



COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE ADVISORY

GUIDELINES FOR THOMAS FIRE DEBRIS REMOVAL AT AFFECTED RESIDENTIAL SITES IN VENTURA COUNTY.

Hundreds of Ventura County residential structures were either completely destroyed or partially destroyed due to the Thomas Fire. These guidelines are intended to provide guidance for crews that will be removing residential fire debris resulting from the Thomas Fire. They are intended to facilitate the prompt removal of residential fire debris while also protecting public health and safety.

Demolition Notification requirements – CalRecycle Crews

- CalRecycle shall submit notification for removal of affected fire debris for each affected site.
- Cal Recycle may submit a “mass” notification, i.e. every site listed on a spread sheet or database.
- VCAPCD will waive the 10 day waiting period for any removals/work performed by work crews under the direction of CalRecycle
- VCAPCD will waive any notification fees for any residential notifications for sites affected by the Thomas Fire.

Demolition Notification requirements – Independent Contractor Crews

- Contractors shall submit a demolition notification for removal of affected fire debris for each affected site.
- Contractors shall submit a separate, individual notification for each site.
- VCAPCD will waive the 10 day waiting period for any removals/work performed by independent contractors, provided proper notification has been previously submitted.
- VCAPCD will waive notification fees for any residential demolition notifications for sites affected by the Thomas Fire.

Work Practices – All Crews.

- CalRecycle crews and Independent Contractors shall adequately “Pre-Water” affected sites in advance of commencing operations in order to minimize dust from any removal operations.
- In order to minimize exposure to neighboring residences, VCAPCD will require a “Zero Dust” policy for CalRecycle crews and Independent Contractors performing fire debris removal.
- For partially destroyed structures, the debris, including chimneys, must be inspected by a Certified Asbestos Consultant (CAC) to determine if it is considered regulated asbestos containing material. All debris identified as asbestos containing material must be handled in accordance with the Asbestos NESHAP and disposed of at a landfill authorized to accept asbestos containing waste.
- All suspect asbestos containing materials that are non-friable shall be handled in such a manner as to prevent it from becoming friable.
- All fire debris shall be “burrito wrapped”, using plastic material with a minimum of 10 mil thickness, and disposed of at a landfill that is authorized to accept such waste.
- No fire debris shall be transported in an open truck unless it is “burrito wrapped” and the load is securely covered with a tarp.
- All fire debris shall be handled in such a manner as to prevent ash or other particles from being re-entrained into the air.
- Activities related to commercial structures shall be handled as usual. Notification fees and the 10-day waiting will not be waived for commercial structures.

Questions regarding this guidance or the District’s Asbestos Program should be directed to Ken Hall at 805/645-1437 or Tod Neilan at 805/645-1476