

# Phase 2 Fire Debris Removal Opting Out and Managing Cleanup Independently

## Option 2: Opt-Out and Manage Cleanup Independently

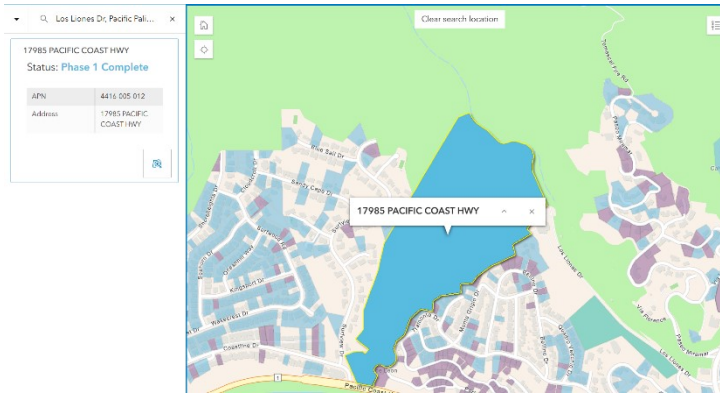
- **Step 1:** Fill out an opt-out form:
  - Complete the opt-out form online:  
<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/0195ab713483794292e94ff443e897b8>
  - Download and complete an opt-out form: [https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/lac/1176419\\_Opt-OutForm.pdf](https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/lac/1176419_Opt-OutForm.pdf)
- **Step 2:** Apply for a **Fire Debris Removal Permit** from the County in EPIC-LA ([https://epicla.lacounty.gov/energov\\_prod/SelfService/#/home](https://epicla.lacounty.gov/energov_prod/SelfService/#/home)) to handle debris removal on your own after you receive EPA certification of phase 1 completion for your property or if your property was deferred to phase 2 by the EPA for household hazardous waste removal (HHW).

### For the Fire Debris Removal Permit Application, you will need the following:

- a. Proof of Phase 1 Completion by EPA. Acceptable forms of verification include EPA Completion Certificate or screenshot of EPA's Parcel Lookup Map.
  - Example of EPA Completion Certificate:



- Example of EPA's Parcel Lookup Map:



If Deferred to Phase 2 for HHW removal: Proof of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers completion of Phase I (<https://jecop-public.usace.army.mil/portal/apps/experiencebuilder/experience/?id=efbe5617ffa4d17b572d5f312004806>).

- b. Both the owner and contractor must have an account registered in EPIC-LA.

Note: To ensure proper handling and disposal procedures are followed, the Prime Contractor on the permit must have a Class-A or Class-B license with Hazardous Substance Removal Certification (HAZ) or the specific combination of C-21, C-12 with a HAZ certificate. The required HAZ Certification is different from a HAZWOPER training/certification. Please visit the Contractors State License Board Disaster Help Center ([https://www.cslb.ca.gov/Media\\_Room/Disaster\\_Help\\_Center/](https://www.cslb.ca.gov/Media_Room/Disaster_Help_Center/)) to find an appropriately licensed contractor.

- c. Completion of Opt-Out Application signed by owner. Acceptable forms of verification include a PDF copy of the application or confirmation receipt email from [opt-out@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:opt-out@dpw.lacounty.gov). Please note, you don't need to have a "Los Angeles County Acknowledgement" signed copy of your Opt-Out form to proceed with applying for the Fire Debris Removal Permit.

- Example of Opt-Out Application:

**Los Angeles County Public Works**  
 900 South Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, CA 91803-1331  
 Debris Removal Hotline: (844) FIRE-DEBRIS / (844) 347-3332  
 Website: [recovery.lacounty.gov](http://recovery.lacounty.gov)

**OPT-OUT  
 LOS ANGELES COUNTY LOCAL FIRE DEBRIS REMOVAL PROGRAM**

**Who needs to complete this form?** Property owners with destroyed structures identified by a government agency who elect not to participate in the Government-run debris removal program (Property gets chosen to clean up their property on their own, or with a qualified contractor OR properties that do not qualify for the Program. The work must be done to standards established in ordinances and regulations so that health and safety risks are adequately addressed for the community and the environment. Documentation on adequate cleanup and proper disposal will be required including US EPA Phase I clearance. Federal/State disaster funding will not be able to reimburse for this work.

**Where do I submit this form?** You may submit application in the following ways:

- At any County Building and Safety Office near you. To find the nearest office, visit [dsw.lacounty.gov/buildingsandcasafety/locations/local-action](http://dsw.lacounty.gov/buildingsandcasafety/locations/local-action)
- At any Disaster Recovery Center open daily from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM. Visit [recovery.lacounty.gov/recovery-centers/](http://recovery.lacounty.gov/recovery-centers/) for locations
- By mail to Los Angeles County Public Works - Environmental Programs Division attention: Debris Removal Team, P.O. Box 1960, Alhambra, CA 91802-1960
- By email to [optout@lacounty.gov](mailto:optout@lacounty.gov)

Please include the Property Address or Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) in the subject line used in the email to 10 employees (10).

