

# FULL-SERVICE DEBRIS REMOVAL

## STATE- FUNDED, DISASTER-RELATED DEBRIS REMOVAL PROGRAM FOR PRIVATE PROPERTY

### WHAT IS PRIVATE PROPERTY DEBRIS REMOVAL?

Private Property Debris Removal is a State of New Mexico funded program to remove disaster-related debris from impacted properties. Services can be provided through either full debris service on the home property, or curbside pickup for residents who have moved their debris to the curb.

To take advantage of the program, residents must provide access to their properties by completing a Right of Entry form. Residents can also choose to opt out of the program. **Debris cannot be removed until after Right of Entry forms are completed, signed, and submitted.**

#### Who qualifies?

The State of New Mexico's Private Property Debris Removal Program can assist any resident who was impacted by the South Fork Fire, Salt Fire, and flooding in Lincoln County, New Mexico.



#### How can you sign up?

Residents can sign up for the Private Property Debris Removal program in one of three ways:

**In Person:** State of New Mexico Disaster Case Managers can support residents with filling out the Right-of-Entry at the Disaster Recovery Centers:

- Roswell Civic & Convention Center
- Horton Complex
- Mescalero Apache School

**By Phone:** Residents can indicate their interest in the program over the phone at 1-833-663-4736. Call center staff will coordinate with you to support an online form or an in-person appointment to complete the right-of entry.

**By Email:** Residents can download the form at [dhsem.nm.gov/nmwildfires/debris](https://dhsem.nm.gov/nmwildfires/debris). Once the form is filled out, residents can email it to [dhsem-dcm@dhsem.nm.gov](mailto:dhsem-dcm@dhsem.nm.gov).



# RESIDENTIAL WILDFIRE DEBRIS FACT SHEET



## PROPERTY CLEANUP AND DEBRIS REMOVAL

After a major wildfire, debris removal is an essential step to protect public health and initiate recovery. The New Mexico Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, New Mexico Environment Department, and FEMA are coordinating a plan to assist property owners remove fire debris from impacted homes and buildings. More information will be shared with the public once available. Until approved by the proper authorities, property owners are advised not to begin debris removal. Beginning debris removal from destroyed homes or buildings prior to approval could jeopardize eligibility for future Federal or State debris removal assistance.

## REDUCING YOUR EXPOSURE

While sifting through residential wildfire debris may not be prohibited, for your safety and the safety of others, it is not recommended. In addition to irritating your skin, nose and throat, substances like asbestos and cadmium have been known to cause cancer. Property owners who want to search debris for possible salvageable items should do so with caution and with protective gear.

- Avoid disturbing debris or kicking up ash.
- NIOSH-certified air-purifying respirator masks are highly recommended. A mask rated N-95 is more effective at blocking particles from ash.
- Wear gloves, long shirts and pants, safety eyewear, and other clothing.
- It's best to change shoes and clothing as soon as you are off-site to avoid contaminating your vehicle, your home, or other non-contaminated areas.
- Even with protective clothing and respirators, children should not be exposed to wildfire ash or debris.

## What's in residential wildfire debris?

Based on past analysis of homes and structures burned by wildfires, the resulting ash and debris can contain some or all of the following:

- Tiny particles of dust, dirt, and soot that can easily become airborne and inhaled.
- Toxic amounts of heavy metals including arsenic, cadmium, copper, lead, and mercury.
- Asbestos.
- Hazardous materials such as propane tanks, air conditioners, batteries, cleaning products, pesticides, and herbicides.

