

# The County of Yuba

## Community Development & Services Agency

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## STRUCTURAL ASH AND BURN DEBRIS CLEAN UP AND REMOVAL PROCESS

After a wildland fire, people's lives can be turned upside down and filled with stress. It is difficult to know where to start, and often times, taking the first steps towards recovery are the hardest. As people become resituated on their property, cleanup and debris removal will be a top priority after sifting through the ash.

Yuba County wants to encourage you, and all people affected by the Cascade Fire, to participate in a coordinated debris removal program and here is why:

First, there is little to no cost to you for the removal of debris that resulted from the wildland fire. Funding for this program is paid for with State Disaster Assistance funds and is supplemented with portions of your property owner's insurance.

Second, professional contractors with experience in fire damage debris removal will perform the work allowing you to focus other priorities.

Next and most importantly, is your safety, as well as the safety of the general public and the environment. The potential for toxic exposures and threats to public health and the environment exists in the aftermath of the Cascade Fire. Debris and ash from structures destroyed by the Fire may contain hazardous substances.

Exposure to hazardous substances may lead to acute and chronic health effects, and may potentially cause long-term public health and environmental impacts. Uncontrolled hazardous materials and debris pose significant threats to public health through inhalation of dust particles and contamination of drinking water supplies. It is critical to contain many building materials such as siding, roofing tiles, and insulation that may contain asbestos and the structural ash due to heavy metals. Household hazardous waste such as paint, gasoline, cleaning products, pesticides, compressed gas cylinders and chemicals may have been stored in homes, garages, or sheds that burned in the Fire. To ensure the safety of those working on the affected properties, as well as to the public and the environment certain protocols should be followed when removing structural ash and debris.

1. As funding has become available, owners may elect to participate in a County debris program where property with destroyed structure(s) are being offered a clean-up and debris removal service conducted by specialized work crews, contracted and managed by County and State waste specialists. This program will be paid for with state disaster assistance funds and portions of property owner's insurance related to debris removal. Owners must sign up for this program using a Right-to-Enter form to allow access to their property to complete the removal work. The program will first remove all household hazardous waste associated with the burned structures. The next step, which requires owner permission through a Right-to-Enter form, will be to remove the remaining debris (including foundations) associated with structures 120 square feet in size and larger. Right-to-Enter forms will be available shortly.

2. If owners elect not to participate in the County and State sponsored debris program they are expected to have their property cleaned up with the burn debris removed with their own qualified contractor. **The contractor must possess either a valid class A-General Engineering or C-21 Building Moving, Demolition license (attached is a list of known qualifying contractors).** The work must be done to standards that health and safety risks are adequately addressed for the community and the environment. Documentation on adequate cleanup and proper disposal will be required. State and County disaster funding will not be able to reimburse for this work. **Please notify the County within 30 days if this option is chosen.**

**Clean up of the debris is necessary to protect public health and safety. Owners need to choose one of the two options above to ensure they are not creating conditions that create a public nuisance.**

*We have information regarding firms who can provide services for asbestos and metals consulting and sampling. The County and State cannot make recommendations or referrals for private businesses. There are many more qualified firms who can be contacted to provide these services.*

Westlake Environmental Contractors Cloverdale, CA 707-291-9115 <a href="http://www.westlakeenvironmental.com">www.westlakeenvironmental.com</a>	Adam Laboratories Inc. 3807 Pasadena Ave # 190 Sacramento, CA 95821 916 – 979 - 9250 <a href="http://adamlabs.com/">http://adamlabs.com/</a>
HB&T Environmental, Inc. 1828 Tribute Road, Suite M Sacramento, CA 95815 916- 646-6076 916- 646-6010 fax	David Brinkerhoff, CIH, CIEC   Director 7625 Sunrise Boulevard, Suite 104 Citrus Heights, California 95610 P: 916-726-1303 F: 916-726-3747 C: 925-408-2672 <a href="mailto:dbrinkerhoff@forensicanalytical.com">dbrinkerhoff@forensicanalytical.com</a>   <a href="http://www.forensicanalytical.com">www.forensicanalytical.com</a>
NRC Environmental Services, Inc. Chris Neal 1111 Marauder Chico, CA 95973 (530) 343-5488	ACE Environmental Management, Inc. Major Geiger P.O. Box 3214 Yuba City, CA 95992 (530) 701-3182
Asbestos Science Technology John Warren P.O. Box 505 Bangor, CA 95914 (530) 518-0934	Health Science Associates 10771 Noel Street Los Alamitos, California 90720 (855) 633-1366
Terry Baker Baker Environmental 550 No. Main Street Yreka, CA 96097 (530) 842-7987	Vantage Point Environmental Bert Olhiser 1277 Coon Ct. Cool, CA 95614 (925) 383-1699
Entek, Inc. Rick Beall 4200 Rocklin Rd. Suite. 7 Rocklin, CA 95677 (916) 632-6800	Warren Asbestos 209 McCaton Dr, Bangor, CA 95914 (530) 679-1100
Alliance Environmental Services William Irwin 34 Glenshire Ln. Chico, CA 95973 (530) 345-8562	Wike Restoration, Inc. 1282 Hassett Avenue, Suite 1 Yuba City, CA 95991 (530) 674-2693