



EPA REMOVAL ASSESMENT AT RETURN TO NATURE FUNERAL HOME



The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been requested to consider a removal action by Fremont County and Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to survey, remove, and dispose of medical and hazardous materials from the Return to Nature Funeral Home.

Background

To address the public nuisance identified at the Return to Nature Funeral Home at 31 Werner Road, Penrose Colorado on October 31, 2023, the Fremont County Board of Health ratified the issuance of a legal Public Health Order. Following this Public Health Order, Fremont County and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment have requested that the EPA conduct a “removal action” including demolishing and disposing of building materials.

In response to this request, an EPA team and their contractors will conduct an assessment at the building on Wednesday, November 15, 2023, to determine EPA’s role and next steps. The personnel entering the building will be wearing protective clothing to protect them from any residual medical or hazardous materials remaining inside the building. The assessment is expected to take a few hours. There are no risks to the public from these assessment activities.

Fremont County and the EPA will keep the public notified of next steps regarding the building.

EPA’s Role in Removal Actions

EPA’s emergency response program responds to oil spills, chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear incidents, including large-scale national emergencies. EPA provides support when requested or when state and local first responder capabilities have been exceeded. Through coordinating and implementing a wide range of activities, EPA conducts removal actions to protect human health and the environment.

In carrying out these responsibilities, EPA coordinates with other federal agencies, states, tribes, and local governments. This coordination is done through On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) who are the federal officials responsible for monitoring or directing responses.

EPA Contacts

On-Scene Coordinator

Joyce Ackerman

Ackerman.Joyce@epa.gov

(303) 312-6822



For updates and information, please visit
<https://response.epa.gov/PenroseFuneralHome>
or scan QR code above.

Public Information Officer

Katherine Jenkins

Jenkins.Katherine@epa.gov

303-312-6351

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