



DAMAGES YOU MIGHT NOT EXPECT AFTER A WILDFIRE!

Damages Often Overlooked After A Fire (Part I)



After a wildfire, there are usually homes in the surrounding areas that may not appear to have sustained any damage, but often do. At first glance, it is easy to overlook damages that can be caused by a wildfire, even if there doesn't appear to be any obvious structural damage. In this edition of our newsletter, we want to point out some potential "hidden damages" that you should be aware of if a wildfire strikes near your home or community.

Wildfires create intense heat and often generate extremely high winds that can send debris, smoke, and ash for miles. These factors can cause significant damages to a home or property, which can often go unnoticed for weeks, months, or even years before they are realized. It is always a good idea to do a thorough inspection of your property after a wildfire to be sure you haven't sustained damages. Here are a few tips on what to be aware of if a wildfire occurs in your area.

Window and Door Damage

Exterior windows, sliding glass doors, or French doors that are exposed to heat can display fire related damages in a number of ways, and here are just a couple. High winds generated by a wildfire can cause wind-driven dirt or sand to actually sand blast or etch the surface of glass, giving it a frosted look or a pitted texture. If this happens, the window or door may have to be replaced. For dual or triple glazed windows or doors, there is a manufacturers seal that is usually between the panes of glass. If this seal gets damaged or overheated, the seal can be broken allowing moisture to get trapped between the panes of glass. This can cause condensation to form and discoloration to the inside surfaces of the glass that may not be able to be cleaned. This usually requires the window and/or glazing to be replaced. If you have vinyl windows or doors, pay close attention to see if the vinyl trim is warped, melted, or discolored in any way, especially if the fire or large amounts of embers got close to your home.



Most homes have attic, eave, or roof vents that are used to ventilate the attic space. In the event of a wildfire, smoke, soot, and ash can enter the vent holes in these vents and saturate the attic space and insulation with smoke odor and a fine layer of soot. If this type of damage is not addressed and properly treated, the smoke odor can get trapped in the attic space and remain in the attic insulation. Be sure to carefully inspect your attic space, especially around vent openings to see if any damages are visible.

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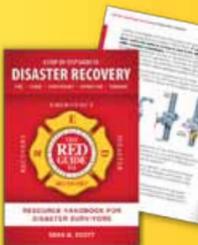
NOTE: After a wildfire, it is always a good practice to have your home and property inspected by a licensed and insured restoration professional that can identify fire related damages. An expert in fire restoration should be able to provide you with a detailed report that identifies the scope of any repairs needed as well as written estimates of costs associated with making any needed repairs.

The Latest News: Reaching Out To Disaster Survivors



Recently we have had the opportunity to help communities recover from wildfires, tornados, and other disasters by donating copies of *The Red Guide to Recovery* to families who lost their homes. As part of our mission to help disaster survivors recover and rebuild their lives, copies were sent to survivors of: **The Rim Fire in Tuolumne County, California; The Power House Fire in Los Angeles County, California; The Elk Complex Fire in Elmore County, Idaho; The Pony Complex Fire in Camas County, Idaho; Two F-5 Tornados in Moore, Oklahoma; The Fertilizer Plant Explosion in West, Texas; An F-4 Tornado that struck Granbury, Texas.**

If you would like to join us and donate books to communities stricken by disasters, check out our **Book Donation Program** by clicking on the logo below:



The Red Guide to Recovery
BOOK DONATION PROGRAM



In The News:
USA Today recently did a story on *The Red Guide to Recovery* that shares how it is impacting disaster stricken areas and helping families recover.

Click here to check it out.

QUICK LINKS

[Click here](#) for resource links and tools to help you prepare or recover from a disaster.

[Click here](#) to buy the book online!

