

Fire Recovery Guide



**The Office of Congresswoman Kim Schrier
Washington's 8th Congressional District**



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CONGRESSWOMAN
KIM SCHRIER, M.D.
Serving the 8th District of Washington

A NOTE FROM CONGRESSWOMAN KIM SCHRIER

Dear Friends,

Washington state has experienced devastating wildfires this season. The fires have destroyed homes and businesses, and displaced hundreds of families.

We are still actively fighting several fires and our recovery in other places is only just beginning. Please know I am committed to working with our local, state and federal officials to ensure that the federal government provides all necessary resources to support our community in this time of recovery. I also stand ready to help expedite any support and resources that our communities need to rebuild and repair our homes, businesses, and infrastructure.

If the Administration makes a major disaster declaration, Washingtonians impacted by recent wildfires may be eligible for Federal assistance through Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and The Small Business Administration (SBA). As of September 21, there is no such declaration for Washington State. Please contact my office or follow me on social media to stay up to date on the status of these funds, if and when they become available.

You can reach my Issaquah office at (425) 657-1001 if you have problems with a federal agency and need additional assistance.

Our district pulls together in tough times. We've overcome challenges before by working together, and we will do so again. Should you need anything, my staff and I are here to help.

Sincerely,

KIM SCHRIER, M.D.

Member of Congress

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QUICK GUIDE/RESOURCES

Federal assistance is currently available through the **Fire Management Assistance Grant Program (FMAGP)**. FMAGP provides money to states to fight active fires, and covers many eligible costs including equipment and supplies, evacuations and sheltering, state emergency operations centers, and others. More information on this program can be found [here](#).

As of September 9th, the Apple Acres fire in Chelan County, and the Cold Springs/Pearl Hill Fire in Douglas and Okanogan Counties, and the Sumner Grade Fire in Pierce County are being supported by FMAGP funds.

If essential community facilities (fire and police facilities, community centers, hospitals, schools, city vehicles, food banks, daycare centers, and more) have been destroyed, your community may qualify for low-interest loan or grant funding for the construction, renovation, or purchases and installation of equipment for public use under the **USDA Rural Development Community Facilities** program. Loan and grant applications are accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year. You can find general program information [here](#), and specific disaster related funding [here](#).

General Resources:

To report a forest fire, call: 911 and 800-562-6010

FEMA put together a guide about managing natural disasters, including wildfires, during the COVID-19 pandemic. The guide can be found here in [English](#) and [en español](#).

The Governor's Office has a helpful webpage listing wildfire resources, which you can find [here](#).

The Office of the Insurance Commissioner has put together a helpful list of resources for Washingtonians affected by wildfires, including tips for filing an insurance claim after a fire. You can find their website [here](#). Additionally, you can reach the Insurance Commissioner's Office at (360) 725-7144.

Visit Lake Wenatchee Fire & Rescue's website [here](#) for specific best practices *during* a wildfire.

The Red Cross is coordinating closely with partners and local officials to mobilize a relief effort during this time of uncertainty. If you are in need of immediate assistance, you can contact the Red Cross at 1-800-RED-CROSS. Locally, you can call 509-670-5331 (Eastern WA) or 571-595-7723 (Pierce County).

For updates:

Washington State Department of Natural Resources [Website](#) and [Twitter](#).

For information on road closures, please visit the Washington State Department of Transportation's website, [here](#).

You can sign up using the links below to receive emergency alerts from your County's emergency management division:

- [Chelan County](#)
- [Kittitas County](#)
- [Pierce County](#)
- [King County](#)

Levels of Evacuation:

Level 1: BE READY for potential evacuation. You should be aware of the danger that exists in the area, monitor emergency services websites and local media outlets for information. This is the time for preparation and precautionary movements of persons with special needs, mobile property and (under certain circumstances) pets and livestock. If conditions worsen, emergency services personnel may contact you via an emergency notification system.

Level 2: BE SET to evacuate. You must prepare to leave at a moment's notice. This level indicates there is significant danger to your area, and residents should either voluntarily relocate to a shelter or with family and friends outside of the affected area, or if choosing to remain, to be ready to evacuate at a moment's notice. Residents MAY have time to gather necessary items, but doing so is at their own risk. This may be the only notice you receive. Emergency services cannot guarantee that they will be able to notify you if conditions rapidly deteriorate. Area media services will be asked to broadcast periodic updates.

