

Fire Demolition and Rebuilding FAQs

Do I need a demolition permit?

A building permit to rebuild in the same footprint/location includes the scope of the demolition work. However, if you are not ready to rebuild and instead want to clean up the site or are wanting to rebuild in a different location, a separate demolition permit is **required**. Once requirements are met, permits can usually be issued immediately. The fee for demolition permits has been reduced to \$33.62 for wildfire affected properties.

Can the surviving foundation be used to rebuild?

The foundation needs to be inspected and certified by a structural engineer to be kept for the rebuild. The County does not perform this type of inspection.

Demolition Permit Requirements Checklist:

- ❖ **Provide a Site Plan:** Show lot lines, all structures on parcel and label structure(s) to be demolished, temporary erosion and sediment controls if near a body of water.
- ❖ **Obtain an asbestos survey:** This is a Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency (SRCAA) requirement to check for the presence of asbestos. This must be done by an AHERA-certified building inspector. (See SRCAA Spokane Complex Fact Sheet) Spokane Complex Fire Fact Sheet: <https://spokanecleanair.org/wp-content/uploads/Spokane-Complex-Fire-Fact-Sheet.pdf>
- ❖ **Provide notification to Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency (SRCAA)** by filing a Notice of Intent (NOI). This can be done online by the homeowner or the contractor who conducted the survey.
NOI fees are being waived, including those for emergency (fast-tracked) NOIs, for those affected by these fires.
File online: <https://spokanecleanair.org/asbestos/asbestos-notifications-payment-portal/>
- ❖ Once you are ready to apply for your permit, you can do so via our online portal. **Spokane County, WA Public Portal:** <https://co-spokane-wa.smartgovcommunity.com/Public/home>

Does the septic system or well need to be tested or replaced?

The Spokane Regional Health District has answers to these questions and more on their website.

***Wells and Septic Systems
After a Fire | SRHD:***
<https://bit.ly/3L78cvA>

Contact them at (509) 324-1560
EXT #1 or via email to
liquidwaste@srhd.org

Fire Demolition and Rebuilding FAQs (Cont'd)

How should debris be handled?

Wildfire debris can contain many types of hazardous substances that can easily become airborne and inhaled, including asbestos fibers. See Spokane County Solid Waste's website for information.

Fire Debris Disposal | Spokane County: <https://bit.ly/3OXLojf> and

SRCAA's Special Notice to Property Owners Affected by the Spokane Complex Fires. <https://spokanecleanair.org/property-owners-affected-by-the-spokane-complex-fire/>

More information can be found on the Spokane Regional Health District wildfire rebuilding webpage.

After a Wildfire | SRHD: <https://bit.ly/44zahHM>

Can we have temporary housing on-site while the house is being rebuilt?

Yes, it is allowed with certain conditions and limitations. Please call the Spokane County Building and Planning Office to discuss your specific temporary on-site housing situation. County Code currently regulates the types of allowable structures.

How long will a permit to rebuild take to process?

We are committed to achieving a five-to-seven-day turnaround time for rebuilds that are substantially the same footprint and substantially in the same location. There may be complicating factors in some cases that take extra review time.

Questions? Contact us!

Spokane County Building and Planning
1026 W Broadway Ave
Spokane, WA 99260

M-Th 7:30am – 4pm
Fri 7:30am- 12pm

Planning: (509) 477-1500
Building: (509) 477-3675
bphelp@spokanecounty.org