

Protect Yourself from Debris Hazards



FOR MAUI RESIDENTS IMPACTED BY WILDFIRES

The burn area is hazardous. The Hawai'i Department of Health (DOH) advises avoiding the burn area until it is cleared of hazardous materials and structural ash. Enter at your risk.

Please take necessary precautions to protect yourself and your loved ones. If you are feeling unwell or have new health symptoms, please seek medical evaluation.

Children and pregnant people are at higher risk from the debris hazards and should not help with clean-up efforts.

Protect yourself

Adults should wear protective face masks, goggles and gloves, long-sleeves, pants, socks and shoes to avoid skin contact with ash. Cloth masks will not protect you from ash. Instead, DOH recommends wearing a tight fitting respirator mask - look for words NIOSH or N95 printed on the mask. Remember, no mask is effective unless it is fitted properly.

We recommend changing clothes before being in contact with sensitive groups like children, pregnant people, people with asthma or COPD, and kupuna.

Ash

Ash may cause irritation of the skin, nose, and throat, and may cause coughing. Ash and dust (particularly from burned buildings) may contain toxic and cancer-causing chemicals including asbestos, lead, and arsenic.

Ash pits

Ash pits are holes full of hot ash, created by burned trees and stumps. Falling into ash pits or landing in them with your hands or feet can cause serious burns.

Ash clean up

Avoid washing ash into storm drains. Do not use vacuums or leaf blowers that will push more ash into the air.

Debris

Broken glass, exposed electrical wires (whether or not they are "live"), nails, wood, metal, plastics, and other solid objects commonly found in areas of fire damage can cause puncture wounds, cuts, electrical injuries, and burns from smoldering materials. Please use caution.

Propane tanks

Maintain a safe distance from any propane tank that may have been impacted by heat or fire.

Remaining structures

Unstable buildings and structures could collapse and cause injury. Please check with authorities before entering any remaining structures.

Stored materials

Containers could have moved into unstable positions and be at risk for falling and causing injuries. Please approach with caution.

Salvaged items

Anything found that can be salvaged should be washed carefully with clean water and soap.

QUESTIONS?

Hawai'i Poison Control Center: 1-800-222-1222
health.hawaii.gov/mauiwildfires

PLEASE FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS FROM LOCAL AUTHORITIES.



Hazard Advisory for Properties in the Burn Area



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Please take necessary precautions to protect yourself and your loved ones. If you are feeling unwell or have new health symptoms, please seek medical evaluation.

You may encounter dangerous conditions or be exposed to toxic materials. Wear protective gear and minimize your time of exposure.

Protect Yourself

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Reduce Exposure to Ash & Hazardous Materials

Debris and ash may include lead, asbestos, arsenic or other hazardous materials. Dust, dirt, and soot can become airborne and be inhaled. Other heavy metals and chemicals may also be present in ash after a wildfire and could present a hazard.

Reduce your exposure to hazards by taking actions to protect yourself. We recommend changing clothes before being in contact with sensitive groups like children, pregnant people, people with asthma or COPD, and kupuna. Children and pregnant people should not be exposed to wildfire ash and debris.

Do Not Remove Ash or Debris

Do not dispose of ash or debris at landfills, in dumpsters, or at transfer stations. Removal of hazardous material will be coordinated by authorities.

Be Aware of Trees, Power Lines, or Other Hazards

Trees may be identified as hazards due to the fire. Even if power has not been restored to your neighborhood, downed power lines should be avoided. Unstable buildings and structures could collapse and cause injury. If you identify that an area is unsafe, leave and report the hazard to emergencies.

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