Level 3: GO! Evacuate now! Leave immediately! Danger to your area is current or imminent, and you should evacuate immediately. If you choose to ignore this advisement, you must understand that emergency services may not be available to assist you further. DO NOT delay leaving to gather any belongings or make efforts to protect your home. This will be the last notice you receive.

Wildfire Smoke:

- Wildfire smoke throughout Washington is causing poor air quality and health risks for outdoor activity and vulnerable populations. Wildfire smoke can cause symptoms that range from the annoying — eye, nose, and throat irritation — to the dangerous — wheezing, coughing, and shortness of breath. It is especially harmful for children, pregnant women, and people who are over 65. And if you already have a heart or lung condition like asthma or COVID-19, breathing in wildfire smoke can make it worse. Take steps to protect yourself:
- [Improve filtration](#) and [create a clean air room](#) in your home. If you create a [homemade box fan air filter](#), never leave it unattended. Left alone, it is a fire hazard.
- When the air quality is poor, don't add to indoor air pollution by burning candles or incense, or smoking inside.
- Close windows and doors when it's smoky outside but open windows and let in fresh air when there's better air quality outside.

- Wear your cloth face covering to slow the spread of COVID-19, but don't think it protects you from smoke. Masks keep droplets from spreading, but allow in dangerous microscopic smoke particles.
- Stay informed about wildfire smoke on the [Washington Smoke Information blog](#).
- For more information to protect your health visit the Washington State Department of Health's [Smoke from Fires](#) web page.

Housing:

Red Cross shelters

- Current information on Red Cross shelter openings also available on their mobile app.

Additional information on how to secure and prepare your home can be found [here](#).

Pets and Livestock:

General information on how to protect your **large animals and livestock** can be found [here](#).

Resources and help with pets and other animals can be found with the Washington State Animal Response Team, [here](#).

If you lost livestock in the wildfires may qualify for help from [U.S. Department of Agriculture's Livestock Indemnity Program](#).

Douglas County: The NCW Fairgrounds were open for residents to shelter livestock during the evacuations. The Douglas County Sheriff's Office encourages those needing to shelter livestock to call (509) 745-8480 or (509) 669-1660.

Chelan County: The Wenatchee Valley Humane Society will shelter any pets from families who have displaced by a Level 3 evacuation. Call (509) 662-9577, opt. 1

Kittitas County: According to the Kittitas County Sherriff's Office, the Kittitas County Fairgrounds are prepared to accept animals *if needed*. However, at this time, *there is no need to move any animals* as fire lines are holding in the Kittitas area. Should this change, you can reach the Sherriff's Office at (509) 962-7525.

Pierce County: Animal shelter will be available at the Thurston County fairgrounds

Disaster Cash Assistance Program:

Governor Inslee issued a proclamation on September 10th to help families and individuals impacted by wildfires with cash assistance for immediate needs. The assistance will be provided through the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services' Family Emergency Assistance Program, which has been expanded to also serve individuals and waive the one-time distribution limitation. Additional information on the program and the Governor's proclamation can be found [here](#). You can contact the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services at 1-800-865-7801.

Agriculture Loss

Contact [your local USDA Farm Service Agency](#) office to report agriculture-related losses.

Postal Operations

The Bonney Lake Post Office located at 18429 Veterans Memorial Dr. E, 98391 is closed for retail due to power outage resulting from wildfires. Mail is still being delivered. Parcel pickup is available for customers. Signs are posted that retail services are available at Sumner Main Post Office, 1313 Fryar Ave., 98390. Further updates can be found [here](#).

Veterans:

Veterans who have been affected by wildfires and need help should [contact their County Veterans Program](#).

Below are links to program offices by County:

- [Chelan](#)
- [Kittitas](#)
- [Pierce](#)
- [King](#)

Unemployment assistance:

People who are out of work due to the fires may be eligible for unemployment benefits. You can file for unemployment benefits online at <https://esd.wa.gov/>. You can also file by phone by calling 800-318-6022.

Health Insurance:

If Apple Health (Medicaid) clients need medical supplies, medical equipment, or medications that have been lost or destroyed by fire, or have become inaccessible due to evacuation, the Health Care Authority is authorizing providers to furnish these without pre-authorization.

