



## STATE OF NEW MEXICO

### Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

**Michelle Lujan Grisham**  
*Governor*

**David Dye**  
*Cabinet Secretary*

**Kelly Hamilton**  
*Deputy Cabinet Secretary*

**Carla Walton**  
*Deputy Cabinet Secretary*

#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

June 4, 2022

### **Wildfire debris cleanup now available to Mora and San Miguel County residents with lost homes and structures**

*Property owners in Mora and San Miguel Counties encouraged to participate in Full Service Debris  
Removal Program*

**SANTA FE** - Beginning today, residents of San Miguel and Mora counties, as well as others who have lost structures due to the wildfire in those counties, may apply for free debris removal. This program allows all wildfire debris on residential properties in Mora and San Miguel Counties to be collected, safely removed, and properly disposed of by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with no out of pocket costs to property owners.

Anyone who has lost a home or building from the wildfires may safely sift through ash and debris for salvageable items. Remember to stay safe by wearing a mask, gloves and protective gear when looking for items.

Once sifting for valuables has been completed, the property owner then has two options for debris removal:

**Option #1** is the Full Service Debris Removal Program. This allows the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to collect, remove and dispose of all debris and household hazardous waste with no out of pocket costs. The property owner must fill out, sign and submit a Right of Entry Form to their county government office in Mora and San Miguel Counties. To be eligible for the program, property owners must not remove any debris from the property on their own. Sifting through the ash and debris for valuables does not affect eligibility.

**Option #2** is if property owners choose to remove debris by themselves, they will have to pay for the services and properly dispose of debris on their own. A list of eligible landfills that accept these types of materials will be provided to property owners who select Option #2. The Debris Management Task Force today also released the Cleanup Standards for Option #2, describing how special wastes such as asbestos should be handled. Property owners selecting Option #2 are asked to submit an Opt-Out Form to notify the government of their decision.

All property owners who suffered the loss of a home of 120 square feet or more must select one of these two options. Eligibility of outlying buildings with no residential space, such as barns, will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Commercial buildings are not currently eligible for this program.

“We know that residents in Mora and San Miguel Counties have been through so much already, let us take the removal of wildfire debris off your plate by taking advantage of the Full Service Debris Removal Program,” said **Environment Cabinet Secretary James Kenney**. “With the looming threat of flooding from monsoon season on the horizon, we encourage property owners to opt in as soon as possible so that cleanup efforts can begin right away.”

Forms are available at county government offices in Mora and San Miguel Counties and on the [Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Wildfire website](#). Property owners needing assistance completing these forms may contact the Fire Resource Hotline at 1-800-432-2080 or visit their county government offices.



###

**Matthew Maez, Communications Director** | [Matthew.Maez@state.nm.us](mailto:Matthew.Maez@state.nm.us) | 505 670 8911