This fact sheet provides information about how to manage waste after bushfire.

Waste Transfer Stations
Bemboka and Cobargo transfer stations are closed due to fire impact. All other waste depots are open and operating normal or extended opening hours. This could be subject to change so check the website or Council’s Facebook page for updates.

Cobargo Transfer Station and Eden Transfer Station are being engineered to become landfill sites to take asbestos and construction & demolition waste from fire-affected properties. Testing at the Bemboka Transfer station has confirmed the presence of friable asbestos that needs to be appropriately managed and dealt with to avoid any public health risks.

Planning continues on reopening the site, however it remains closed due to the significant public health risk.

Replacement rubbish bins
You can arrange a replacement bin by filling out the online form on Council’s website, by using the free Bega Valley Waste App or calling Customer Service on 6499 2222.

Skip bin locations
Skip bins are available for Wyndham, Bemboka, Quaama, Cobargo, Kiah, Wonboyn and Towamba communities who don’t have a usual kerbside service and rely on the transfer station for household waste disposal or whose bin banks have been damaged.

Taking fire-affected material to the tip
We are accepting fire-affected material at all operational Waste Transfer Stations for a fee.

This includes smaller household items and outdoor material.

Examples of acceptable fire affected materials include items such as food waste from fridge and freezer clean outs, fire affected outdoor furniture, burnt garden green waste, garden implements, dog kennels, clothes lines, children’s play equipment and trampolines.

We are not accepting large structural type materials such as from houses or sheds.
Disposing of fire-affected homes, buildings and other structures

At this stage, building demolition material cannot be accepted at any of our waste facilities due to the risks of asbestos contaminated material. We are working with all relevant agencies to address and manage this risk and we will let you know when we can accept this type of material. Laing O’Rourke has been appointed as the managing contractor, responsible for managing the clean-up of properties, working with Public Works Advisory (PWA). Impacted property owners who would like their property cleared need to register at Service NSW or call 13 77 88. Work will include removal of known hazardous materials, including asbestos; removal of materials destroyed by bushfire and hazardous trees and, with the consent of building owners, removal of concrete slab foundations.

Cleaning-up damaged solar panels

Any clean-up work around solar panels should not be done until they have been declared safe by a licensed electrician. Panels cannot be dumped on property or stored in landfills without protections against contamination. Toxic metals and chemicals in the panels can leak out into soil and ground water supplies. Currently there is no recycling process for fire damaged solar panels.

Disposing of deceased animals

Deceased animals that cannot be disposed of onsite must be taken to the Central Waste Facility, Wanatta Lane. Please contact the waste team to discuss.

Disposing of regular non-burnt green waste

General garden organics waste that has been fire affected (eg burnt shrubs) can be placed in your green bin. Please do not place tree stumps or branches thicker than 35mm in diameter into the bin. Trailer loads of fire damaged shrubs can be taken to any waste depot. Please check Tip opening hours on the Waste App or visit Waste Services - Tip Opening Hours on the website. Please do not put your green waste out loose on the kerb. It will not be collected.

Regular non-burnt green waste can be taken to Bermagui, Wallagoot, Merimbula or Eden Waste Depots. There is currently a charge of $14/m3 for regular green waste.

Updates are continually being posted on the Bega Valley Council and Bega Valley Waste Facebook pages, the Bega Valley Waste Council website or call Customer Service on 6499 2222 for further information

If you have questions or concerns please contact the Recovery Centre on (02) 6499 2345. We’re here to help