



CARD News

Center for Asbestos Related Disease

Fall 2011

2nd Annual Research Rally

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Schedule of Events

Research Rally
Thursday Oct. 13th
4:00 to 6:30

Symposium
Friday Oct 14th
8:00-8:30
Register & Breakfast

8:30-4:30
Presentations & Lunch
4:30-5:30
Questions & Answers

Saturday Oct 15th
7:30-8:00
Register & Breakfast

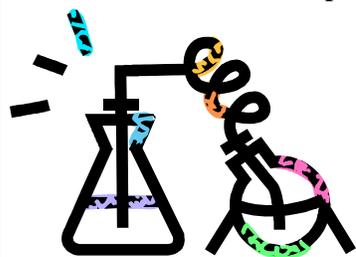
8:00-12:00
Presentations
12:00-1:00
Questions & Answers

The Center for Asbestos Related Disease is excited to be planning the **2nd Annual Research Rally**. This community-wide, family friendly event will encourage community members to interact directly with research teams/organizations who are engaged in Libby asbestos research to promote understanding of projects and develop relationships with the researchers/organizations. The event is geared towards educating the community about the importance of research and the important role that they can play to make research successful. The Research Rally will take place **Thursday, October 13, 2011 at the Libby Memorial Center. The Rally will begin at 4pm and run until 6:30pm.** This year besides the researchers that are engaged with CARD regarding impact of asbestos on health, Libby organizations and businesses that are engaged in asbestos research will also be invited to be “guest participants” to have information and representatives available to answer questions regarding the research that is taking place locally.

Each Research Partner or organization will be represented at the Rally and will have information at their own project booth. A “science walk” will encourage all Rally goers to visit each booth to better understand the array of projects and their progress in better understanding the behaviors and impact of the Libby asbestos.

The Research Rally is an innovative way to engage community members and researchers in a fun and educational event. The Rally

not only provides an opportunity for the community to interact directly with researchers/organizations but there will be interactive games, project information booths, learning activities for young and old alike. The event will be a thought provoking, fun filled experience planned for all ages. **There will be games and prizes, refreshments, popcorn, and cotton candy!** As you can see this is not your normal education event. This is an exciting opportunity to bring the whole family down and have a fun evening out, while learning about asbestos research and how research can improve our environment and our health.



CARD would like to share with the community at large, this opportunity to engage in asbestos research learning activities. Plan on coming out and having a good time, as well as showing your support for CARD, research and your community. We can't wait to see you there! For more information call Jennifer @ 406-293-9274 ext 23.

Public Health Symposium on Libby Amphibole Asbestos



CARD, the Community Advisory Group (CAG), and the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) announce the first annual **Public Health Symposium on Libby Amphibole Asbestos** to be held on October 14 and 15 at the Libby Memorial Center. The speakers and presenters at this Symposium are nationally recognized individuals from around the US experienced in research and the different aspects of asbestos including health effects.

The Symposium will include:

- ◆ Presentations on the best available science related to Libby asbestos;
- ◆ Reviews of current/ongoing research studies;
- ◆ Discussions of proposed, planned, or needed research
- ◆ An overview of the current thinking on the health effects of Libby asbestos; and
- ◆ A final summary of key concepts prioritized for follow-up.

The public is encouraged to attend the Symposium! Attendees will be given the opportunity to submit written questions. A panel of experts will respond to these questions during the Q&A session as time allows.

Advance registration or more information can be obtained from Tracy McNew at 406-293-9274 ext. 26 or tracy@libbyasbestos.org.

CARD COOKBOOKS MAKE GREAT HOLIDAY GIFTS!

With the holidays just around the corner, now is the time to get "The Friends of CARD" Cookbook! The cookbooks are \$15.00 each (\$5 shipping fee for mail orders), and all proceeds go to the CARD Foundation. Several retailers in Libby sell them: Cabinet Books and Music, Libby Drug, Mountain Meadows, and the Chamber of Commerce. In addition, you can order your copy, by emailing Betty Jo at bwood@libbyasbestos.org, or call 406-293-9274 x32. So let's get cooking for CARD!

Still Have Questions About the New Programs?



On Tuesday, October 11th from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at St. John's Conference Center (by Libby Care Center), representatives from the Medicare Pilot Program and FLASH II will be in Libby to meet one on one with people to answer questions, explain the programs, and help people begin the process of enrolling in the program that is right for you.

If you can't attend this informational session, you can always contact CARD for assistance in understanding the programs and determining the plan that is best for you.

FLU SHOT TO THE RESCUE!



The cold and flu season is approaching so it's time to remind you to:

1. **GET YOUR FLU SHOT!**
Remember that influenza is a respiratory illness, not the stomach "flu." So, for people exposed to asbestos, it is extra important to take additional precautions to protect your respiratory health.
2. Wash your hands and use hand sanitizers frequently, especially after being in public places. This is one of the best ways to prevent germs from getting you!
3. If you think you have caught a bug that is affecting your respiratory system, see your medical provider sooner than later. Your medical provider will need to see you to determine the best treatment as they will need to sort out if it is a cold, influenza, or a bacterial infection in your chest. Also, early treatment can prevent serious complications like pneumonia.

