How to Collect a Vermiculite Insulation Sample

Concise instructions can be found at
our automated phone system at
905-507-4855 ext 502.

If you decide to have the asbestos suspect material analyzed (since not all vermiculite contains asbestos) the following will outline the recommended procedure:

Collect a few cups full of product taken from the bottom half of the insulation in the attic or from towards the bottom of the wall cavity (the asbestos tends to settle to the bottom). Avoid creating and breathing any more dust than necessary during this collection and do not remain in the area longer than necessary.

The U.S. EPA and Health Canada recommend that you use a respirator to reduce the dust you breathe during this collection. You can purchase a NIOSH approved P100 respirator from most hardware stores or safety houses. Follow the instructions with the respirator regarding fitting and maintenance. This respirator should not be used for major disturbance of vermiculite which would be encountered during renovations in the attic or for removal of the material. Try to avoid tracking the insulation or dust into the living space of the house.

Place the sample in a heavy duty zip lock freezer bag (squeeze out the air before sealing) and provide the following information on the bag or fastened to the bag:

- name
- address
- phone number
- fax or email address if you wish to receive the result this way

Have samples brought, mailed or couriered with payment to:

Pinchin Environmental Ltd.
Attention: Karen Slayer
5749 Coopers Avenue
Mississauga, Ontario L4Z 1R9
Phone: 905-507-4855
Email: vermiculite@pinchin.com

The cost for regular analysis (5 day) is $200. (plus GST) for a total of $214.00.

The cost for rush analysis (24 hr) is $300. (plus GST) for a total of $321.00.

These can be paid by cheque or credit card (Visa & MasterCard are accepted). Please include this with the sample when submitted (include expiry date and full name on the card if paying by credit card).

The Pinchin Environmental Lab is accredited by the U.S. government agency NIST NVLAP (lab code 101270-0).