



State of Oregon  
Department of  
Environmental  
Quality

# Asbestos and Fire Debris Cleanup

UPDATED 10/12/2020

DEQ DOES NOT RECOMMEND PERFORMING CLEANUP OF ASH AND DEBRIS ON YOUR OWN

If you choose to do cleanup on your own, rather than through state and county cleanup programs, you have two options:

## Was your property burned by the 2020 wildfires?

(Alameda Fire, Archie Creek Fire, Beachie Creek Fire, Brattain Fire, Echo Mountain Complex Fire, Holiday Farm Fire, Lionshead Fire, Mosier Creek Fire, North Cascade Complex Fire, Powerline Fire, Riverside Fire, Slater Fire, South Obenchain Fire, Two Four Two Fire, White River Fire)

No

### STOP.

This information does not apply to debris cleanup or asbestos removal on your property. You must comply with all of [DEQ's asbestos rules](#).

Assistance is available through your county and state for wildfire cleanup. Visit [wildfire.oregon.gov/cleanup](http://wildfire.oregon.gov/cleanup) to learn more.

Yes

### Do you want assistance cleaning up your property?

Removing fire debris is a two-step cleanup process. Step 1 is clearing properties of hazardous waste. This is funded by the state and FEMA at no cost to property owners. Step 2 is removal of ash and debris. State, county, and federal partners are working to develop funding and implementation of Step 2.

No

If you choose to conduct cleanup yourself, it will be at your own cost and you need to follow asbestos regulations.

**DEQ does not recommend this option.**

Yes

**You will need to complete a right of entry form.**

Find information on your [county's website](#) or call 682-800-5737 to complete the form.

**DEQ recommends this option.**

### Option 1 – Hire a DEQ licensed asbestos abatement contractor

If you opt out of federal assistance, DEQ recommends this route. This is the only option for commercial properties and the safest option for all property owners.

#### Variance Summary

- Notifications suspended, except for demolition projects at commercial sites or residential buildings with more than four units
- Fees suspended for all projects
- Open accumulation allowed
- No negative pressure enclosure required
- Use of mechanical equipment allowed

### Option 2 – If you choose to clean up your own residential property and you do not hire a contractor

**ASBESTOS IS A KNOWN CARCINOGEN AND THERE IS NO SAFE LEVEL OF EXPOSURE.**

You may be putting yourself and others who assist you at risk.

DEQ recommends that you notify any volunteers of the risks associated with handling asbestos containing material.

#### Variance Summary

- You may not use any paid labor.
- You must adequately wet the material.
- You are still subject to all [packaging, transport and disposal requirements](#).
- Does not apply if property has more than four residential dwelling units.