



## Greater Wenatchee Regional Landfill Residential Fire Debris Disposal Information May 20, 2026

WM's Greater Wenatchee Regional Landfill strongly recommends that residents whose properties were affected by fires hire a licensed contractor to perform fire debris cleanup and removal activities for the protection of human health and the environment. All debris customers must receive a disposal permit from WM Builders Direct prior to bringing these wastes to the landfill. Please call **800-963-4050** or e-mail Builders Direct at [pbuilder@wm.com](mailto:pbuilder@wm.com) prior to starting the clean-up process.

Fire 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 asbestos-containing materials (ACM), in both friable and non-friable states;
- Material such as propane tanks, air conditioners, batteries, cleaning products, pesticides, and herbicides that are hazardous or require special handling and disposal.

Due to the potentially hazardous nature of fire debris, cleanup and rehabilitation activities can pose both acute and chronic health hazards including respiratory/lung diseases, cancer, mesothelioma, and asbestosis if proper precautions are not taken.

### **SITE PREPARATION CONSIDERATIONS**

Cleanup of fire impacted properties should be conducted by professionals who have the appropriate expertise and equipment for these activities. 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 safety boots/shoes are recommended. Appropriate procedures should be followed when leaving such an area, including changing shoes and removing outer layers of clothing. Ash and soils must be wetted to eliminate emissions to the surrounding area to the greatest extent possible.

Remediation of property destroyed or damaged by fire 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 fire debris should be transported for disposal unless it has been fully extinguished with no hot spots or risk of reignition and has received a permit to dispose from WM Builders Direct.**

### **FIRE DEBRIS SEGREGATION AND HANDLING**

The following activities should be considered as part of the remediation and cleanup process:

- Conduct a hazardous waste and asbestos assessment completed by certified professionals.
- Identify site-specific hazards (unstable structures and/or vegetation) and remove hazards before proceeding.

Certified professionals should identify obvious hazardous materials, including 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. Be aware of the fact that as additional debris is



uncovered, hazardous material may be present that could not be previously identified. If uncertain, do not attempt to handle potentially hazardous items without professional guidance.

Non-hazardous fire debris must be wetted and secured (i.e., covered) during transportation and disposal to prevent dust emissions.

## **FIRE DEBRIS DISPOSAL**

### **Fire Debris from Residential Properties - WM Builders Direct**

All customers with fire debris removed from residential properties must contact WM Builders Direct prior to arrival at GWRLRC for a permit to dispose of fire debris and technical support on complying with transport and disposal requirements. Residential fire debris customers are required to submit documentation of hazardous waste clearance and an asbestos survey to Builders Direct for review and approval. These clearance documents must be from a certified and licensed contractor, or a state or local government office. WM Builders Direct technical staff will work with customers to ensure all required documentation is obtained and will provide customers with a permit to dispose and information on the required packaging and handling requirements needed for disposal. **All loads taken to GWRLRC must be accompanied by an approved Builders Direct Permit.** Failure to contact Builders Direct will result in significant delays and may result in rejection of the load(s). GWRLRC **cannot** accept waste identified through the waste screening process as being hazardous.

Structural fire debris without an asbestos survey may be accepted as assumed asbestos, subject to proper packaging and documentation, as described below.

Contact WM Builders Direct at 800-963-4050 or [pbuilder@wm.com](mailto:pbuilder@wm.com)

## **SPECIAL WASTE CONSIDERATIONS**

### **Asbestos-Containing Materials**

Assessment of all properties with structural fire debris must be completed by a certified asbestos contractor. The contractor will inspect and prepare documentation that the property contains or does not contain asbestos-containing materials (including ash). The EPA, Department of Ecology, and Department of Health strongly encourage homeowners to employ a certified asbestos abatement contractor to remove any waste containing regulated asbestos. Homeowners that elect to remove asbestos-containing materials from their own property must adhere to state and federal regulations for asbestos project notification, handling, packaging, and documentation.

Please review the Homeowner's Guide to Asbestos Cleanup after Disasters for more information: [https://epi.dph.ncdhhs.gov/oeo/docs/EPA\\_HUDHomeownersGuidetoAsbestosCleanupAfterDisasters.pdf](https://epi.dph.ncdhhs.gov/oeo/docs/EPA_HUDHomeownersGuidetoAsbestosCleanupAfterDisasters.pdf)

### **Notification**

In Douglas County, the Department of Ecology Central Region Office must be notified of asbestos cleanup projects prior to commencing the work (10-day notice is typically required). The Central Region Office can be contacted at 509-575-2490.

