

[<https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Disaster/Wildfires/>]

Wildfire Cleanup Process and Order of Operations

The state-managed debris removal program has two phases: removal of household hazardous waste and removal of other fire-related debris.

Phase 1 | Household Hazardous Waste Removal

California Department of Toxic Substances Control or other dedicated agency

- Clear properties of household hazardous waste, including propane tanks, compressed gas cylinders, and solvents.
- Assess properties for asbestos and remove bulk asbestos material.

Phase 2 | Debris Removal

California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery

Site assessment and documentation

- Measure and record foundation, structures, debris, utility infrastructure, and property-specific hazards.
- Obtain and evaluate soil samples to establish cleanup goals for the project; identify and remove remaining asbestos-containing materials.

Debris removal

- Remove of all burnt debris, foundations, dangerous trees, and contaminated soil
- Conduct confirmation sampling.
- Sample and analyze soil and compare results to cleanup goals.

Erosion control measures

- Implement storm water best management practices to control sediment runoff and promote vegetation growth.

Final inspection

- Property owners receive a certification that verifies the lot is clean and eligible to receive a building permit.

Private Cleanups: Property owners who do not qualify for, or who choose not to participate in, the state program should consult their local officials for information on contractor requirements and cleanup standards.