Emergency Guidance Fact Sheet: Asbestos

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Critical Facts:
- Any building or structure may contain asbestos. Inhalation exposure can occur when asbestos-containing material (ACM) is disturbed, causing a fiber release.
- Keeping material wet and contained minimizes emissions.
- Do not burn or grind materials.
- Removal, transportation, or disposal of ACM may need permits under federal and state of Montana regulations.
- Asbestos-containing waste material (ACWM) can only be disposed of in a landfill that meets the DEQ requirements for accepting ACWM.
- Residential buildings with four or fewer dwelling units do not meet facility requirements. Contact ACP or consult the Residential Exemption for more information.
- There are no statutory or regulatory provisions that stay the applicability of Federal regulations for activities related to catastrophic events.

Debris on the Ground:
- Building debris on the ground from structures totally destroyed by natural forces (as opposed to structures demolished in whole or in part by human activities) is not subject to federal and state requirements related to demolition and renovations or transportation requirements.

Partially Destroyed Buildings:
- If a building is partially destroyed or moved off of its foundation, but still standing, further demolition or renovation requirements are subject to federal and state regulations.
- If a state or local government (town or city administration) issues a Demolition Order based on a determination that the building is structurally unsound and in danger of imminent collapse, the demolition is exempt from certain provisions of the NESHAP. Contact DEQ ACP for additional information.

Information sourced from the U.S. EPA: Guidance for Catastrophic Emergency Situations Involving Asbestos