



# DISASTER RECOVERY TOOLS

## THAT REALLY MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Imagine if your home had a fire and everything inside was lost. As you begin to take your first steps towards recovery and rebuilding your life, your insurance company tells you that you will need to provide a detailed inventory of everything you owned, including a description of each item, its age, replacement value, and any supporting documentation. If you're like most people, you probably won't have pictures or documentation and you'll be thinking to yourself, how am I supposed to create an inventory when everything is gone and I can't remember what I had?

Whether you experience a fire, tornado, earthquake, flood, or any other type of disaster, this task of creating an inventory can be one of the most daunting, time consuming, and frustrating phases in the recovery process. One way to document what was in your home is to ask friends or family members if they have photos that were taken during a party or family get-together. Oftentimes photos like these can reveal furnishings, decor, or other items in the background that will help jog your memory. Most people jot down the obvious big ticket items like electronics, appliances, furniture, etc., and figure the smaller ticket items just aren't worth the time and energy to deal with. But think about what was in the refrigerator and pantry, the vitamins, spices, books, holiday decorations, cosmetics, toys, sports equipment, DVD's, tools, and so forth. Items like these add up fast and if you have a way to document them, you will maximize the benefits of your insurance and expedite your recovery.

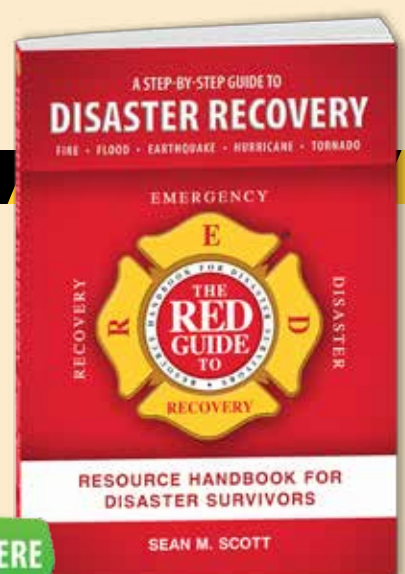
### This FREE Tool Is A Godsend!

Originally developed as a companion to *The Red Guide to Recovery - Resource Handbook for Disaster Survivors*, *The Personal Property Memory Jogger & Home Inventory Tool* is a pre-populated Excel spreadsheet that contains over 6,000 of the most commonly found household items broken down into a room-by-room format. Once downloaded, you have the option to delete items that may not apply to you and/or add items that may not already appear in the list. *The Memory Jogger* takes much of the guess work out of creating an inventory by memory alone and is available free-of-charge at <http://www.theredguidetorecovery.com/recovery-tools/personal-property-memory-jogger/>. It can also be used as a disaster preparedness tool to help you determine whether or not you currently have enough insurance to replace everything if it was lost.

### A Way To Use Those Unspent Grant Dollars

As we approach the end of the year, government agencies often have unspent grant funds they need to spend in a hurry. One way is to purchase copies of *The Red Guide to Recovery - Resource Handbook for Disaster Survivors* for your Emergency Operations Centers, fire departments, or CERT members. *The Red Guide* is more than just a book, it's a road-map that first responders and communities across the U.S. are adopting so people aren't left empty handed after a disaster. This book not only helps residents recover from disaster events, but also provides guidance on how to prepare for recovery in advance.

For more information on how we can bring *The Red Guide to Recovery* to your community, e-mail us at [info@TheRedGuideToRecovery.com](mailto:info@TheRedGuideToRecovery.com). Or if you would like to get a copy for yourself, click on the book here at the right.



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