

Wood Dust

Why am I being warned about potential exposure to wood dust?



- Wood dust is on the [Proposition 65](#) list because it can cause cancer.
- Exposure to wood dust in significant amounts on a recurring basis can cause cancers of the nose, throat and sinuses.
- Proposition 65 requires businesses to determine if they must provide a warning about exposures to [listed chemicals](#).

What is wood dust?

- Wood dust is generated when machines or tools are used to cut or shape timber and other wood materials. Activities like chipping, sawing, drilling, sanding or woodturning create wood dust.

How does exposure to wood dust occur?

- Cutting, shaping and sanding wood releases wood dust into the air, where it can be inhaled. Wood dust also settles onto tables, floors and other surfaces. When disturbed, it can become airborne again, and can be inhaled. Under dry conditions, small amounts of wood dust can be released into the air from handling materials such as wood chip mulch and compost that contains wood dust. Regular exposure to significant amounts of wood dust are of concern.

