



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Planning, Building & Environmental Services

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www.countyofnapa.org

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NAPA 2017 FIRE COMPLEX

FAQs

DEBRIS AND ASH REMOVAL

How do I sign up for EPA Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) removal?

The EPA is actively working on Phase 1 HHW removal. You do not need to sign up for this service it will happen automatically.

- If the road to your property is blocked or your gate is locked the EPA crews cannot begin their work. Please call the EPA hotline 415-793-8794 with site access information, such as your gate code or location of hidden structures.
- If you believe crews were in the area of your property and missed your destroyed / damaged structure please call EPA hotline 415-793-8794 and leave us your name, phone number, property address. EPA will attempt to return your call within 48 hours. EPA is working off the list of red tagged structures, if you structure is not red tagged please call 707-253-4417 and speak to an inspector.

How are EPA and USACE targeting areas for HHW and Debris and Ash removal?

Removal of materials is being prioritized by density of properties (the more damaged homes in an area) and public hazards such as proximity to waterways, schools or other environmentally sensitive concerns. For Phase 2 debris and ash removal U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and its contractor will likely target areas where a number of properties have been cleared by EPA for Phase I and the County has forwarded validated Rights-of-Entry (ROE) to USACE. Other factors like weather and site conditions will also be considered through the debris removal operation.

What is the difference between the Government Option and the Private Options for Debris and Ash removal and by when do the required documents need to be submitted?

The Government option will be completed by USACE working for and under the direction of FEMA. This option requires an ROE and is done at no cost to the property owner. If owners have fire debris removal insurance they are required to assign that portion of the insurance proceeds to the County, to cover the cost of debris removal. If the cost of debris removal exceeds the insurance coverage, no additional money is billed to the owner. If the cost of debris removal is less than the insurance amount, the owner is billed only for the cost of the debris removal. For insurance questions please contact Kerry Whitney at 707-253-4821. To participate in the Government Removal program, owners must submit a Right-of-Entry (ROE) form to PBES, no later than 5:00 pm on Monday, November 13, 2017.

The Private option allows owners or their qualified contractors to remove debris and ash. To participate in the Private option owners must submit a Debris and Ash Removal (DAR) Plan and Application to PBES, no later than 5:00 pm on Monday, November 20, 2017. To choose this option the owner must also apply for a Building Demolition permit. All work to be done under an approved DAR Plan must be completed by January 15, 2018 or the property owner will be subject to enforcement action by the County.

The owner of every property must make a decision regarding debris and ash removal work by 5:00PM Monday, November 13, 2017. Please visit www.countyofnapa.org for the ROE and the Private option application. Both may be submitted to Planning, Building and Environmental Services (PBES) Department at 1195 Third Street, Suite 210 in Napa. ROE's may also be faxed in to 707-253-4545 or emailed to Environmental-Fire@countyofnapa.org. In both cases, state standards for debris removal must be followed/met.

To protect public health, the County is required to take enforcement actions against those property owners not meeting the above deadlines. After 5 p.m on Nov. 20, property owners will be subject to enforcement action by the County if they have not turned in a ROE form or a complete DAR application.

My barn was demolished and red-tagged. Can we dispose of waste ourselves?

Yes, however if you have any structure that was red-tagged the HHW must first be removed and the property cleared by EPA as being completed for Phase 1 HHW removal. Phase 2 debris and ash removal may be completed either by the Government option which requires an ROE or you may do this yourself or with your contractor using the Private option which requires a Debris and Ash removal plan and application. Both the ROE and the Private debris and ash removal application are available at www.countyofnapa.org.

I have a small amount of debris. I want to start the process of repairing my property. Where can I dispose of this material?

If there is **no** red tag associated with your property and the debris is not associated with a burned structure you may take it to Clover Flat Landfill, 707-963-7988. They will allow you to dump provided it is clearly NOT structural debris and ash. You should call ahead.

