

#### ORDER OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER

## LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY ORDER PROHIBITING THE USE OF POWER AIR BLOWERS WITHIN THE PALISADES AND EATON WILDFIRE PERIMETERS

Issue Date: Friday, January 10, 2025

Revised Date: Thursday, January 23, 2025

#### PLEASE READ THIS ORDER CAREFULLY.

**WHEREAS,** the Palisades and Eaton wildfires have caused the destruction of thousands of residential and commercial properties, which resulted in hazardous conditions, including, but not limited to, burned or heat-damaged hazardous materials, fire debris, and ash, within the Palisades and Eaton fire burn areas;

**WHEREAS**, on January 14, 2025, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) assigned the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) to assess, remove and safely dispose of hazardous debris from homes and structures impacted by the fires in the Palisades and Eaton burned areas, which is known as Phase 1 of the federal clean up response;

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2025, Governor Newsome <u>authorized</u> the U.S. EPA, FEMA, and any other individual or entity performing work at their direction, with the full power to provide mutual aid and the authority to assess, remove and safely dispose of hazardous debris from homes and structures impacted by the fires in Los Angeles County, including but not limited to, the Palisades and Eaton burned areas;

**WHEREAS,** following completion of Phase 1, FEMA and other federal agencies, in coordination with designated local government agencies, will lead Phase 2 of the cleanup response to remove the remaining fire debris from properties within the Palisades and Eaton fire burn areas;

**WHEREAS,** on January 14, 2025, the Board of Supervisors ratified the State of Local Emergency and Local Health Emergency pursuant to Chapter 2.68 of the Los Angeles County Code;

**WHEREAS,** California Health and Safety Code Section 101040 authorizes the Local Health Officer to take any preventative measure that may be necessary to protect and preserve public health from any public health hazard during a declared State of Emergency and Local Emergency;

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER



### NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. In an effort to limit the health impacts of fire ash, debris, smoke, and particulate matter that remain within the perimeters of the 2025 Palisades and Eaton wildfires, as defined by the CAL FIRE and The Wildland Fire Interagency Geospatial Services (WFIGS) Group at <a href="https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/12e839aa88764185ab7ef3f84cace1ea">https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/12e839aa88764185ab7ef3f84cace1ea</a>, the use of power air blowers, such as leaf blowers, is prohibited until the County Health Officer determines that fire recovery conditions have progressed to a point, where use of air propelling devices will not negatively impact the health of residents and persons working in those areas. (See, Figures A & B, below.)
- Power air blowers may be used in all areas of the County of Los Angeles that are outside
  of the 2025 Palisades and Eaton wildfire perimeters. In these areas where concerning
  amounts of ash and dust are still present, first consider alternatives to power air
  blowers, for example, gentle sweeping followed by wet mopping or HEPA vacuums,
  to collect and remove them.

**Copies.** The County shall promptly provide copies of this Order by: (a) posting it on the Los Angeles Department of Public Health's website: <a href="http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/">http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/</a>

**Issue Date.** This Order is issued on Thursday, January 23, 2025, and will continue until it is revised, rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing by the County Health Officer.

Muntu Davis, M.D., M.P.H.

Tunfa Des Mo, MPH

County Health Officer, County of Los Angeles 1/23/2025

Issue Date



Figure A: 2025 Palisades Wildfire Perimeter

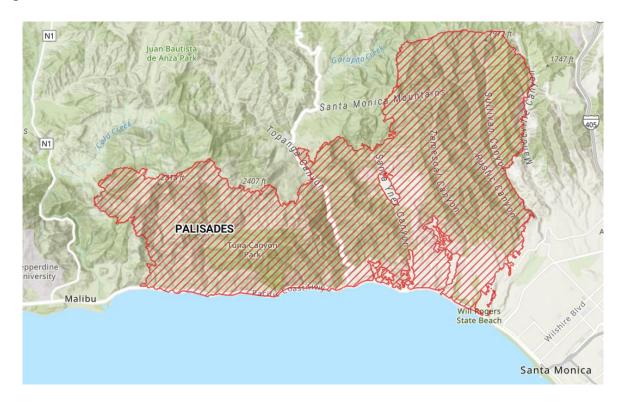


Figure B: 2025 Eaton Wildfire Perimeter

