

## Steps to Take After the Los Angeles Fires



The recent fires in Los Angeles have left a lasting impact on our community, affecting countless families, homes, and businesses. At Cōsta Custom Homes, we stand with our neighbors during this time of rebuilding and recovery. We understand the immense challenges ahead and are here to offer guidance and support. Below, you'll find a comprehensive guide to help you navigate the next steps after a fire.

### Immediate Steps

- Ensure safety first
- Do not enter your property until it has been deemed safe by authorities
- Check for structural damage and hazards, such as downed power lines or gas leaks
- Wear protective clothing, including masks, gloves, and sturdy boots, to avoid exposure to ash and debris

### Contact Your Insurance Provider

- Notify your insurance company about the fire as soon as possible
- Document the damage with photos and videos before beginning any cleanup or repairs
- Request a copy of your insurance policy to review your coverage

### Access Emergency Assistance

- Visit [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://www.disasterassistance.gov) to apply for federal aid
- Contact local relief organizations such as the Red Cross for temporary shelter, food, and supplies
- Call 2-1-1 for additional resources available in your area

### Beginning the Cleanup and Rebuilding Process

#### Hire Professional Services

- Engage certified contractors for debris removal and home repairs
- Consult with an architect or designer if your home requires significant rebuilding
- Ensure all professionals are licensed and experienced in fire-damage restoration

### Obtain Necessary Permits

- Review the Executive Order N-4-25 issued by the Governor of California to understand streamlined permitting processes for fire-damaged properties
- Work with local authorities to secure rebuilding permits and adhere to updated building codes

### Consider Sustainable and Fire-Resilient Design

- Incorporate fire-resistant materials, such as metal roofing and fiber-cement siding
- Design defensible spaces around your home by clearing vegetation and maintaining firebreaks
- Explore energy-efficient options like solar panels and insulated windows to reduce long-term costs and environmental impact

### Current LA Fire Resources

#### Follow for Updates

- Follow LAFD for resources and up-to-date information: [@losangelesfiredepartment](https://twitter.com/losangelesfiredepartment) and [@lafdfoundation](https://twitter.com/lafdoundation).
- Download the Watch Duty App for real-time updates and alerts with maps: [@watchdutyapp](https://www.watchdutyapp.com)

#### LA Area Shelters

- Westwood Recreation Center 1350 Sepulveda Blvd., Los Angeles (Pets accepted)
- Pasadena Civic Auditorium 300 E Green St., Pasadena
- El Camino Real Charter High School, 5440 Valley Circle Blvd., Woodland Hills
- Ritchie Valens Recreation Center 10736 Laurel Canyon Blvd., Pacoima
- Sepulveda Recreation Center 8825 Kester Ave., Panorama City

#### Additional Support

To help support or foster displaced animals: [@caninerescueclub](https://www.caninerescueclub.com)

Contact the **California Department of Insurance Consumer Hotline** at 800-927-4357 or visit their [website](https://www.insurance.ca.gov) for assistance.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Together, we will rebuild and restore the vibrant spirit of our community.

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