



# ADVISORY NOTICE

## Borel Fire Ash and Burn Debris

Structure fire debris and ash may be hazardous and can contain toxic substances due to the presence of synthetic and hazardous materials. Many building materials may contain asbestos and older buildings often contain lead. Household hazardous waste such as gasoline, cleaning products, pesticides, and other chemicals may have been stored in homes, garages, or sheds that may have burned in the fire. These materials can become concentrated in ash and soil following a fire.

It is important not to expose yourself, your family, your pets or others to any of these materials. Exposure can occur by sifting through ash and debris, causing ash to become airborne and inhaled or ingested.

Because ash and debris generated in the fire may be considered hazardous waste, do not transport ash or debris to landfills and transfer stations at this time. It is recommended that debris and ash from burned structures remain undisturbed until further instructions are issued. This recommendation is in place to protect the health of anyone who may come into contact with the waste, including solid waste facility employees, solid waste haulers, and the public.

Kern County is working to secure assistance from State agencies that will ensure proper handling and disposal of debris and ash from the Borel Fire. In the meantime, to protect your health and the health of your neighbors, you are strongly recommended to not begin cleanup activities. Disturbance of the debris and ash on your property may result in disqualification for the debris and ash removal assistance we are hoping to secure.

*Grounded in Health*