If you have any structure that was red-tagged, the HHW must be removed and the property cleared by EPA for completion of Phase 1 HHW removal. Phase 2 debris and ash removal may be completed either by the Government option which requires an ROE or you may do this yourself or with your own contractor using the Private option which requires a Debris and Ash removal plan and application. Both the ROE and the Private debris and ash removal application are available at www.countyofnapa.org

How will the Government option or Private option manage dust on properties during removal?

The USACE and homeowners or contractors operating under the Private option will utilize the following guidelines:

- Water or an approved dust palliative, or both, must be provided to prevent dust nuisance at each site such that dust is controlled at all times.
- Each area of ash and debris to be removed must be pre-watered 48 to 72 hours in advance of the removal. The water must be applied in a manner that does not generate runoff. Engineering controls for storm water discharges must be in place prior to dust control operations.

- All loads shall be covered with a tarp; this includes metal debris. Ash and debris loads shall be fully encapsulated with a tarp (“burrito wrap” method). Concrete loads are exempt from a tarp provided the loads are wetted prior to leaving. If concrete loads generate dust, then the loads must be wetted and covered.
- All waste material that is not unloaded at the end of each workday should be consolidated, sufficiently wetted, and/or covered to prevent the offsite migration of contaminants.
- All visibly dry disturbed soil surface areas of operation should be watered to minimize dust emissions during performance of work.
- Speeds must be reduced when driving on unpaved roadways.
- Procedures must be implemented to prevent or minimize dirt, soil, or ash contaminating roadways, neighboring parcels, or creating an airborne health hazard. The use of blower devices, dry rotary brushes, or brooms for removal of carryout and track out on public roads is strictly prohibited.

Where can I take my debris and ash?

Clover Flat Landfill, 707-963-7988.

Please call 707-253-4417 for assistance on landfills outside the area.

TIMELINES and PROGRESS

How long will FEMA and USACE be in Napa?

That depends on the number of ROEs submitted and the complexity of the removal. USACE could begin to move out of Napa as soon as January 2018. If other disasters occur in the coming months existing State and Federal resources may be reallocated. It is very important to get your ROE submitted to Napa County by **November 13, 2017**, as the window will soon be closed for the Government debris removal option and owners will have no choice other than to remove the debris themselves.

Will I be given notice of when HHW and Debris and Ash removal will occur?

The EPA is actively working on Phase 1 HHW removal and you will not be notified when they are scheduled to be on your property. EPA plans to finish all of their work by the end of November. For Phase 2 Debris and Ash Removal, USACE will attempt to contact the property owner 24-48 hours in advance of when they will be on the property, using the information you provide on your ROE.

When will USACE be on my property? Will they notify me? How do they get my contact information?

USACE will only be conducting debris removal on properties that have been cleared of HHW by USEPA and where the County has provided USACE with a valid ROE. After a site assessment is completed, USACE will attempt to notify the property owner 24-48 hours in advance of debris removal activities using the contact information provided on the ROE.

How will I know when the EPA has completed work on my property?

The EPA will post a stake on the property with a sign including the EPA logo and “✓ Complete” when the Phase 1 Household Hazardous Waste removal is complete.

How soon will USACE begin Phase 2 debris and ash removal?

USACE Phase 2 debris and ash removal operations started on November 3, 2017.

How will I know the status of Phase 2 debris removal at my property?

The USACE contractor will install a sign at each property indicating the status of the debris removal process. The post and sign are metal. Stickers will be placed on the sign when each step of the debris removal process is completed.

How long will it take USACE to clear debris and ash from a property?

USACE expects to clear ash and debris within 2-3 days on most properties. Properties with a large amount of ash/debris or that present challenges for removal operations could take longer. Activities could also take more or less time depending on factors such as equipment access and weather.

What are the EPA and USACE completion timelines?

