

Frequently Asked Questions About Right of Entry Forms for Debris Removal

What is a Right of Entry (ROE) form?

A right of entry form authorizes the government to access eligible properties to clear burned debris, destroyed structures, damaged vehicles, vessels, and chimneys, also referred to as Phase 2.

Do I need to submit a ROE form for Phase 1?

No, a ROE form is not required for the Phase 1 hazardous debris removal by the US EPA. Phase 1 is already underway as of the week of 1/27/25, and you cannot opt out. **The ROE form is only required for Phase 2.** For more information about Phase 1 vs. Phase 2, visit recovery.lacounty.gov/debris-removal/.

Where will the ROE forms be available?

The ROE forms are available online at recovery.lacounty.gov/debris-removal/. ROE forms are also available at Disaster Recovery Centers.

Will the ROE form be available in different languages?

Yes, the ROE form will be available in Spanish, Korean, Chinese, Russian, Armenian, and Farsi.

What information do I need to fill in the form?

A checklist is included with the ROE that provides the information needed to complete the form. If you don't know all the information needed, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works will work with you to complete the form and verify your ownership of the property.

Can I speak to someone about the ROE form?

Yes, please call the LA County Public Works Debris Removal Hotline (844) 347-3332 for assistance with your ROE form.

What is the deadline for filing?

The deadline to opt into the government sponsored debris removal program is March 31, 2025.

You should fill out the form as soon as possible, unless you are opting out of free debris removal by the US Army Corps of Engineers. Debris removal by Army Corps cannot proceed until you submit your form, and you may hold up work in your neighborhood by not filing.

If I fill out the ROE form first, will my home be cleaned first?

No, the debris removal process is not a first come, first served process. But getting your forms in early, and encouraging your neighbors to do so as well, will speed the work in your neighborhood.

My home is still standing, do I need to fill out the ROE form?

If you have a destroyed structure on your property, please fill out and submit the form.

What happens if I opt in?

If you opt in, this work will be performed for you by the Army Corps, with no cost to you. Your insurance payment for debris removal will be assigned to the government to help pay for the work; even if the insurance payment does not fully cover the work, the work will be performed at no charge to you. You do not need insurance to participate in the program.

What if I want to handle debris removal myself through a private contractor? What happens if I opt out?

If you opt out of the program, you must receive approval from the County and a permit from the applicable local city authority to proceed with debris removal. Then you will be responsible for hiring the appropriately licensed and certified contractors. You will be responsible for all costs of debris removal and asbestos abatement.

What steps are required and what qualifications does a contractor need in order to handle the debris removal if I opt out?

If you opt out of the program, once the US Environmental Protection Agency has completed its Phase 1 work, you will be responsible for hiring the appropriately licensed and certified contractors to remove the debris. This will include retaining a Certified Asbestos Consultant (CAC) to conduct a survey to identify asbestos in debris. If the CAC finds asbestos, you will need to hire an abatement contractor; and the CAC and abatement contractor will work together to submit an asbestos cleanup plan to South Coast AQMD for review and approval. More information on this process can be found [here](#).

Your contractors will need to be approved by the County and your city, and you will be responsible for all costs of debris removal. The work must be completed in compliance with all local rules and regulations related to debris removal. Private contractors must also adhere to the same haul routes and safety standards being used by the Army Corps to minimize neighborhood disruption. Please check in regularly for additional information and updates on specific regulations at recovery.lacounty.gov or call the LA County Public Works Fire Debris Hotline at 844-347-3332.

If I opt in, can I opt back out even after I submitted my ROE form?

Yes, if you submit the ROE form and then decide to opt out, you are able to do so. However, it may cause delays.

If I opt out, can I opt in again?

Once your opt out application is approved and your permit issued you cannot opt back in. You will bear the full cost of debris removal and disposal.

If I do not fill out the ROE form and opt out of Phase 2, will I be deprioritized for Phase 1?

No.

What if I don't have insurance?

If you don't have insurance, you can opt in to the Army Corps debris removal program (Phase 2) at no cost to you. If you opt out, you will be responsible for the cost of clearing the debris from your property.

Debris removal by the Army Corps has no cost to you regardless of your insurance coverage or whether you have any insurance at all. If you do have insurance that covers this work, the government will ask your insurance company, not you, for reimbursement of costs up to the limits of that specific coverage.

How will you decide which properties are cleared first?

Properties cannot begin Phase 2 until they have received a Phase 1 clearance from the EPA. As ROEs are collected and ownership is verified, the Army Corps will batch properties together for clearing with the objective of moving as quickly as possible and addressing health and safety issues as a top priority.

Do I have to wait until all of the hazardous debris is cleared everywhere in LA County for Phase 2 to start?

No, Phase 1 and Phase 2 will run concurrently. Once each cluster of properties is cleared under Phase 1, the US Army Corps of Engineers can begin Phase 2 cleanup on properties where ROEs have been submitted and ownership has been verified.