



TRINITY COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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PRESS RELEASE DEBRIS REMOVAL

TRINITY COUNTY, CA (October 28, 2020) – California Department of Toxic Substances Control (“DTSC”) will be assisting the County and property owners impacted by the August Complex Fire. This help will consist of two phases. Phase one is removal of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) from the properties effected, starting on November 2, 2020. This will be followed up with phase two – removal of remaining burn debris – in cooperation with property owners, CalRecycle (California Department of Resources, Recycling, and Recovery), CalOES (California Office of Emergency Services), and FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency).

HHW must be handled separately from and prior to addressing other burn debris. Further, neither HHW nor burn debris can be taken to local landfills. Because HHW is dangerous, Residents are strongly urged to leave all HHW in place and to not remove any HHW or damaged containers of HHW from their properties. HHW includes unused or leftover portions of products that contain toxic chemicals. Products labeled Caution, Warning, Danger, Poison, Toxic, Flammable, or Corrosive are considered hazardous. See below list for examples of HHW.

Because of the hazards of HHW to the Community, HHW must be cleaned up. ***This may include the need to enter the property without the owner’s permission with the sole intent of removing HHW, which is permitted by the County’s emergency declaration, and State/Federal Law.***

Following the HHW removal, County Staff will be in contact with all property owners to initiate phase two for removal of the remaining burn debris from the property. **County, State, and Federal workers will not enter a property for burn debris removal without the express written consent of the home owner, unless it meets the HHW criteria as stated above.**

As all other burn debris removal needs homeowner’s permission, it is critical that all effected owners contact the County immediately to begin this phase two process.

Examples of Household Hazardous Waste:

- Aerosols
- Antifreeze
- Solvents
- Auto Batteries
- Auto Fluids
- Used Oil and Oil Filters
- Household Cleaners
- Fertilizer
- Pesticides
- Latex / Oil-Based Paint
- Pool Chemicals
- Propane Tanks (less than 30 gallon)

For up to date information and resources, go to www.trinitycounty.org/recovery, email hhs.disasterrecovery@trinitycounty.org, or call 530-623-8223.

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