

Wildfire clean-up TIPS

Cleaning up after a fire is traumatic. As you go through this process, it's important to protect yourself and the environment as you begin the first steps to recover.

Fire debris can include hazards such as:

- 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
- Material such as propane tanks, air conditioners, batteries, cleaning products, pesticides, and herbicides that are hazardous or require special handling and disposal

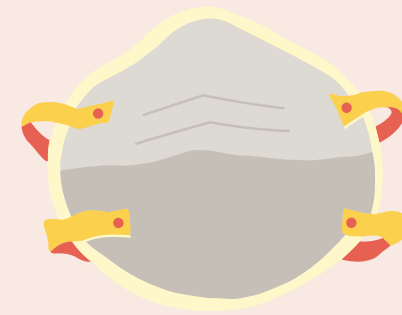
Important phone #'s:

- City of Talent: (541) 535-1566
- City of Phoenix: (541) 535-1955
- Rogue Valley Sewer Services: (541) 664-6300
- Recology: (541) 482-1471
- Rogue Disposal: (541) 779-4161
- DEQ, Medford Office: (541) 776-6010
- FEMA: (1-800) 621-3362



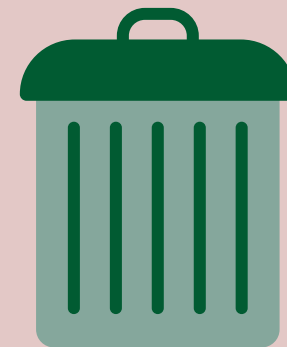
Protect yourself.

Make sure it is safe to start work. Get clearance from the appropriate authorities supervising the fire clean-up. Follow your jurisdictions procedures. Identify and mitigate hazards such as damaged trees and structures. Wear a N95 mask, gloves, & sturdy shoes.



When possible...

Any clean-up of fire impacted properties should be conducted by professionals who have the appropriate expertise for these activities.



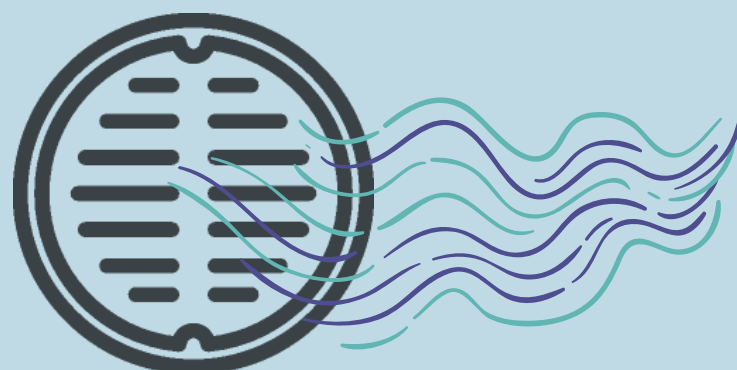
Cleaning up retardant.

The residue left from fire retardant and foams should be wetted to control dust and then shoveled or swept up or sponged off with plain water. To reduce dust, do not use a leaf blower. Washwater can go onto lawns or pervious soil but should never get washed into stormdrains.



Don't wash it down the drain.

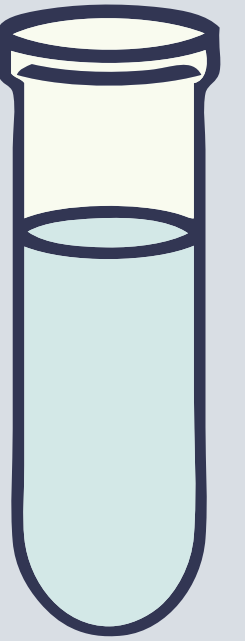
Never wash waste or debris into stormdrains. Using a broom or a low pressure hose, push ash onto soil or landscaped areas or scoop up and dispose as solid waste.



**NO WASTE
IN THE
DRAIN!**

Check for pollutants and hazardous materials.

Soil, ash, and debris can contain numerous contaminants such as asbestos and metals. When in doubt, test fire debris.



Know what you have, segregate materials, dispose of properly.

Contact your disposal company so you know how to dispose of ash, metal, and hazardous materials including vehicles and metal, appliances, medical waste, contaminated soil, and damaged household goods.



If you see a spill or hazardous material:

Call DEQ 888-997-7888 or report online at <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/Get-Involved/Pages/File-Pollution-Complaint.aspx>. **If there is a spill that poses a threat to public health and safety, call 911.**