Want to get the CARD News by email instead of traditional mail? Send an email to:

tanis@libbyasbestos.org

The Current Status of the New Asbestos Medical Benefits

Following the whirlwind of all the changes in asbestos healthcare benefits the past couple of months, we are now certain about a few things. Here are the basic facts:

CARD Screening

Eligibility: NOT diagnosed with an asbestos related disease, and have documented “proof of presence” that you lived, worked or recreated in Lincoln County for at least 6 months prior to today’s date in 2001

Length of Program: The current screening grant is a 4 year program

Benefits: Provides free asbestos health screening in Libby and across the nation, see page 4 for details

Application Process: Contact CARD to request an application

More information: CARD, Libby 293-9274, long distance 1-855-891-CARD (2273), www.libbyasbestos.org

FLASH 2

Eligibility: Asbestos related disease diagnosis from asbestos exposure in Lincoln County

Length of Program: 6-12 months, as long as grant funds remain (you will receive at least two months notice of program ending)

Benefits: Only covers asbestos related prescription drugs and home assistance, if the person is not receiving these services from the Medicare Pilot

Application Process: If you were on FLASH or LAMP II you are automatically enrolled in FLASH 2. If you were not previously on FLASH or LAMP II contact Pintler Billing

More information: Call Pintler Billing at: 866-340-2505

Traditional Medicare Benefits

Eligibility: Asbestos related disease diagnosis and documented “proof of presence” that you lived, worked or recreated in Lincoln County for at least 6 months prior to your date of diagnosis

Length of Program: These benefits were established under the “Affordable Care Act,” no end date indicated

Benefits: The Medicare benefits are the same as if you turned 65. It includes part A (free) for hospital and end of life care; part B (\$115) for doctors visits, imaging, labwork, etc, and part D (cost varies) for prescription drugs. You can take one part or all parts. Medicare benefits are complex so it is important to get more information before deciding to enroll. You can get information at CARD or by contacting Social Security or Medicare.

Application Process: Contact the specific Libby Asbestos Line at the Social Security Administration, they will take some basic information and then mail you release forms so CARD can release your diagnosis status

More information: Call the Libby Asbestos Line at the Social Security Administration at 1-888-482-3128

Medicare Pilot for Asbestos Related Disease

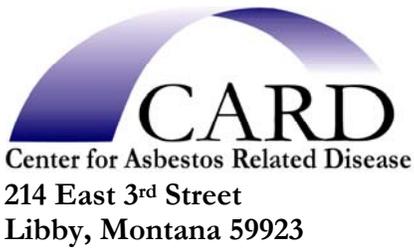
Eligibility: Have Medicare under the “Exposure to Environmental Health Hazards” provision due to asbestos diagnosis, enrolled in Medicare part A and part B, live in Lincoln/Flathead County

Length of Program: These benefits were established under the “Affordable Care Act,” no end date indicated

Benefits: Covers services or items outside of what Medicare covers for ANY health condition. The details of what this means is still being defined. As of today we know that it does cover the following if they are reasonable and medically necessary: home assistance inside and outside the home; medical equipment not covered by Medicare; medical travel (mileage) when using public transportation or when a non-family member drives you, nutritional supplements; and if a person has part D, the Pilot will cover drugs not covered by their part D.

Application Process: 1) Medicare needs to know you have ARD so call 1-888-482-3128 and they will mail you forms for CARD to release this information to them. 2) Wait for acceptance letter from the Social Security Administration that states in the 1st paragraph “you are medically affected from exposure to a public health hazard.” 3) Contact Noridian to enroll. 4) You will get a Pilot acceptance letter from Noridian. SAVE THIS LETTER, it’s the only proof you get that you are on the Medicare Pilot and it tells you your effective date.

More information: Call Noridian at: 1-888-469-9464 or visit www.noridianmedicare.com/ard



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Or Current Resident

CARD Secures 4 Year Screening Grant to Continue FREE Asbestos Health Screening!

Through the legislation that passed in 2010 for Public Health Emergencies, a competitive grant opportunity was made possible for asbestos health screening. CARD applied for this grant and was awarded the 4 year screening grant to complete asbestos health screening in Libby and across the nation. The FREE screening in Libby began August 1, 2011 and the screening across the nation is planned to begin this winter.

Eligibility: You **CANNOT** already be diagnosed with an asbestos related disease and you must have documented “proof of presence” that you lived, worked or recreated in Lincoln County for at least 6 months (does not need to be consecutive) at least 10 years before the date you are going to be screened. You will need to complete a one page application and attach documentation. If you need help finding documentation that proves you were in Lincoln County, contact CARD for suggestions.

Screening Consists Of: an extensive exposure history, health history, including respiratory symptoms, a single view chest x-ray, a Spirometry breathing test, a physical exam by a Medical Provider, a CT scan if indicated, and a diagnosis if appropriate. A first phase colorectal cancer screening is also offered for individuals between the ages of 50-75. Education about disease process and management is also provided. If you are diagnosed with an asbestos related disease you will be provided information about asbestos related healthcare benefits. Once an individual is diagnosed, CARD screening does not pay for any further testing or ongoing disease management.

Applications/Questions: Contact CARD 293-9274, toll free 1-855-891-2273 or www.libbyasbestos.org