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Dry Creek Landfill and Rogue Transfer & Recycling Fire Debris Disposal Information • September 16, 2020

We are at a loss for words at the devastation and great damage suffered by many families and business owners in our community. We are inspired by the relentless spirit and drive of this community to move forward through such difficult times to rebuild and restore. Cleaning up after a wildfire is an emotional evolution, but also involves immediate and long-term physical health risks.

At Dry Creek Landfill and Rogue Transfer & Recycling in White City the safety of our customers, employees and community is of utmost importance. Wildfire debris can contain many types of hazardous materials, including the following:

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

As a result, there are special requirements for transporting and disposing of wildfire debris.

Before entering any area impacted by wildfire, clearance from the appropriate governmental authorities supervising the fire remediation and clean-up process should be obtained, and any applicable procedures and guidelines followed. Any clean-up of fire impacted properties should be conducted by professionals who have the appropriate expertise for these activities. Anyone who is in an area impacted by fire should take a number of precautions. First and foremost, the area should be cleared of all fire and potential for fire recurrence and should be safe from unstable structures, hazardous materials, falling vegetation, open pipes, burning gas, propane tanks and other hazards. Appropriate personal protective equipment including N-95 masks, gloves, long shirts and pants, safety glasses and stout shoes should be worn. Appropriate procedures should be followed when leaving such an area, including potentially changing shoes and removing outer layers of clothing. Ash should not be disturbed to the greatest extent possible.

Remediation of property destroyed or damaged by wildfire can be dangerous and should be approached with caution. The area should be deemed safe by state and local authorities prior to remediation and clean-up activities. **No wildfire debris should be transported for disposal unless it has been fully extinguished with no hot spots or risk of re-ignition.**

The following activities should be considered as part of the remediation and clean-up process:

- Establish stormwater best management practices and implement prior to clean up activities.
- Identify site specific hazards (unstable structures and or vegetation) and remove hazards before proceeding.
- Conduct a Hazardous Waste Assessment by Certified Professionals
 - Certified professionals should identify obvious hazardous materials, including gross asbestos containing materials, radioactive materials, mercury, bullets and mortar rounds, and other explosive materials. Such materials will need to be removed and handled by the appropriate professionals and disposed of in accordance with applicable laws.
 - Certified Asbestos Consultants/Experts should assess areas for asbestos containing materials (including ash). Any waste containing asbestos will be disposed of in accordance with applicable laws and guidelines. For more information go to <https://roguedisposal.com/resources/contaminated-materials/asbestos-information#>.

Continued on next page

The following procedures should be followed for specific debris types:

Building/Structure Debris (Non-Ash)

- Any debris (non-ash) from a building or structure being delivered to Dry Creek Landfill or the Rogue Transfer Station must be accompanied by an appropriate survey that certifies it does not contain asbestos.
- Any debris (non-ash) from a building or structure that contains asbestos must be transported and disposed in accordance with applicable laws and guidelines. For more information go to <https://roguedisposal.com/resources/contaminated-materials/asbestos-information#>.

Ash

- Ash delivered to the Dry Creek Landfill by commercial haulers must be wetted down prior to transportation and/or wrapped in at least 6 ml plastic. Ash wetted down in roll off containers must also have a liner of at least 6 ml plastic. Ash delivered to the Rogue Transfer Station must be wrapped in at least 6 ml plastic.
- All loads must be covered prior to transportation to minimize dispersion of ash and debris during transportation.
- Ash for disposal must be accompanied by the appropriate certification from a registered professional that the material is free and clear of all known hazardous contaminants including asbestos. Ash that contains hazardous contaminants or asbestos must be transported and disposed in accordance with applicable laws and guidelines. For more information go to <https://roguedisposal.com/resources/contaminated-materials/asbestos-information#>.

Contaminated Soil

- Soil impacted by wildfires should be tested and evaluated for hazardous materials that may have leached into the soil (i.e. heavy metals or petroleum products). Testing documentation is required prior to disposal of soil at Dry Creek landfill.
- Impacted soils should be removed from the site and disposed of in accordance to local, state and federal regulations.
- For more information regarding disposal at Dry Creek Landfill, go to <https://roguedisposal.com/index.php?p=resources/contaminated-materials>.
- For guidance documents and policy information from Oregon DEQ, go to <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/Hazards-and-Cleanup/env-cleanup/Pages/Cleanup-Guidance-Docs.aspx>.

General Household Items (not structural debris)

- General household items (not structural debris) that is damaged by wildfire (e.g., furniture, clothing, etc.) may generally be disposed of in accordance with general household waste guidelines.

Vehicles and Metal

- Identify any vehicles (i.e. cars, boats, motorcycles, ATV's, trailers, etc.) and other large metal debris that need to be removed for recycling and disposal.
- Confirm that motor vehicles have been cleared of their titles.
- Verify that any liquid in the vehicle is removed prior to transport for recycling or disposal.
- Dry Creek Landfill cannot accept discarded or abandoned vehicles but could accept damaged vehicles (with appropriate documentation) that a recycling facility does not accept.

Appliances (such as refrigerators and freezers)

- Since appliances require special handling and removal of refrigerant prior to recycling they cannot be discarded with other waste. Appliances are accepted at the Rogue Transfer Station. All contents of the appliance need to be removed prior to disposal.

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Medications and Medical Waste

- Segregated medications and sharps for delivery to the appropriate disposal drop-off site, disposal at a Hazardous Waste Event or with a licensed medical waste disposal facility.
- For large quantities of medications or sharps, contact Rogue Disposal & Recycling, Inc. (541.779.4161) or, if Rogue Disposal & Recycling is not your hauler, your local hauler to arrange for delivery of the appropriate containers.

Concrete and Asphalt

- Concrete and Asphalt may be recycled and should be segregated from other waste. There are various businesses that will accept this material for recycling. Such materials are not accepted at the Rogue Transfer Station, please contact us for assistance.

Other Wildfire Debris

- Contact Dry Creek Landfill or Rogue Transfer Station to determine whether disposal is allowed at the landfill or transfer station, and for any special transportation or disposal guidelines or procedures.

The foregoing is subject to any different or additional guidelines imposed by governmental officials supervising the fire remediation and clean-up activities, and also subject to changes that might be implemented by Dry Creek Landfill or Rogue Transfer Station in order to protect its employees or comply with applicable laws, including permits, or due to operational considerations.

At Dry Creek Landfill and Rogue Transfer Station, we know the process of remediation and rebuilding after a wildfire is difficult and can be overwhelming, but we are here to help. Please reach out to us at 541.779.4161 or visit our website at <https://rogedisposal.com> to get answers to questions related to waste disposal services.

We are fully committed to the safety of the community and our employees while protecting public health and the environment.

Additional Information:

For additional information and guidance on cleanups due to fire click on this link from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/wildfires/Pages/After-the-Fire.aspx>.

FEMA has posted advice on Salvaging Damaged Family Treasures and can be downloaded at https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1452020463438-03d4365a46c620bdd1ad1e854379c237/Fire_FIMA_Fact_Sheet_2015_508.pdf.