Property Owner Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Assessor's Parcel Number (APN): \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Description of Debris Being Removed (how many structures, type of waste, etc.)  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**A. Program Participation**  
 Who will perform the debris removal?  Owner  Licensed Contractor  
 If hiring a contractor, please provide the following:  
 Name of Contractor: \_\_\_\_\_  
 License Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Proposed Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Required:** Phase I clearance from USEPA, approval from the County, and a permit from the applicable local authority is required prior to starting debris cleanup.

**B. Property Owner Acknowledges**  
 I understand that I will have to follow the protocols outlined in the "Management of Los Angeles County Wildfire Debris" document and specifications for private debris removal. I agree that the appropriately licensed contractor(s) that will perform the work in accordance with the work plans that demonstrate that the standards and requirements established for the Local Program are met. I understand the ash and debris shall be wetted down prior to removal and dust shall be controlled. The ash and debris shall also be completely encapsulated with a tarp ("burrito wrap" method) prior to being transported for disposal.

Property Owner Signature (Required): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contractor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Los Angeles County Acknowledgement: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

- Example of confirmation receipt email:

Los Angeles County Public Works has received your Local Program application (Application #25000645) for review. Application information will be reviewed for completeness. A member of our team will notify you through the contact information provided if additional information is necessary.

This email is **not** a confirmation that your application is complete. Please check your email settings to allow emails from [PalisadesFire@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:PalisadesFire@dpw.lacounty.gov) and [EatonFire@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:EatonFire@dpw.lacounty.gov) for important updates to your application.

Thank you,

2025 Wildfire Debris Removal Manager  
 Environmental Program Division  
 Los Angeles County Public Works  
 Hotline: (844) 347-3332  
[www.recovery.lacounty.gov/](http://www.recovery.lacounty.gov/)

d. Certified Asbestos Consultant Report (CAC) confirming no asbestos present.

**Note:** If asbestos is present, it must be abated by a registered asbestos abatement contractor. Once abatement has been completed, an Asbestos Abatement Clearance letter prepared by the registered asbestos abatement contractor is to be provided certifying the work performed and that all asbestos identified in the CAC report has been removed from the property. For further information about asbestos abatement, please visit AQMD's Asbestos Demolition & Removal: Addressing Wildfire Debris (<https://www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/compliance/asbestos-demolition-removal>).

- **Step 3:** Upon completion of the Fire Debris Removal Permit in EPIC-LA, your permit will be issued by the County.
  - Provide notification 48 hours prior to the start of debris removal activities by using the online notification system: <https://forms.office.com/g/NyFNDyQAXX>
  - a. Please provide property owner name, email, phone number, address of work, permit number, contractor name, and contractor phone number.

- The County will review all required documents uploaded with your application to ensure compliance with all safety and environmental standards.
  - a. If any documents are missing or if clarification of information is necessary, the Owner and Contractor will receive an automated email requesting to contact the County. Failure to do so may result in significant delays of debris removal activities and/or issuance of Final Fire Debris Removal Permit Closure.
- **Step 4:** Upload the following Post Debris Removal Documentation to EPIC-LA:

**For the Post Debris Removal Documentation, you will need the following:**

- a. Weight tickets and Disposal Documents from a certified landfill or recycling facility
- b. Hazardous Waste Manifest(s) (if applicable)
- c. Site photos of the completed site
  - Photos must be taken of the frontage (from the street towards the property).
  - Photos of the building footprint, foundations (as applicable), property lines, any remaining structures, and sewer cap.
  - **All areas of the property will be verified to be clear of debris. If needed, additional photos are to be provided upon County's request.**
- d. Note: If foundations remain in place, an approval from the Los Angeles County Building and Safety or the City Building Official will be required prior to reusing the foundation as part of the building permit process for new structures. If appropriate strengths cannot be determined by testing and analysis by the property owner's engineer, the Building Official may require foundations to be removed at the property owners' expense prior to issuing a building permit.

For properties in the County of Los Angeles Building and Safety jurisdiction, please refer to the following:

[https://dpw.lacounty.gov/bsd/lib/fp/Building/Structural%20and%20Technical/Reuse%20of%20Existing%20Foundation%20Systems%20in%20a%20Fire%20Damaged%20Structure%20\(Rav%2002-2025\).pdf](https://dpw.lacounty.gov/bsd/lib/fp/Building/Structural%20and%20Technical/Reuse%20of%20Existing%20Foundation%20Systems%20in%20a%20Fire%20Damaged%20Structure%20(Rav%2002-2025).pdf)

For properties in City jurisdictions, please refer to their respective City requirements.

**Note, failure to provide adequate post debris removal documentation may result in significant delays in issuance of Final Fire Debris Removal Permit Closure.**

**Step 5:** For County Jurisdiction Only: Upon completion of all debris removal activities and post debris removal documentation upload, request a final inspection by contacting the County at [FireDebrisPermit@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:FireDebrisPermit@dpw.lacounty.gov).

- a. County staff will review all documentation to verify proper disposal of all fire debris and that the property has been cleared according to the requirements of the Fire Debris Removal Permit.
- b. The County will contact the contractor for final inspection as necessary.

**Step 6:** Final Fire Debris Removal Permit Closure will be provided.

- a. **Costs:** You will be responsible for any costs of the removal that exceed your insurance settlement amount for debris removal.
- b. **This guidance may be updated in the future based on field conditions and additional directives or policies.**