



DTSC Emergency Response Crews Called Out To Redding Bomb House

DTSC's Emergency Response crews were called out Feb. 17 after authorities in Shasta County intentionally burned down a mobile home near Redding that contained 40 pounds of unstable chemicals.

Senior Environmental Scientist Adam Palmer and a DTSC contract cleanup crew from Chico helped assess and remove asbestos and household hazardous waste from the debris of the mobile home. They also used tubes of straw called "straw wattles" to prevent ash and debris from running into a nearby drainage ditch.

DTSC was summoned after an explosion at the home tore a man's hand off and led to a neighborhood evacuation.

The chemicals were so unstable that authorities couldn't risk removing them, Palmer said. The debris was sampled to determine if it was hazardous, and DTSC will conduct follow-up samples after the remains of the mobile home are removed.

This is the second "bomb house" ER has responded to in the last 4 years. In 2010 a similar incident occurred in Escondido where an individual was actively manufacturing explosives and it was determined by local law enforcement that it was safer to burn the home instead of removing the material.

The Redding Record Searchlight has [more](#).