### **Handling**

Homeowners are strongly encouraged to seek the assistance of a certified asbestos abatement contractor when cleaning up asbestos debris. At a minimum, use the following procedures to handle suspected asbestos-containing material.

- Always wear personal protective equipment (PPE) when handling asbestos. PPE includes



gloves, goggles, Tyvek® or equivalent clothing and respiratory protection. Asbestos fibers are impossible to see so a fitted rubber half-face respirator (mask) with cartridges rated for use with asbestos (HEPA, N100) is the minimum protection. **These masks are not effective in the presence of facial hair.**

- Wet down suspected asbestos surfaces and keep wet at all times.
- Avoid activities that will generate dust, and do not crush, grind, or damage materials. Do not sweep or vacuum in areas where asbestos-containing materials are located.
- Wash hands after handling asbestos but before removing the mask.
- Keep all family members out of the work area or seal the area. Do not carry contaminated clothing or other materials home to your family members. Dispose of contaminated clothing with the other asbestos-containing materials (required packaging information described below).
- Avoid smoking, eating, or drinking in asbestos-contaminated areas.
- Post signs: **Danger: Asbestos Dust Hazard; Cancer and Lung Disease Hazard; Authorized Personnel Only**
- Shower or hose off to keep from bringing asbestos into living quarters.

#### **Packaging – Supplies are available for purchase at the landfill**

- Asbestos-containing materials are required to be packaged as follows pursuant to state and federal regulations:
- Asbestos-containing materials must be kept wetted at all times during handling and packaging.
- Gently place wetted asbestos materials in minimum 6 millimeter thickness plastic bags. Asbestos-containing materials must be double-bagged, sealed and labeled.
- Avoid activities that generate dust, and do not crush, grind, or damage materials. Do not sweep or vacuum in areas where asbestos-containing materials are located.
- Dispose of contaminated clothing and PPE with the other asbestos-containing material in double bagged, 6 millimeter plastic bags.
- Once full, bags must be securely sealed with tape and labeled. Ensure that bags do not rupture, tear, or leak. Do not overfill bags.
- Bags must be labeled using a permanent marker or printed label with the following information:

- Generator name
- Address
- Date of removal
- The Asbestos Warning Label: (at right)

**Danger**  
**Contains Asbestos Fibers**  
**May Cause Cancer**  
**Causes Damage to Lungs**  
**Do Not Breathe Dust**  
**Avoid Creating Dust**



### **Transportation and Disposal**

All loads with fire debris material must be transported in a covered vehicle. Asbestos-containing material may NOT be transported in uncovered vehicles or trailers. Loads of asbestos-containing material must be accompanied by both an Asbestos Waste Shipment Record (attached to this document) and a Builders Direct permit for acceptance at GWRLRC. Customers must provide these documents to the scalehouse attendant along with a form of identification at GWRLRC prior to disposal. The scalehouse attendant will direct customers to the proper location for disposal. Asbestos-containing material must be carefully unloaded at the landfill to ensure that bags do not tear or rupture during disposal.

### **Deceased Animals and Livestock**

GWRLRC is authorized to accept deceased animals and livestock.

### **General Household Items (not fire debris from structures)**

General household items (not structure debris) that are damaged by fire (e.g., furniture, clothing) may be disposed of in accordance with general household waste guidelines. These materials should be separated from other structural materials. Segregated loads of fire-impacted household goods and/or municipal solid waste (MSW) that do not contain hazardous materials may be disposed of at GWRLRC without a Builders Direct permit.

### **Vehicles and Metal**

GWRLRC **cannot** accept discarded or abandoned vehicles but may be able to accept damaged vehicles (with appropriate documentation) that a recycling facility does not accept. Please contact our WM Solutions team at [www.wmsolutions.com](http://www.wmsolutions.com) or 800-963-4776 to address protocol elements, including the following:

- Identify any vehicles (i.e., cars, boats, motorcycles, ATVs, trailers, etc.) and other large metal debris that need to be removed for recycling and disposal.
- Confirm that motor vehicles have been cleared of titles.
- Verify that any liquid in the vehicle has been removed prior to transport for recycling or disposal.

