



## Fire Ash & Debris Warning: Safety Guidelines

### THIS IS NOT A DECLARATION OF SAFETY OR HABITABILITY

It is highly likely that asbestos, toxic heavy metals, and other toxic compounds are present in the ash in this area. You may inadvertently inhale or consume toxic compounds by handling or disturbing the ash without proper protection. Health risks from exposure to known or suspected toxic combustion products and byproducts and asbestos are still possible. Individuals present on this property assume responsibility for all risks.

- Wear a properly fitted N-95 mask, gloves, long sleeves, long pants, foot protection, and goggles. Wash all ash off skin promptly. Change clothes and shoes and remove gloves before leaving the area to avoid tracking ash into your vehicle, residence, or into other nearby areas. Do not handle ash, or items that have been in ash with your bare hands. Wash any personal property thoroughly. Take precautions to avoid heat stress which can be significantly increased when wearing personal protective equipment.
- Avoid doing activities that stir up ash. Do not use vacuums or blowers.
- Do not allow children to play in ash or be in an area where ash-covered materials are being disturbed. Wash ash off toys before children play with them. Children, the elderly, pregnant women, or any individual with heart or lung disease should avoid the area and not have any contact with ash nor be involved in any cleanup.
- Pets and livestock should be kept out of areas with ash and debris.
- Avoid physical hazards such as downed and potentially live electrical wiring, open excavations, uneven footing, overhead hazards, and equipment that may be operating in the area.
- Do not consume any food, beverages or medications that have been exposed to smoke, ash, heat, pressure, or chemicals. Wash fruit/vegetables thoroughly before eating them.
- Commercial cleaning may be needed for carpet, upholstery, and window treatments.
- Clean and sanitize utensils, glasses, dishware, and food contact areas such as countertops and cupboards.
- Hazardous chemicals and components including household hazardous waste and commercial hazardous waste must be disposed of properly.
- It is required to register and obtain permission from the Riverside County Department of Waste Resources before disposing of debris or ash in the county. Do not dispose of debris or ash in the regular trash. Do not remove debris or ash from this area unless authorized by a regulatory agency. An asbestos clearance will be required.
- If you have symptoms that may be related to exposure to smoke or soot, consult your doctor. Symptoms may include repeated coughing, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, wheezing, chest tightness or pain, palpitations, headaches, nausea, unusual fatigue or lightheadedness.