

As mentioned above, the majority of buildings had isolated areas of debris specifically at the perimeter of the roofs, at the base of parapet walls, and in gutters. Debris was also visible at horizontal surfaces on some of the building facades including awnings. For some buildings, building facades facing the street were cleaned while the facades at the rear remained dirty. The figures above include these cases.

What actions did the DEP take at buildings where clean up of debris was necessary?

Notices were issued to building owner/manager identifying the results of the survey and the need to have an assessment of the debris performed. The specific procedures for the clean up activities would rely on the results of the assessment.

Who can perform the assessment?

A survey and assessment for asbestos-containing material (ACM) must be performed by an individual who is certified by the DEP as an asbestos investigator. A list of certified investigators who agreed to have their telephone numbers posted on the DEP web page can be found at www.nyc.gov/dep. The certification status of asbestos investigators can be obtained by calling (718) 595-3693 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

What are the credentials of a certified asbestos investigator?

Individuals who are certified as asbestos investigators have met the minimum education and experience requirements set forth in the NYC asbestos rules, successfully completed a New York State Department of Health approved training class, and passed a written DEP standardized examination.

What do the results of the debris assessment mean?

An assessment of the debris includes measuring the amount of debris and collection of bulk samples. Bulk samples must be sent to an accredited laboratory for analysis under a polarized light microscope (PLM). Samples found to contain greater than 1% asbestos are asbestos-containing material (ACM) and must be handled by NYS DOL licensed contractors with DEP and NYSDOL certified workers.

How should the material be handled if it is not asbestos-containing material?

The NYC Department of Health has issued directives for proper clean up methods. HEPA vacuum and/or wet cleaning methods should be used for all debris clean up. Information is available at www.nyc.gov.

How has the DEP followed up on the notices to building owners/managers? Has the DEP monitored compliance with the notices?

The DEP continues to schedule site visits to identified buildings for follow-up. The DEP has received some information from building owners/managers regarding the assessments and clean

up activities. Site visits continue to be scheduled to verify the clean up activities reported to the Department.

The clean up of asbestos containing material (ACM) requires the submittal of an asbestos project notification form. The Department has inspected 100% of the reported projects at least once.

The DEP continues to respond to complaints regarding the presence of debris from the Lower Manhattan Air Quality Hotline and identifies areas of concern with building owners/managers.

What if the necessary clean up actions have not been taken by the building owner/manager? What if the building owner/manager of the adjacent buildings have not taken the necessary clean up actions?

Although many building owners have attempted to comply with the requirements, the DEP recognizes that some buildings continue to have exterior debris. Therefore, the city, state, and federal agencies will ensure that the debris is removed to maintain the ongoing improvement to air quality.

Based on the visual surveys and the most stringent assessment and evaluation, this material will be assumed to be ACM.

NYS DOL licensed asbestos contractors with DEP and NYSDOL certified workers will be scheduled to clean up of building roofs, setbacks, and/or building facades within the vicinity of the WTC. The scope of work was developed by the DEP, and will be monitored by the DEP and an independent third party air monitoring firm. The clean-up activities consist of collection of debris and wet cleaning/HEPA vacuuming until the surfaces are clean of visible debris.

How will the clean up activities be coordinated?

All clean up activities will be coordinated with building owners/managers.

The DEP will provide oversight of all the clean up activities. USDOL OSHA will provide oversight for worker safety issues. The area identified above was sub-divided into three areas. Work in each area will be assigned to a NYS DOL licensed asbestos contractor with DEP and NYS DOL certified workers. Clean up activities will be scheduled simultaneously at five buildings in order to expedite the clean up activities.

The areas have been designated:

- North of Liberty Street, South of Chambers Street, West of Broadway, East of the Hudson River
- North of Maiden Lane, East of Broadway, West of Pearl Street, South of Park Row and then Frankfort Street
- North of Beaver Street to Broadway and then to North of Battery Place, South of Liberty Street to Broadway and then to South of Maiden Lane, West of Pearl Street, East of the Hudson River