JANUARY 2025

Wildfire Disaster Relief Resources

Helpful information for employees impacted by the wildfires in Southern California.

HAA HEALTH ACTION ALLIANCE | NATIONAL COMMISSION ON Climate and Workforce Health

HOW TO PREPARE FOR WILDFIRES

- **Make an evacuation plan**: Learn how to prepare yourself and your home for a potential evacuation.
- **Pack a "go-bag"**: Experts recommend packing a "go-bag" with important documents, extra medicine, and other essentials so you can leave quickly.
- **Protect yourself from smoke**: Wildfire smoke contains harmful toxins. Learn how to protect yourself and monitor the air quality near you.
- **Prepare for power shutoffs**: To reduce wildfire risks during dangerous weather conditions, Southern California Edison (SCE) has implemented public safety power shutoffs. You can check the outage status for your neighborhood. You can also file a claim for food loss if you have receipts. Reach SCE's disaster support line at 1-800-251-3311.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS

You can sign up for text message and email alerts in your area via:

- **Alert LA County**: Sign up for county-wide alerts, and find links to local alerts specific to your area.
- **VC Alert**: Sign up for emergency alerts in Ventura County.
- **Nixle**: Sign up online or text your ZIP code to 888777 to opt in.

COMMUNICATIONS

- **Radio**: Use battery-powered radios for emergency information and conserve your phone battery.
- **Voicemail**: Update your voicemail with your safety status, phone battery level, and when you'll turn your phone on to check messages.
- **Charging and Wi-Fi**: T-Mobile, Verizon, and AT&T stores currently provide free Wi-Fi and charging stations in affected counties.

IMMEDIATE NEEDS

- **Shelters**: Use this real-time list of open shelters to find a location near you.
- **Emergency housing support**: 211 LA is partnering with Airbnb to offer free temporary housing.
- **FEMA**: You may qualify for 14 days of housing. Additionally, you could qualify for several months of rental assistance.
- **Food**: World Central Kitchen and the Los Angeles Food Bank offer free food.
- **Face masks**: Masc Bloc LA offers free face masks and respirators to limit exposure to wildfire smoke.
- **Free resources**: Businesses and community groups are offering free resources like meals, clothing, child care support, and more.

CARING FOR CHILDREN

- **Smoke protection**: Learn how to protect children from the health impacts of wildfire smoke.
- **YMCA**: No-cost child care and free services for children of essential workers and families who evacuated, have been displaced, or experienced property loss.
- **Project Camp**: Trauma-informed pop-up day camps for kids who've been displaced.

ANIMAL & PET SUPPORT

- **Pasadena Humane**: If you need help with a pet you've lost, found, or had to leave behind in the Eaton Fire, contact Pasadena Humane's Dispatch at 626-792-7151 x970. For assistance with injured wildlife, text or call 626-344-1129.
- **Boomer's Buddies Rescue**: If you need help with a pet you've lost or had to leave behind in the Palisades Fire, send an Instagram message with as much information as possible, including a photo of your pet and your address.
- **Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control**: Find shelters accepting animals affected by the fires.

RECOVERY AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- **Insurance**: Contact your provider ASAP to begin the claims process. The California Department of Insurance has tips for preparing your claim and is holding in-person workshops.
- **FEMA disaster assistance**: Apply online or call 1-800-621-3362.
- **Local FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs)**: For in-person aid application help, find the nearest DRC online or by calling the helpline at 1-800-621-3362.
- **Small Business Administration**: Apply for low-interest business or homeowner disaster loans.
- **Avoid scams**: Beware of identity theft, charity fraud, phone and text scams, disaster relief scams, and price gouging.
    - **California Attorney General**: How to protect yourself from fraud, price gouging, and scams during and after this emergency.
    - **BBB Sacramento**: The Better Business Bureau's advice for avoiding scams as you rebuild.

LONG-TERM SUPPORT

- **Employment**: The California State Employment Development Department (EDD) provides disaster unemployment benefits and job search assistance.
- **Mental health**:
    - Disaster Distress Helpline (1-800-985-5990): 24/7 crisis counseling via phone or text.
    - Crisis Text Line: Text HOME to 741741 to be connected to a live, trained crisis counselor.
- **Local mental health support**: The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health's ACCESS Center runs a 24/7 hotline to provide crisis support as well as mental health screening, counseling, and referrals. Call 1-800-854-7771.