

## FACT SHEET 6: Recycling of Metal and other Material, (incl, Concrete and Bricks) from Bushfire Damaged Properties.

### **1. Recycling material that may contain asbestos**

If your property has, or is likely to have, asbestos containing debris, any material to be recycled must be cleaned and inspected for asbestos prior to supplying it to the recycler. It is recommended you contact the recycler before collecting the material to establish any specific requirements that they may have.

The recycler may ask for verification that the material does not contain asbestos. A method of achieving this may be:

- dedicate an area for material to be recycled
- transfer material to this area
- clean the material of any visible asbestos debris
- visually inspect the material to ensure there is no visible asbestos debris
- transfer clean and inspected material to the transport vehicle or an area where cross contamination will not occur prior to transport
- provide a written statement confirming what material has been cleaned, visually inspected and found to have no visible asbestos

### **2. Recycling material that does not contain asbestos**

If your property does not have asbestos containing debris, you should be able to sell/provide it to a recycler. WorkSafe recommends you contact the recycler before collecting the material to establish any specific requirements that they may have.

### **3. Non-recyclable materials**

If the material you are removing is non-recyclable and is to be disposed of at a landfill site:

- Any potential asbestos contaminated material must be forwarded to an EPA landfill licensed for asbestos. Contact the landfill for any specific requirements
- Asbestos free material can be disposed of at any appropriately licensed landfill. Contact the landfill for any specific requirements

For information about landfill disposal, contact:

- the EPA, (03) 9695 2722, [www.epa.vic.gov.au](http://www.epa.vic.gov.au);
- your local Council

#### **4. Workplaces recycling construction and demolition material such as concrete and brick**

Workplaces that process construction and demolition material such as concrete and brick for re-use (in forms such as crushed rock) from places that may have contained asbestos are required to:

- produce that recycled material in accordance with an auditable process, determined by WorkSafe, to verify that asbestos-containing material has been removed; and
- ensure it contains less than 0.001% asbestos – measured using a method determined by WorkSafe

An auditable process determined by WorkSafe to verify that asbestos containing material has been removed from the recycled material can be found at:

[http://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/resources/file/eb654f0326631b8/recycling\\_construction\\_demolition.pdf](http://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/resources/file/eb654f0326631b8/recycling_construction_demolition.pdf)

A method determined by WorkSafe for measuring whether recycled material contains less than 0.001% can be found at:

<http://www.gazette.vic.gov.au/gazette/Gazettes2003/GG2003S253.pdf#page=2>

***For general advice call WorkSafe's Advisory Service on 1800 136 089.***