After a House Fire: Recovery Checklist and Contact Record

U.S. Fire Administration, 2019

Selected pages from After the Fire.

Two printable pages help a household organize the first calls, record the fire report number and track who is helping.

Compiled for The Survival University PDF collection

Checklist for next steps after a fire

- ☐ Contact your local disaster relief service, such as the American Red Cross. They will help you find food, clothing, medicine and a place to stay.
- ☐ If you have insurance, contact your insurance company.
  - Ask what you should do to keep your home safe until it is repaired.
  - Ask who you should talk to about cleaning up your home.
- ☐ If you are not insured, try contacting community groups for aid and assistance.
- ☐ Check with the fire department to make sure that your home is safe to enter. Be very careful when you go inside. Floors and walls may not be as safe as they look.
- ☐ Contact your landlord or mortgage company to report the fire.
- ☐ Try to find valuable documents and records.
- ☐ If you leave your home, call the local police department to let them know the site will be vacant.
- ☐ Begin saving receipts for any money that you spend related to the fire loss. The receipts may be needed later by the insurance company and to prove any losses claimed on your income tax.
- ☐ Check with an accountant or the IRS about special benefits for people recovering from fire loss.

Important information

Date of fire: _____

Time of fire: _____

Location of fire: _____

Name of fire department:

_____

Address of fire department:

_____

_____

Fire department
nonemergency number: _____

Fire incident report number: _____

Fire marshal or fire investigator: _____

Insurance company: _____

Insurance company
telephone number: _____

Insurance policy number: _____

Vehicle identification number (VIN) for cars, trucks and motorcycles destroyed:

_____

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