

Focus on: Fire-related asbestos disposal



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Información en Español

Muchas de las estructuras averiadas por los recientes incendios en el Este de Washington son suficientemente viejas como para que la presencia de asbestos cause preocupación. El Departamento de Ecología está ofreciendo evaluaciones para asbestos sin costo en estas áreas afectadas por los incendios forestales.

Para más información o para solicitar un intérprete, favor de comunicarse con Ali Furmall al 509-655-0538.

What hazards may be on properties destroyed by fire?

Many of the structures damaged by recent fires in Eastern Washington are old enough that asbestos is a concern. The Department of Ecology is offering free asbestos assessments in these wildfire-damaged areas.

Ecology is urging community members to allow us to assist you in assessing structures impacted by these fires. We can schedule asbestos testing and assessments at no-cost to property owners.

As an affected homeowner, what should I do?

You can have access, through Ecology, to a licensed and professionally certified consultant that will provide a limited asbestos survey of the damaged structure/s on your property. This limited survey will help inform you, as the property owner, on the best ways to manage the fire-debris before it is disposed.

You must check with your regional landfill before disposing of any fire-damaged debris, even if your limited asbestos survey is negative for asbestos.

Landfills may require fire debris to be disposed as if it does contain asbestos. See the next page for contact information of landfills in your area.

To request a limited asbestos survey, fill out and return a consent-toenter form provided to you through your local emergency management or by emailing <u>AsbestosAssessments2020@ecy.wa.gov</u>. Ecology will reach out to schedule an appointment to survey your property as soon as they are able.



Asbestos Information

Asbestos is a known human carcinogen. In the 1970s, the United States banned the addition of asbestos to building materials manufactured here in America, such as roofing, siding, and others.

Asbestos is more commonly found in structures built prior to the 1990s, however the potential to discover asbestos in any age of construction is possible.

Asbestos that has been disturbed can become airborne and enter the lungs, causing long-term physical damage to human health.

Your homeowners or property insurance company may also cover asbestos surveys/assessments. Some communities may be treating all fire-damaged debris as containing asbestos and require that any and all debris and waste resulting from a fire be taken to a facility that accepts asbestos waste.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

For questions related to scheduling an asbestos assessment, please contact Ecology at <u>Asbestosassessments2020@ecy.wa.gov</u>.

Your county's emergency management departments, local landfill operators, or local governments may also be able to provide answers to your questions.

Contacts for local landfills

Douglas County

Greater Wenatchee Regional Landfill (Waste Management)

191 Webb Place S East Wenatchee, WA 98802 866-909-4458

Okanogan County

Okanogan Central Landfill

241 B and O Rd Okanogan, WA 98840 509-422-7300 or 509-422-2602

Spokane County

Graham Road Landfill (Waste Management)

1820 S Graham Rd. Medical Lake, WA 99022 509-244-0151

Whitman County

Whitman County Solid Waste Transfer Site and Landfill

252 Landfill Rd Pullman, WA 99163 509-334-2400

ADA Accessibility

To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-407-6831, email ecyadacoordinator@ecy.wa.gov,or visit

https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility. For Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341.