



Department of Public Works

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FIRE DEBRIS MANAGEMENT PLAN

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Fire debris can present a threat to public health and safety and the environment and should be properly handled and removed as expeditiously as possible. Butte County has established a Debris Management Plan to help property owners properly handle and dispose of fire debris. This Plan includes two options. Both options require the affected property to be screened and evaluated for the presence of hazardous materials, including asbestos. If discovered, hazardous materials must be removed before fire debris can be delivered for disposal in the Neal Road Recycling and Waste Facility.

If you have property insurance coverage that includes debris removal, you may proceed by contacting your insurance company directly and bypass the County Fire Debris Management Plan. In most cases, your insurance will be able to initiate debris removal services faster than the County. Regardless of which route you take, you will have to provide documentation to the County that the property has been screened for hazardous materials and asbestos as well as documentation of disposal of these materials.

The first option provides services to screen property fire debris for hazardous materials and asbestos and remove such materials as needed. However, large amounts of asbestos may be beyond the capability for this service. This option starts with the filing of a Right-of-Entry Authorization form, which gives permission to Butte County and CalEPA (State) to provide fire debris inspection and removal at NO COST to the property owner (other than loading fire debris into supplied containers). The options are detailed below:

Option #1

How to Participate in the Butte County Fire Debris Removal Program (“Bin Program”)

1. Visit the Fire Assistance Center (FAC) located within the office of the Butte County Department of Development Services, 7 County Center Drive, Oroville, California.
 - a. Or contact Steve Rodowick, Solid Waste Division Debris Coordinator, at (530) 879-2352 for the appropriate forms.
 - b. Forms are also available on the Butte County website at www.buttecounty.net.
 - c. The Solid Waste Debris Coordinator will work with the responsible participating property owner regarding all phases of the program.
2. Complete the Right-of-Entry Authorization form and Application for County Fire Debris Assistance Program/Participation Agreement (“Bin Program”). Provide insurance information if applicable and Demolition Permit forms. Submit to the FAC.

3. FAC personnel will contact property owners who have completed the Right-of-Entry form when the County and State agencies have completed the removal of hazardous materials from the property.
4. The Debris Coordinator will advise property owner of a list of permitted hauling companies under contract with Butte County for providing and transporting bins for fire debris. The material should be separated at the property site according to the *Management of Butte County Wildfire Debris* guidance document prepared by Butte County Public Works. The provision of debris boxes will be subject to contractor availability. Please allow three (3) days advance notice. There is no cost to the property owner for bins; however, the property owner is responsible for the cost of loading the bins
5. The Debris Coordinator will coordinate with property owner to arrange for County crews to pick-up and recycle burned appliances at no cost. Appliances (washers, refrigerators, etc.) MUST be handled separately from other fire debris.
6. Property owner will be responsible for (a) contacting the hauling companies and (b) loading the bins which are to be placed at the edge of the road only AFTER fire debris is cleared by Butte County Environmental Health.

Note:

Containers will be designated by material type: metals in the metal container, concrete in the concrete container, etc Only debris boxes containing fire debris free of asbestos and other hazardous waste will be taken to the Neal Road Recycling and Waste Facility for disposal.

7. Property owner will notify hauling company when the bin is ready for transport to the landfill. There is no cost to qualifying property owners for landfill fees.
8. Property owner is responsible for notifying the Debris Coordinator when the fire debris removal is completed.
9. Debris Coordinator will confirm fire debris removal and send a confirmation letter to the property owner and advise County Departments of Development Services and Environmental Health.

Option #2 Fee Waiver Only

Property owners choosing not to sign a Right of Entry Authorization form may also participate in the County's landfill fee waiver program ONLY under the following conditions:

- 1) Property Owner must hire a hazardous waste contractor to screen the fire debris and certify that the fire debris is free of asbestos and hazardous materials.
- 2) Property Owner provides documentation that fire debris has been certified free of asbestos and hazardous materials
- 3) After review and acceptance of documentation, County Debris Coordinator will provide written authorization and landfill fee waiver to dispose of fire debris
- 4) Property owner is responsible for loading and delivery of fire debris to the Neal Road Recycling and Waste Facility. **Note:** landfill fee waiver is only for segregated loads of fire debris. Concrete, metal and appliances should be separated from fire debris. These items should be recycled as noted in Option #1.

Property owners must contact the Debris Coordinator in advance of hauling fire debris to the landfill and will be required to provide adequate documentation that the fire debris from their property does not contain asbestos or hazardous waste. No fire debris will be accepted at the landfill that has not been previously inspected and cleared for asbestos and hazardous waste.

Services as listed above are provided at no cost to the property owner. In the event the property owner is covered by insurance that covers the removal of fire debris, property owner is expected to reimburse the County for value of services received and property owner will work with the County to obtain reimbursement.