

What To Do After A Fire



Immediately

- Leave the burning structure.
- **Call 911 or your local emergency number.**
- Make sure everyone is safe.

As soon as possible

- Contact your Erie Insurance Agent.
- If you are a renter, contact your landlord.
- Check with the fire department to see if utilities (water, electricity and natural gas) are shut off and it's safe to go back inside.

When you're able to return to your home

- Make a detailed list of damaged or destroyed property. Use pictures and inventory lists to help your ERIE Agent and adjuster assess the damages.
- Don't discard damaged goods until after ERIE has conducted an inspection.
- Protect your home from further damage by weather, theft or vandalism. Save receipts for materials purchased to make temporary repairs.
- Discard food that has been exposed to heat, smoke or soot.
- If power was shut off, keep the refrigerator and freezer closed to maintain temperature.
- Coordinate with your utility companies to get services reconnected (never attempt to reconnect utilities yourself).

- Have a professional inspect all wet appliances before using them (if damaged, improper grounding or short-circuiting may create more damage and safety hazards).
- Deal with reputable contractors and read contracts thoroughly. If you're unsure of a contractor's credentials, contact the Better Business Bureau or your local Chamber of Commerce for referrals.

If your home is uninhabitable

- Remember to take the following:
 - Identification
 - Medicines, eyeglasses, hearing aids or other personal aids
 - Valuables (credit cards, checkbooks, insurance policies, money, jewelry, firearms, etc.)
- Notify:
 - Your ERIE Agent
 - Your mortgage company
 - Your employer
 - The telephone company
 - The post office and other delivery services
 - Fire department (if the fire is being investigated)
- Contact your local disaster relief service, such as the American Red Cross, if you need emergency housing, food, clothing and medicines.

This information is presented as a public service of Erie Insurance and your local ERIE Agent.



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Your ERIE Agent...
here to
protect
you