Apple Health clients affected by the wildfires who have questions or problems can call their regional enrollment specialists for help:

- East Wenatchee: Located at Chelan-Douglas Health Dept. Call 509-860-5590 or 509-886-6419
- Wenatchee: Located at Columbia Valley Community Health. Call 509-661-3651

Replacing Lost Documents:

If you've lost important documents or identification in the fires, many can be replaced. You can learn more about how to replace these common documents by contacting the agencies directly:

- Washington Driver's License:
 - Phone: 360-902-0172
 - If you or someone you know lost their driver license or ID card, the Dept. of Licensing is offering expedited services for individuals affected by the wildfires. The service is available [online](#), by phone, or in person.
- Green Cards:
 - Phone: 800-375-5283
 - Website: www.uscis.gov
- Medicare Cards:
 - Phone: 800-772-1213; (TTY) 800-325-0778
 - Website: www.ssa.gov/medicare
- Military Records:
 - Phone: 866-272-6272
 - Website: <http://www.archives.gov/contact>
- Passport:
 - 1-877-487-2778; 888-874-7793 (TTY)
 - Website: <http://www.travel.state.gov>
- Social Security Card:
 - Phone: 800-772-1213; (TTY) 800-325-0778
 - Website: <http://www.ssa.gov>
- U.S. Savings Bonds:
 - Phone: 1-844-284-2676
 - Website: <http://www.treasurydirect.gov>
- U.S. Tax Returns:
 - Phone: 800-829-1040
 - Website: <http://www.irs.gov>

Legal Services:

As fire survivors begin the process of recovery and rebuilding, the Legal Services Corporation (LSC) and their grantees are available to help. LSC is an independent nonprofit established by Congress in 1974 to provide financial support for civil legal aid to low-income Americans. The Corporation currently provides funding to 132 independent nonprofit legal aid organizations in every state.

Survivors seeking legal assistance can call the legal aid providers with the following information:

**Northwest Justice Project
(Westside)**

124 4th Ave S, Ste 240
Kent, WA 98032
Phone: (253) 480-6125

**Northwest Justice Project
(Eastside)**

300 Okanogan Avenue, Suite
3A
Wenatchee, WA 98801
Phone: (509) 664-5101

**Emergency Management
Division**

Building 20, Camp Murray,
WA 98430
Phone: (253) 512-7000

For assistance please contact any of Congresswoman Schrier’s offices, or visit

<https://schrier.house.gov/>

Central Washington Office:

301 Yakima St. Suite 329
Wenatchee, WA 98801
Phone: (509) 850-5340

Issaquah Office:

1445 NW Mall St. Suite 4
Issaquah, WA 98027
Phone: (425) 657-1001

LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CONTACTS

For local details, such as evacuation information, road closures, or donation opportunities, consult with local sheriff and county emergency management services.

CHELAN COUNTY Department of Emergency Management:

401 Washington St.

Wenatchee, WA 98801

Phone: (509) 667-6851

<https://www.co.chelan.wa.us/sheriff/pages/emergency-management>

You can sign up to receive emergency alerts from Chelan County, [here](#).

Chelan County Department of Emergency Management provides updates via Facebook, [here](#).

KITTITAS COUNTY Sheriff's Office:

307 W Umptanum RD

Ellensburg, WA 98926

Phone: (509) 962-7525

<https://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/sheriff/emergency.aspx>

You can sign up to receive emergency alerts from Kittitas County, [here](#).

PIERCE COUNTY Emergency Management:

2501 S. 35th St. Suite D

Tacoma WA 98409

Phone: (253) 798-6595

<https://www.co.pierce.wa.us/104/Emergency-Management>

You can sign up to receive emergency alerts from Pierce County, [here](#).

Additionally, you can text “pcalert” to 888777 and sign up for updates. **The system geolocates people within the evacuation areas the fire and police departments are designating. You will not receive a notice if you live outside of areas being evacuated. **

Pierce County Emergency Operations Center's Evacuation Line: (253) 798-1571

For current info, including when evacuation zones can be re-entered, follow [East Pierce Fire and Rescue](#), and the Cities of Bonney Lake and Sumner on Twitter and Facebook or call the above #.

KING COUNTY Emergency Management:

3511 NE Second St.

Renton, WA 98056

Phone: (206) 296-3830

<https://www.kingcounty.gov/depts/emergency-management.aspx>

You can sign up to receive emergency alerts from King County, [here](#).