Hazardous Materials Technician

**Job Description:** Identify, remove, pack, transport, or dispose of hazardous materials. Specialized training and certification in handling or a confined entry permit are required.

**What does a Hazardous Materials Technician do?**

* Build containment areas prior to beginning decontamination work
* Remove asbestos or lead from surfaces, using tools such as scrapers, vacuums, or high-pressure sprayers
* Identify hazardous materials to be removed, using monitoring devices
* Prepare hazardous material for removal and storage
* Remove or limit contamination following emergencies involving hazardous substances
* Process e-waste, such as computer components containing lead or mercury
* Apply biomediation techniques to hazardous waste to allow naturally occurring bacteria to break down toxic substances

**Outlook:**

Average Salary - $22.26 hourly, $46,300 annually

Projected Job Openings – 5,800 in the next 10 years

**Your Interests:**

* Do you like working with tools?
* Are you interested in keeping the environment clean?
* Do you want to keep workplaces and/or homes safe?

**Education/Program of Study:**

* Most entry level positions have requirements ranging from an associate's degree, to vocational school, on-the-job-training, and/or certification.
* Degree paths include chemistry and other related fields.