The EPA estimates that Phase 1 HHW removal will be complete by the end of November. The Phase 2 Government Debris and Ash Removal Program has the goal of completing work by the end of spring 2018. Debris and ash removal is a very large undertaking and USACE needs to organize their work in the most efficient manner possible. The process will take longer if USACE has to hopscotch back and forth across the County. It is very important that landowners submit their ROE to Napa County by November 13, 2017, so that all participating properties within a neighborhood or community can be cleared at the same time.

How soon will the property owner be able to rebuild?

USACE will sign off the Phase 2 debris removal activity following final soil testing and a report from its contractor for each property. Once the sign-off by USACE is provided to the County, building permits may be reviewed and issued.

ELIGIBILITY FOR GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS

Does the Government program include non-residential property?

Residences destroyed or significantly damaged, including any out buildings, are eligible for the Government program. Debris such as fences and trees that are accessory to residence and within the ash and debris area will also be removed. Residences that were not damaged or minimally damaged will not be eligible; however, any out buildings on the property 120 square feet or larger, like a detached garage, barn or shed, are eligible. The Government program does not include business or commercial structures unless the structure presents an immediate threat to life, public health or safety, determined on a case-by-case basis.

If you have a small structure less than 120 square feet that has been damaged or destroyed please contact Environmental Health and ask to speak with John Kara or Greg Pirie-they will assist you with a Private debris removal application and help you through the process.

Consider a single parcel where there is a residence and a small business operation. All structures are lost on that property due to the fire. Will the residence be cleared and the property owner left to clean the remains of the other structures on the parcel or will all remains be cleared?

Business debris removal is not a part of the USACE debris mission unless the structure presents an immediate threat to life, public health or safety, determined on a case-by-case basis. If the two structures

are very close to one another, USACE may remove all debris. If the two buildings are distinctly separate, only the residential debris and ash will be removed.

Wineries and vineyards are considered agricultural so are they covered in the FEMA debris removal mission?

Agricultural properties are not part of the debris removal mission issued to the USACE. They must pursue any debris removal through their insurance companies and must comply with the Private Debris and Ash guidelines developed by the County. Wineries and vineyards may also be eligible for a loan from the Small Business Administration (SBA) as well as any benefits that may be offered by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

FOUNDATIONS-LANDSCAPE FEATURES-VEGETATION-VEHICLES

Can I keep my foundation?

Foundations on damaged property were likely impacted by the fire. The Government Program will remove the foundation plus an additional 3-6 inches of soil. If there is a desire to potentially keep the foundation, the property owner should pursue the Private Debris and Ash option. The owner will have to demonstrate through testing that the foundation is structurally safe to reuse- contact the Building Division at 707-253-4417 for more information.

Will debris removal include landscaping or decks?

If the landscaping or deck is in the ash/debris area of the residence, it will be removed. Owners should indicate on the ROE any intact features they would like the USACE to avoid, if possible, during debris removal.

What happens with swimming pools?

For pools, any debris will be removed and the water will be drained. USACE will not put holes in the pool, refill the pool with water, or fill the pool with dirt. The pool will be fenced and avoided by the contractor. The landowner should add a note on the ROE about the pool, including its condition.

What happens to underground pipes?

Pipes will be plugged/capped.

What happens to fences?

Fences will not be removed unless they are directly related to the removal of ash and debris associated with the structure. Every site is different so if there are any questions about the relationship of the fence to the ash and debris, the landowner should include notes about the fence on the ROE.

What happens to vegetation?

Any live or dead vegetation, including trees, that affects the USACE contractor's ability to remove ash and debris will be removed. Other damaged or dead vegetation on the property will not be removed by USACE. . Trees that may impact power lines are being removed by PG&E. Trees that may affect County roads are being removed by the Public Works Department. Other vegetation removal is the responsibility of the land owner.

Will survey monuments and markers be protected?

On most properties survey monuments and markers will not be impacted by USACE debris removal activities. Landowners should note the existence of any monuments or markers that should be avoided on the ROE.

Will retaining walls or other stone or concrete improvements such as built in BBQs be removed?

