rate and the packaging labour, and accounts for the transport document, so you can see exactly what each contractor is and is

not covering for disposal.

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Where can I take asbestos waste in Calgary?

Asbestos waste in Calgary goes to one place only: the Shepard landfill. No other City facility accepts it, and any asbestos load has to go to a landfill approved to accept asbestos.

What You Need Before You Go

Shepard requires both a permit and a booked appointment, whether you are a resident bringing material in directly or a commercial hauler. The permit is an Industrial Waste Permit, available through the City of Calgary at no charge, and it is valid for up to one year. Appointment requests must be submitted by 10 a.m. the day before you plan to drop off. The landfill accepts asbestos loads Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., by appointment only, and is closed on holidays.

The current disposal rate is \$220 per tonne, in effect since February 2026. If a load arrives with rips, tears or openings in the packaging, the City can turn it away or apply a hard-to-handle surcharge of \$275 per load, so packaging matters.

Packaging requirements (City of Calgary): the material must be wetted before bagging, then double-bagged in 6-mil polyethylene, double-wrapped and sealed with duct tape or a similar method. Bladder containers up to 20 cubic yards and bins up to 40 cubic yards are accepted.

A note on transport: asbestos waste is regulated as a dangerous good for transport (Alberta's bulletin points to the provincial Dangerous Goods Transportation and Handling Act), so the vehicle carrying it needs a shipping document that includes the UN number. For chrysotile asbestos that number is UN 2590. Asbestos waste in Alberta is not classified as hazardous waste under the provincial hazardous waste regulation when it is managed under the provincial asbestos disposal guidelines, and it does not require an Alberta manifest. The dangerous goods shipping document is a separate requirement and still applies.

If an abatement contractor is handling the disposal on your behalf, confirm they have the Shepard permit in place before the job starts, not after. A contractor who cannot name the receiving landfill is worth questioning.

After the job is finished, hold onto four documents: the lab report from the bulk sampling that identified the material, a copy of the 72-hour OHS notification the contractor filed before work began, the air clearance letter confirming fibre levels after abatement, and the Shepard landfill receipt showing the waste was disposed of at an approved facility.

Does asbestos waste need a manifest in Alberta?

Asbestos waste in Alberta does not need a manifest. The province exempts it from the hazardous waste regulation when it is managed under Alberta's asbestos disposal guidelines, so no manifest is required.

That said, the exemption does not mean the material moves without paperwork. Asbestos waste is regulated as a dangerous good for transport (Alberta's bulletin points to the provincial Dangerous Goods Transportation and Handling Act), so a shipping document showing the UN number is still required. For chrysotile, that number is UN 2590. The load can only go to a landfill approved to accept asbestos. In Calgary, that is Shepard landfill only, and you need both an Industrial Waste Permit and a booked appointment before you arrive. The permit has no fee and is valid up to one year. Appointments must be requested by 10 a.m. the day before. The City's current rate is \$220 per tonne, with a \$275 per load hard-to-handle surcharge if packaging is damaged or open.

Packaging matters at Shepard. The City of Calgary requires material to be wetted before bagging, then double-bagged in 6-mil polyethylene, double-wrapped and sealed with duct tape or similar. Loads with rips, tears or openings can be turned away or hit with the surcharge. The OHS Code separately requires that asbestos waste be stored, transported and disposed of in sealed, impervious, labelled containers. Both rules apply at the same time.

A few other things to keep straight:

- Never call asbestos waste "hazardous waste" in Alberta: the provincial exemption means that label does not apply when the disposal guidelines are followed.
- The 72-hour notification to Alberta OHS is a separate obligation from disposal. The contractor files it online before work begins, not at the landfill.
- The Alberta Asbestos Abatement Manual describes the clearance air standard after abatement: results below 0.01 fibres per cubic centimetre for moderate-risk work, with aggressive sampling if a containment was used.

One thing to settle with any contractor up front: will they show you the 72-hour OHS notification they plan to file, the worker cards for everyone entering the restricted area, and who will run the clearance air test?

Rocky View County transfer sites and asbestos waste?

Asbestos waste cannot be accepted at Rocky View County transfer sites or roundups. That is the rule the County publishes, so any asbestos-containing material removed from a property in Rocky View County needs to go elsewhere.

Where the waste can go

The County's own pages do not name an approved receiving landfill for asbestos waste. For disposal options, check directly with Rocky View County before hauling anything. Do not assume a facility will accept it without confirming in advance, and do not bring it to a County transfer site: the County says asbestos cannot be accepted there.

What the Alberta OHS Code does require, regardless of municipality, is that asbestos waste be stored and transported in sealed, impervious, labelled containers. For comparison, the City of Calgary's rule for loads at Shepard landfill is material wetted before bagging, double-bagged in 6-mil polyethylene, then double-wrapped and sealed; ask the receiving landfill for its own rule. Alberta Environment's guidelines note that asbestos waste containing more than 1 per cent asbestos by weight is exempt from the provincial hazardous waste regulation when managed under those guidelines, but it is still regulated as a dangerous good for transport. A shipping document with the UN number is required, and the load can only go to a landfill approved to accept it.

The contractor you hire carries the legal duty here. Under Alberta OHS Code section 38, the employer is responsible for ensuring waste is stored, transported and disposed of properly. Before any work begins, the contractor must also file a 72-hour notification with Alberta OHS through the provincial asbestos portal. No work that may release fibres can start until that notification is made.

On the permit side, Rocky View County requires a permit for demolition or construction of any building over 10 square metres (roughly 107 square feet). The County's demolition checklist does not include a specific asbestos item, but the OHS notification and proper disposal remain legal requirements under provincial law regardless of what the municipal checklist says. If you are unsure whether your project triggers any additional local conditions, contact Rocky View County directly.

When you are comparing two written abatement quotes for this job, set them side by side and look at whether each one names the disposal facility, confirms the contractor will file the 72-hour OHS notification, specifies independent clearance air testing rather than sampling done by the abatement crew itself, and lists the worker card numbers for the people who will actually enter the work area.

If you want quotes, the form on this page reaches abatement contractors listed in the Calgary Construction Network directory, and they reply by email.

Disclaimer: This guide is provided for informational purposes only by Calgary Mold Remediation. It does not constitute professional advice. Always consult qualified, licensed contractors and your local building authority (the City of Calgary or your own municipality) and Alberta Occupational Health and Safety before starting any asbestos, mould or lead paint project. Information is current as of October 25, 2026 and may change. Visit calgarymoldremediation.com for the latest answers.