

AERIAL FIRE RETARDANT

Information & Cleanup Guide



Aerial fire retardant may be used to help slow wildfire spread and protect homes, infrastructure, and natural resources.



WHAT IS FIRE RETARDANT?

Fire retardant is a fertilizer-based product dropped from aircraft to slow wildfire spread.

It is primarily made of:

-  Water
-  Ammonium phosphate compounds (fertilizer)
-  Natural thickeners
-  Iron oxide (colorant)



Fire retardant is generally considered low risk to human health and the environment.



IS IT SAFE?

For most people, fire retardant presents a low health risk.

Recommended precautions:

-  Avoid prolonged skin contact
-  Avoid getting retardant in your eyes
-  Wash hands after cleanup activities
-  Wear gloves if desired during cleanup



PETS & ANIMALS

Small incidental exposure is generally not expected to harm pets. Contact your veterinarian if concerns arise.



GARDENS & PRODUCE

Wash fruits and vegetables thoroughly before consumption. Discard produce heavily coated with retardant.



CLEANUP GUIDELINES



SIDING, VEHICLES & OTHER SMOOTH SURFACES

- Rinse with clean water
- Use mild soap if needed
- A soft brush may help remove residue



PAINTED SURFACES

- Wash when practical
- Residue left for extended periods may stain



STONE, CONCRETE & BRICK

- Use water and a soft brush
- Avoid pressure washing porous surfaces



ROOFS (METAL OR ASPHALT SHINGLES)

- Use a garden hose with gentle water flow
- Mild soap may be used if needed
- Avoid high-pressure washing
- Clean when safe and practical



SOLAR PANELS

- Rinse with clean water
- Use a soft sponge or cloth if needed
- Avoid abrasive pads and harsh chemicals
- Follow manufacturer cleaning recommendations



TOYS, PLAY AREAS & OUTDOOR FURNITURE

- Wash with soap and water before use

WHAT TO EXPECT



Red or pink residue may remain visible.



Color will fade over time.



Some residue may remain after initial cleaning.



Vegetation may temporarily discolor after exposure.



Most established plants recover over time.



RECOVERY TAKES TIME

Fire retardant was used to help protect lives, homes, and property.



Cleanup can begin once it is safe to return to your property.