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JOINT INFORMATION CENTER

**PRESS
RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SBC-JIC Jesusita Fire 052 CORRECTED

DATE: May 10, 2009

TIME: 10:10AM

Jesusita Fire Press Release as of May 10, 2009 at 10:10 AM

JESUSITA FIRE PRESS RELEASE

PROTECT OUR CREEKS

Preferred methods for cleanup of ash on the ground and driveway:

To conserve water and protect local water quality, please avoid hosing ash down gutters and into storm drains. Instead, we recommend sweeping ash into nearby landscaped areas or picking it up and placing it into the trash. While doing so, wear the appropriate mask as protection so as to not breathe in the dust. If you have questions on this call the City of Santa Barbara, Creeks Division, Cameron Benson: Cell: 805-637-9944 Office: 897-2508

TIPS ON SMOKE REMOVAL AND FIRE CLEANUP

Even if your house didn't suffer actual fire damage, smoke from the fire can create problems in your house and on your property.

Some helpful tips:

- Wash and disinfect all interior walls and hard surfaces with mild soap or other appropriate cleaning solutions or products, and rinse thoroughly. Don't forget inside cabinets, drawers and closets.
- Launder or dry clean all clothing.
- Wash, dust or otherwise clean all household items, including knick-knacks.
- Disinfect and deodorize all carpets, window coverings, upholstered furniture and mattresses with steam or other appropriate equipment.
- Upholstery, fabric window treatments, etc. can be spray-treated with deodorizing products available at most supermarkets, but do not use odor-masking sprays.
- Have heating, ventilating and air-conditioning units and all ductwork professionally cleaned to remove soot, ash and smoke residue. Change filters

when you first return to the premises and at least once a month for the first year.

- If aerial fire retardant or firefighting foam residue is present on the house and/or automobiles, use a mild detergent and brushes to scrub and dilute the dried residue and flush it from the surfaces; rinse with clean water. **Avoid washing the retardant to the street storm drains. Wash to a landscaped or turf area instead.** A follow-up with pressure washing may be beneficial but will not replace scrubbing to remove the residue.
- If aerial fire retardant or firefighting foam residue is present on the house and/or automobiles, use a mild detergent and brushes to scrub and dilute the dried residue and flush it from the surfaces; rinse with clean water. A follow-up with pressure washing may be beneficial but will not replace scrubbing to remove the residue.
- Ash and soot on the ground and vegetation in the vicinity will continue to generate smoke odors and airborne particles when disturbed by air movement. Until the ash and soot are diluted and absorbed by the environment, indoor mechanical air filtration may help minimize the uncomfortable and potentially health-threatening impact of these pollutants.

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