

# Woolsey Wildfire - Trash and Fire Debris Removal

Our hearts go out to the residents affected by the Woolsey Fire. To assist with the cleanup, Los Angeles County would like to offer the following information:

## FIRE DEBRIS REMOVAL

Ash, debris, and fire damage on homes that have been red and yellow tagged may contain hazardous materials that can threaten public health. The Los Angeles County Health Officer declared a Local Health Emergency on November 12, 2018, which **prohibits the removal of fire debris** until an inspection of the debris is conducted by federal, state or local hazardous materials agencies. The Local Health Emergency also prohibits the delivery of debris bins in the affected areas without the approval from the Los Angeles County Fire Department.

The County has requested state and federal assistance to expedite recovery activities and ensure the safe removal of hazardous waste and fire debris from red and yellow tagged homes damaged by the wildfires.

**Household trash** can be disposed through residential trash services. Please see general guidelines below for assistance. As a reminder, guidance for ash clean up in areas without fire damage can be found on the [Health Fact Sheet—Returning Home After a Fire](#) which can be found at [publichealth.lacounty.gov](http://publichealth.lacounty.gov).

## RESIDENTIAL TRASH SERVICES

**Residential trash collection services were interrupted by the Woolsey Fire and will resume as soon as evacuation orders are lifted, and roads reopen.** The following information applies to customers in the unincorporated County of Los Angeles area:

### Household Trash

Includes:

- **Black bins** (general waste) – animal and food waste, disposable diapers, cloth/fabric, & non-recyclable items.
- **Blue bins** (Recyclable items) – cans, glass bottles, plastics labeled #1-7, & newspaper/magazines/junk mail.
- **Green bins**- Grass, leaves, brush, & tree trimmings.

Place your trash bins for collection on regular trash day. Damaged bins should be reported for replacement.

Any excess waste that will not fit in your bins may be placed in bags (5 max) on your trash day; no call-in is required for the next few weeks. Clearly label the bags as **Black**, **Blue** or **Green** bin waste.

### Rotten Food

Spoiled food may be placed in the trash or in excess bags. Public Health recommends the following:

- ✓ If the power outage lasted several hours, it is best to throw away perishable food items such as meat, dairy products and eggs.
- ✓ Items that have thawed in the freezer should be thrown away. Do not re-freeze thawed food. All other food items should be inspected to ensure safety.
- ✓ Remember, "if in doubt, throw it out."

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## Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)

Includes any product labeled toxic, poisonous, corrosive, flammable, combustible or irritant, such as:

Air fresheners, antifreeze, batteries, chlorine bleach, Compact fluorescent light bulbs, disinfectants, drain cleaners, fertilizers, gasoline, window cleaners, hair spray, insecticides, medicines, nail polish and remover, pool chemicals, sharps waste, spray paints, tub/tile/toilet cleaners, and used motor oil.

Do not dispose of any HHW in your **Black** trash bins. HHW should be brought to:

- 23519 W. Civic Center Way, Malibu  
on December 1, between 9 am and 3 pm
- or to one of the permanent collection centers.

Contact [CleanLA.com](http://CleanLA.com) or **888-CleanLA** for more locations.

## Fire Debris

Includes:

- Burnt structural components
- Burnt household and personal items,
- Foundation and
- contaminated soil

**Do not dispose of any fire debris at this time!**

Instructions for safe removal of fire debris will be provided.

## COMMERCIAL TRASH SERVICES

**Commercial trash collection services (including residents using dumpster) were interrupted by the Woolsey Fire and will resume as soon as evacuation orders are lifted, and roads reopen.** You should then expect trash service on your normal collection day(s). If you need any special services, please contact your waste hauler.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Waste Management  
(800) 266-7551  
[WM.com](http://WM.com)

County of Los Angeles  
Department of Public Works  
888 Clean LA (888-253-2652)  
[CleanLA.com](http://CleanLA.com)

Universal Waste Systems  
(800) 631-7016  
[UWScompany.com](http://UWScompany.com)