Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization

Asbestos: The Impact on Public Health, the Environment, and the Economy

Health & Environmental Staff Luncheon Briefing

Thursday, July 11, 2013 12:00 – 1:00 pm Room Dirksen 406



RSVP by Friday, July 5

Complete online form at http://bit.ly/10nGDlH or call (310) 251-7477

The Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization (ADAO) is the largest independent asbestos victims' organization in the U.S. It was founded in 2004 to give asbestos victims and concerned citizens a united voice, to raise public awareness about the dangers of asbestos exposure and to work towards a global asbestos ban. ADAO is dedicated to preventing consumer, environmental and occupational asbestos-caused diseases through national and international education, advocacy, and community initiatives.

Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral that continues to be used and imported by builders and manufacturers in cars, buildings, and thousands of household products. Asbestos is a proven human carcinogen, and the World Health Organization, the Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Surgeon General have each declared that there is no safe level of exposure to asbestos. Even limited exposure over a short period of time can lead to disease decades later. In fact, mesothelioma and other asbestos-related diseases claim the lives of more than 10,000 Americans each year. More than 50 countries worldwide have banned asbestos. Though safe substitutes exist, the United States still has not banned asbestos.

Topics & Presenters:

- Epidemiology: Understanding How Asbestos Causes Diseases Richard A. Lemen, Ph.D., MSPH, Assistant Surgeon General, USPHS (ret.)
- Treating Mesothelioma and Other Asbestos-Caused Diseases Raja Flores, MD, Chief of Thoracic Surgery, Mount Sinai Medical Center
- Regulatory EPA and OSH Concerns (TSCA) Tom Laubenthal, the Environmental Institute
- A Patient's Mesothelioma Journey Ellen Patton, Mesothelioma Patient
- Asbestos Exposure throughout the U.S.: Imports, Natural Disasters, and the Chemical Safety Improvement Act (S. 1009) Linda Reinstein, Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization