Eastern Washington Wildfires

Household Hazardous Material Removal

At the request of the State of Washington, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been assigned by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to survey, remove, and dispose of household hazardous materials from properties burned by wildfires in Spokane County.

This work is done at no cost to residents.

EPA will remove potentially dangerous everyday products like:

- ✓ Paint
- ✓ Cleaners and solvents
- ✓ Oils
- ✓ Batteries
- ✓ Pesticides

EPA will remove lithium-ion batteries from vehicles, homes, and other products. These batteries should be considered extremely dangerous, even if they look intact. Lithium batteries can spontaneously re-ignite, explode, and emit toxic gases and particulates even after the fire is out.

Frequently Asked Questions

How will EPA remove household hazardous materials from my property? An EPA-led team will survey your property for safe working conditions. A second EPA-led team will remove household hazardous materials. Once complete, EPA will place a sign on your property. ***EPA will only remove household hazardous materials***. If valuables are found, EPA will stop their work and contact local law enforcement for handling. This includes functional firearms**.**

Why are household hazardous materials removed? After a fire, these products require special handling, especially if their containers are damaged. These materials must be safely removed and disposed of.

Do I need to give the EPA permission to enter my property?
No. The Spokane Regional Health Authority granted EPA authority on August 11, 2026, to access properties. There are no additional steps that homeowners need to take for this work to proceed. For people who want to opt-out, you may get information at spokanecounty.gov/.

Is EPA doing asbestos abatement? No. However, EPA field teams will also remove items thought to have asbestos if they are easy to identify. You will still have to obtain an asbestos survey and dispose properly as explained by the Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency's website at spokanecleanair.org.

Will EPA remove fire ash and other debris? EPA's mission does not include removal of fire ash and other debris. For further information about debris removal assistance, please visit spokanecommunityresources.org/.

For more information, visit epa.gov/washington-wildfires
For questions, call EPA's hotline at **1-888-509-0667** or email region10@epa.gov

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