



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Solid Waste Management Division
222 West Hospitality Lane, Second Floor
San Bernardino CA 92415-0017
(909) 386-8701 Fax (909) 386-8964

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 28, 2007

Contact: Rex Richardson, Media Specialist
909-386-8975 cell: 909-709-7224
rrichardson@swm.sbcounty.gov

County Debris Program Seeks Missing Property Owners

Officials with the County Fire Debris Removal Program said today that they are still looking to contact owners of some 65 properties damaged or destroyed by the October Wildfires. As of today the County has made contact with owners of 461 fire damaged properties. The Program lists a total of 526 properties that could benefit from the County Debris Removal Program. There are 215 currently enrolled in the program.

The Debris Program offers a comprehensive clean up solution at no direct cost to the property owner. Owners with little or no property insurance are also eligible to participate in the program. County officials are asking property owners to contact the program as soon as possible as to the status of their property clean up. Participation in the county program is voluntary, but unless the county is told by the property owner they are not participating, the county will continue to try and reach the owner.

Property owners that are not participating in the County Debris Removal Program are asked to contact the Debris Removal Center at 909-867-7579 or the Solid Waste Management Division (SWMD) at 909-386-8701 to make sure the mailing list is updated. Fire debris, even though cleared of hazmat and asbestos, is unhealthful and potentially dangerous and must be disposed of in a permitted lined landfill. Fire debris is not accepted at the transfer station. Owners are reminded that in order to accept fire debris at the Mid-Valley Landfill in Rialto, load slips are required and those slips are issued by the SWMD.

The County Debris Removal Program cleans up the property making it ready for rebuilding. As needed, the program will remove fire debris, foundations/walls/chimneys, hazard trees and destroyed vehicles. Erosion control measures are also part of the program. The property owner will receive a comprehensive report of the work done on their property including a location drawing showing the original location of the home.

Funding for the program comes from a variety of funding sources: homeowner property insurance (if available), state, federal and county.

For information on debris removal and the Debris Removal Program, call 909-867-7579 or visit the Debris Removal Center, 2677 Whispering Pines Drive, Running Springs. The Center is open Monday - Friday, 10am to 4pm, and Saturdays 10am to 3pm. It will be closed New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Program information is also available online at: www.sbcounty.gov/wsd

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