

## **Understanding the Right of Entry Form**

### **What is a Right of Entry Form?**

Right-of-Entry (ROE) form gives permission to the participating government entities and their contractors to access your property for the purpose of cleanup activities. By signing an ROE form, you are signing up to participate in the City of Camarillo and County of Ventura's Consolidated Debris Removal Program (government program). In particular, the form extends permission to the County of Ventura (which is managing the government program) and its contractors to perform the cleanup work. Contact City of Camarillo or County of Ventura (city/county) officials to get a Right-of-Entry form.

### **If I missed the ROE deadline may I still submit one?**

ROEs submitted after the deadline must be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the city/county.

### **If I opt in to the government program, can I change my mind and opt out at a later time? If I opt in to the government program and later opt out, will I owe the government any money?**

If a property owner opts out after the debris removal has started, the property owner will be responsible for reimbursing any available insurance proceeds, related to debris removal, collected to offset any debris expenditures by the government.

### **How are properties prioritized for debris removal?**

Debris removal officials will give initial priority to sites in or near sensitive areas such as watersheds, schools, day care centers and health-care facilities. Debris removal officials will then try to identify areas where there are clusters of eligible properties.

### **When will crews be on my property?**

Due to the high volume of program participants, we are unable to give property owners an exact date for their cleanup. However, you will receive a call from between 24-48 hours before the removal takes place.

### **Can I be present during the cleanup of their personal property?**

Owners do not need to be present but are welcome to view the cleanup on their property from a safe distance. To prevent safety hazards, the public is encouraged to stay away from areas where debris removal operations are underway. Exclusion zones will be established surrounding the work area to ensure the safety of the public and workers.

### **Is the government program only for houses that are completely destroyed?**

The government program is for destroyed houses, as directed by the state and county. If you are unsure if your house qualifies for the program, submit a Right-of-Entry form to the city/county for assessment.

### **Are swimming pools eligible?**

Pools are ineligible; however hazardous floating debris will be removed by the crews.

### **Will County contractors remove trees or other vegetation from my property?**

Under the government program, County contractors only will remove trees that pose a safety hazard to the crews, and trees that are dead or likely to die within 5 years, as a result of the fire, and would affect the public right-of-way or other public improved property if they were to fall.

### **Will debris removal crews be looking for code violations or other property infractions?**

No. Debris removal crews are on properties to perform specific operations related to the removal of contaminated soil, ash/debris, concrete, and metals.

### **Who will pay for the debris removal?**

All initial costs under the government program will be paid by the government. However, if property owners have insurance that specifically covers debris removal, owners must inform the city/county. To avoid duplication of benefits, homeowners are required to remit a portion of insurance claim payments specifically reserved for debris removal.

### **What portion of my homeowner's policy will the city/county collect for debris removal?**

It depends on the policy that you have. There are generally two types of debris removal coverages in a homeowner's insurance policy:

- **Specified Amount:** One type of debris removal insurance coverage contains a separate, specific debris clause, typically capped at a percentage of the coverage amounts listed in the policy (for example, 5 percent of the value of a primary structure, other structure, and personal property.) In this case, the government will only collect from your insurance policy the specified amount designated in the debris removal clause. You will not owe the government any additional money, even if the actual costs to remove the debris exceed the amount designated in your insurance policy for debris removal.
- **No Specified Amount:** Another type of debris removal insurance policy does not have a specified amount but includes the costs of debris

removal in the total proceeds provided for the primary structure, other structure, or personal property. If you have this type of policy, the government will only attempt to collect insurance proceeds for debris removal after you have rebuilt your home. The government will only collect any money that remains in your insurance policy, if any, after the rebuild. The homeowner will not owe the government any additional money for debris removal.

**Note:** Property owners may be able to first utilize debris removal insurance claim payments for debris removal work that is outside the scope of the government program, such as the removal of pools and driveways, and trees/fencing/outbuildings outside the ash footprint. Contact your insurance provider for specifics on your policy.

**If I participate in the government program, will the government have the right to take all of my insurance proceeds?**

No. The government will only seek reimbursement from the insurance carrier as stated above.

**Can I do my own work or hire my own contractor?**

Yes. Property owners who wish to conduct their own cleanup or hire private **licensed** contractors to remove wildfire debris may do so, but they should be aware of local safety and environmental standards and requirements. The city or county will require the same work practices, proper cleanup to comparable standards, and safe disposal requirements as the government program. *Available state funding will only pay for work done through the government program.* Contact the city or county for more information on private cleanups.

**Additional Questions:**

Any specific questions you may have can be directed to the Ventura County Environmental Health Division, at 805/654-2432.