



Maui Wildfire Recovery

Phase 1: Hazardous Material Removal

September 11, 2023

Maui gives so much to the world. As guests, we are honored to give our support back.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is conducting a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) assigned mission to survey, remove, and dispose of hazardous materials from properties affected by the wildfires in Lāhainā on Maui. The EPA has completed its mission in Kula.

EPA's hazardous materials work takes place during **Phase 1** of the overall federal cleanup response. **Phase 2** will be debris removal and will be done by an agency to be determined.

This work is free to residents.

EPA will remove everyday products like:

- ✓ Paints, cleaners, and solvents
- ✓ Oils, batteries, and pesticides

EPA will also remove asbestos and inspect pressurized fuel cylinders (like propane tanks).

- After a fire, these products require special handling, especially if their containers are damaged.
- EPA field teams will also remove items thought to have asbestos if they are easy to identify, but the property will not be *fully* cleared until Phase 2.



Examples of hazardous materials that will be removed.

Visiting your property?



Anyone visiting fire-impacted properties should follow health guidance from the Hawai'i DOH for your protection.

Ash and debris can contain potentially harmful contaminants like asbestos, lead, and arsenic that can be inhaled or enter the environment.

tinyurl.com/DOHwildfirehealth



Some empty containers EPA inspects will be marked with a white X and left to be removed during Phase 2.

Frequently Asked Questions

How will EPA remove hazardous materials from my property?

1. An EPA team will survey your property for work conditions.
2. A second EPA team will remove hazardous materials.
3. Once complete, the EPA will place a sign on your property (*see example sign to the right*).

Special Circumstances

- If the conditions on your property are not safe for EPA teams to enter, removing hazardous materials will be held until Phase 2.



EPA will only remove hazardous materials.

If functional firearms or suspected remains are found, EPA will stop work and contact the Maui Police Department.

Why are hazardous materials removed?

- Hazardous materials are harmful to the environment and residents and need to be safely removed before Phase 2 can start.

Do I need to give the EPA permission to enter my property?

- No. The State of Hawai'i issued an order on August 10, 2023, granting EPA authority to access properties without permission from the property owner.

Will EPA remove anything other than hazardous materials?

- No. EPA will only remove hazardous materials.

My neighbor's property was cleared of hazardous materials but mine was not. Why?

There are several factors affecting our teams' schedules:

- EPA field teams don't work in areas when other field crews are present, due to safety and/or congestion. Weather and daylight also affect schedules.
- Field crews cannot work on properties with dangerous trees or terrain, unstable structures, or other unsafe conditions. These properties will be addressed during Phase 2 (debris removal), which will not be done by EPA.

What does the paint marking on my property mean?

- **White stake and signage:** Site has been cleared of hazardous material and is completed.
- **White X mark:** Empty Hazardous containers or containers to be left in place.
- **White MT mark:** Fuel tank contents were transferred, and tank left in place.
- **Red paint:** Lithium battery power walls.

- **Pink paint:** Suspect asbestos containing material that would take > .5 hours and will be left in place and removed during Phase 2.
- **Orange paint:** Septic system location, damaged transformer, or any item left for high hazard team to complete.
- **Orange equal sign = on tree:** Use caution, may be dangerous in high winds.
- **Orange X** on tree – Dangerous tree, maintain safe distance.
- **Orange arrow on tree pointing up** – caution, dangerous tree limb.
- **Blue flagging** – Cultural area, use caution.

For more info about EPA's work, contact us at:

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or visit:

epa.gov/maui-wildfires

facebook.com/EPAregion9

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instagram.com/epagov

For more information about the Maui Wildfires, visit

mauicounty.gov and mauinuistrong.info