

## Handling Asbestos

The following literature is to provide you with how to handle and bag up your asbestos as safely as possible. Please be advised that this service has specific restrictions in place, failure to adhere to these restrictions will result in refusal to accept your asbestos at the Household Recycling Centre (HRC), Cottage Beck, Scunthorpe.

### How to handle and bag up your asbestos:

It is important that you have properly assessed the risk. Asbestos can be exceptionally hazardous to you and your family's long term health and therefore you must consider the following:

- Bonded asbestos is most dangerous when it has been damaged, therefore if you have a damaged section/piece of asbestos or if your asbestos would need to be broken up to fit in the bags, we strongly advise you instead to seek a licenced asbestos removal contractor. Do not break asbestos up yourself – as this will release harmful fibres into the atmosphere.
- Asbestos fibres and particles can easily come loose and be breathed in by you, family members, pets or anyone in the surrounding area. Enclose the area as much as possible and restrict the number of people in the area. Remember to place children or pets in another room as far away as possible.
- Put Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) on. We recommend that you use a disposable breathing mask, disposable gloves and a disposable overall with hood. Please refer to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE website address can be found at the bottom of this leaflet) for full details.
- Dampen the surrounding area so that any fibres or particles that could come loose are more likely to stick to the damp surface.
- Place your asbestos into the red bag, being careful not to damage or break up the asbestos and seal the bag.
- Don't overfill the bag, you will need room to place your red bag and PPE into the clear bag and properly seal it. If the bag were to split we would not be able to accept it under any circumstances.
- Place the sealed red bag in the clear bag.
- Remove your PPE and place them into the clear bag, on top of the red bag.
- Seal the clear bag.

### Further guidance on removing, handling and disposing of asbestos:

We strongly recommend you read through the HSE's guidance and specific task sheets for dealing with asbestos. This information is easily accessible via the HSE's website:

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos/essentials/> The information provided by the HSE details specifics on many aspects of handling asbestos.