### **Non-Refrigerant Containing Appliances**

GWRLRC **does not** accept refrigerant-containing appliances even if refrigerant has been removed by a licensed professional. Non-refrigerant containing appliances are accepted for disposal at GWRLRC. All contents of the appliance need to be removed prior to disposal.

### **Medications and Medical Waste**

GWRLRC is authorized to accept **treated** medical waste that has been rendered non-infectious. Please contact WM Solutions for information regarding medical waste and medication disposal at [www.wmsolutions.com](http://www.wmsolutions.com) or 800-963-4776.

### **Concrete and Asphalt Recycling**

Concrete and asphalt may be recycled at GWRLRC **if segregated from other waste**. Such materials will be disposed of as waste at GWRLRC if they are not sorted.



## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

FEMA has posted advice on Salvaging Damaged Family Treasures and can be downloaded at [https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema\\_after-fire\\_082023.pdf](https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_after-fire_082023.pdf)

Chelan Douglas Health Fire Debris Cleanup Response and Regulations  
<https://www.cdhd.wa.gov/after-a-wildfire#docaccess-ef5b62ba1fe290b1fec6edf38687931f49bea291617862485b9cf9e2c45a143e>

## **SAFETY IS A CORE VALUE AT WM**

At GWRLRC, our safety value includes safety training and safety protocols to protect our employees, customers, the community and the environment. Our commitment to safety includes the safe management of fire debris.



**Greater Wenatchee Regional Landfill  
Fire Debris Disposal Fact Sheet • November 30, 2020**

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- ▶ Fire debris may be dangerous and contain hazardous materials, heavy metals, asbestos, etc.
- ▶ Fire damaged properties should be surveyed by a licensed professional for both hazardous waste and asbestos prior to debris cleanup, transport or disposal activities.
- ▶ Fire debris may require special packaging and handling, including thoroughly wetting and covering loads, to prevent emissions of ash or other environmental impacts
- ▶ Customers with structural fire debris **MUST** contact Builders Direct prior to arrival at GWRLRC to obtain an approved disposal permit.
  - **Phone Number: 800-963-4050**
  - **Email: [pbuilder@wm.com](mailto:pbuilder@wm.com)**
- ▶ GWRLRC does NOT accept hazardous waste.
- ▶ GWRLRC is authorized to accept non-hazardous municipal solid waste, construction and demolition debris, asbestos-containing materials, dead animals and livestock, inert waste, damaged/non-recyclable vehicles, and treated medical waste, subject to all applicable rules and regulations.
- ▶ Non-hazardous structural fire debris may be accepted without an asbestos clearance as assumed asbestos, which requires the material to be properly packaged and documented prior to disposal at GWRLRC.

## Waste Shipment Record

### 1. Work Site Name and Mailing Address

Worksite Name:

Address:

### 2. Owner's Name and Address:

Name:

Owner's Mailing Address:

County:

### 3. Operator's Name and Address (if different from Owner)

Name:

Address:

Phone Number:

### 4. Disposal Site Name: Greater Wenatchee Regional Landfill

Address: 191 Webb Road, East Wenatchee, WA 98802

Site Address: 191 Webb Road, East Wenatchee, WA 98802

Phone Number: 509-884-2802

### 5. Name and Address of Responsible Agency

US EPA Region 10

1200 6th Ave

Seattle, WA 98101

Ecology - Central Region Office

1250 Alder St

Union Gap, WA 98903

### 6. Description of Materials:

#### 7. Containers

Type: Bags / Drums / Burrito Wrap / Other:

Quantity:

### 8. Total Quantity in Cubic Yards:

### 9. Special Handling Instructions and Additional Information

*Asbestos-containing material must be packaged correctly and adequately wetted at the time of disposal.*

**10. Operator's Certification:** I hereby certify that the above listed material(s) is (are) not hazardous waste as defined by 40 CFR Part 261 or any applicable state law. I hereby declare that the contents of this consignment are full and accurately described above by proper shipping name and are classified, packaged, marked, and labeled and are in all respects in proper condition for transport by highway according to applicable regulations.

Printed Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### 11. Transporter 1 (Acknowledgement of receipt of materials)

Printed Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### 12. Transporter 2 (Acknowledgement of receipt of materials)

Printed Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### 13. Discrepancy Indication Space

**14. Disposal Site Owner/Operator:** Certification of receipt of asbestos material covered by this manifest except as noted in Item 12.

Printed Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_