In most cases, retaining walls will not be removed and any other permanent stone or concrete improvement will not be removed unless obviously damaged or destroyed or unless the improvement affects USACE's ability to remove debris and ash. You should indicate the existence of any such improvements on the ROE and if you prefer them to be removed or left.

Will vehicles be removed?

Vehicles in the ash/debris area or those that impede the USACE's ability to remove ash and debris will be removed. Vehicles located on the street or other public rights-of-way will not be removed by USACE.

There is a burned car in front of my driveway on the public street. Will it be removed?

If the burned car impedes the ability of the USACE's contractor to access the site it will be relocated or removed. Otherwise, the USACE debris removal mission does not include the removal of car bodies from public rights-of-way.

What happens to subsurface rooms, like basements and cellars?

Subsurface rooms will be removed and fenced. The USACE contractor will not fill the depression left behind. Landowners should note the existence of such rooms on the ROE.

We have four acres with many trees. Does county do tree removal? If not, who do we contact?

County does not provide tree removal service on private properties. County cannot show favoritism by recommending a specific contractor. We recommend finding a contractor in Yellow Pages or online search. Only trees which pose a safety threat or otherwise affect USACE's ability to remove ash and debris will be removed under the Federal debris removal program.

VERIFICATION OF AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL

Who do I call if I am concerned about an unauthorized person attempting to access my property?

Contractors working for the EPA or USACE will identify themselves properly. All federal contractors working on private property will have a federal employee with them or nearby. Every federal employee will have their identification badge. USEPA and USACE personnel will be wearing shirts with logos. If a USEPA Supervisor or USACE Quality Assurance Officer is not present, or if the landowner is concerned about an unauthorized person, call the non-emergency dispatch line at 707-253-4451.

INSURANCE

To inform insurance claims, how will FEMA determine the cost estimate for the debris removal?

Part of the contractor's scope of work is to document the debris removal cost in a report for each parcel. This will be the basis for the cost to recover from the insurance companies.

Will my insurance cover the Government sponsored debris and ash removal? Will I have to pay out of my own pocket for the government sponsored cleanup?

You will need to speak to your insurance company to determine what coverage you have. The Government option is to be completed by USACE at no cost to the property owner. If owners have fire debris removal insurance they are required to assign those insurance proceeds related to debris removal to the County. For insurance questions please contact Kerry Whitney at 707-253-4821.

BUILDING / RED TAG

My property has a pink tag – no one has been here – what does this mean?

There are no County pink tags. They are red tags that have been faded by the sun. Since your property has been red-tagged, you are in the system, and EPA will be conducting HHW removal on your property before Nov. 22. If you would like to confirm your property has indeed been red-tagged please call the Building division at 707-253-4417.

How do I know if I am yellow or red tagged?

You may call the Building Division at 707-253-4417 and inquire as to the status of your property.

What do I do if my building has not been red or yellow tagged?

You may contact the Building division at 707-253-4417 and speak with an inspector and request that they visit your property to determine status and post as needed.

MISCELANEOUS

Will USACE level my property?

USACE will only be removing ash and debris. The ground may be left uneven, with some high and low spots.

What if the USACE contractor damages my property with its equipment?

The USACE contractor will repair any damages caused by its equipment in a timely manner.

I'm a private contractor. Can I advertise my services to USACE for debris cleanup? Who do I contact to put in a bid?

The USACE contractor for debris removal in Napa County is ECC. You can contact ECC directly. The website is www.ECC.net.

I am a contractor and want to help. How can I offer my services?

We are directing all people who want to help to the USACE contractor website www.ecc.net.

My property has a pink bow with black spots on it. What does that mean?

It is a PG&E sign that means they are working on a gas or utility pipe on or near your property.

Is County helping to find accommodations or supplying accommodations for private contractors?

No, the County has no program for this service.

I have questions about PGE Wildfire Wood Management Program and want to find out about the trees that PGE left on my property, who should I contact?

Please contact 1-800-743-5000. PGE is leaving trees on properties, if you wish for them to be removed please call the number provided.