

PREPARING FOR AFTER THE FIRE

Discussion Guide

Facilitator's Note: *This guide is designed to be used together with the After the Fire video. The video itself lasts approximately five minutes. It can be shown alone or used together with this guide and a facilitated discussion. Should you choose to use this video during a workshop and work through the discussion guide, we recommend setting aside 30 minutes to both watch the video and discuss its contents.*

Prior to beginning this conversation within your community: *We strongly recommend working to understand who will be present in the room during the discussion. For those who have experienced home loss, the images and contents of the video may be hard to watch. At a minimum, that should be noted by the facilitator PRIOR to showing this video and a safe opportunity created for those who do not wish to see the video to get coffee or have a longer break. Example: "After a short 10 minute break, we will be showing a video discussing home loss and post-fire impacts. It can be emotional for some. Feel free to take 15 minutes if you would like to skip the 5 minute video. When you see the lights come on, there will be an opportunity to get resettled prior to our discussion."*

If you are going to have speakers present on this topic, establish safe, non-verbal hand signals to indicate it is time to move on to the next topic. Emotions can be hard to manage so talking through those things ahead of time will help.

Video Location:

Vimeo: <https://vimeo.com/152638745>

Chumstick Wildfire Stewardship Coalition: <http://www.chumstickcoalition.org/>

Time	Video Content	Key Takeaways	Discussion Questions	Resources
0:00-0:45	Emotional Shock	<p>Residents feel overwhelmed and unsure where to begin.</p> <p>There are a range of emotions that can be expected; all are normal after a disaster.</p>	<p>If you lost your home in a wildfire, what was it like to return the first time? NOTE: This question is potentially very emotional for some.</p> <p>If you haven't lost your home in a wildfire, can you imagine what it would feel like?</p> <p>How do you think returning to a changed landscape would feel? What would you expect to see the first week? The next month? The following spring?</p>	<i>Surviving Wildfire</i> by Linda Masterson
1:00-1:30	Safety upon Return	<p>The environment will be changed even if your home is not lost or damaged.</p> <p>Prepare for the possibility of debris flows and flooding. Talk to your insurance agent about flood insurance</p> <p>Wear long sleeves to re-enter your home and use a recommended respirator mask to protect your airway.</p>	<p>When is okay to return home?</p> <p>What are some other risks or watch out situations to consider when re-entering the landscape?</p> <p>When re-entering your home after the fire, maintain a fire watch. Where would you look for embers?</p>	<p>You Can Go Home Again by the Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety https://disastersafety.org/wp-content/uploads/you-can-go-home-again.pdf</p> <p>Flood Smart by the National Flood Insurance Program https://www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart/pages/flooding_flood_risks/flood_after_fire.jsp</p>

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				<p>Weather Warnings: National Weather Service http://www.noaa.gov/wx.html</p> <p>Recover After a Wildfire by the US Environmental Protection Agency http://www.epa.gov/natural-disasters/wildfires#recover and http://www3.epa.gov/epawaste/conservation/imr/cdm/debris.htm</p>
1:30-2:00	The First Week	<p>There are immediate needs that require your attention post-disaster.</p> <p>Purchase a notebook to document conversations and 'to-do' items.</p> <p>Report damage to your lender, tax assessor and insurance agent.</p> <p>Discuss your policy and documentation needs with your insurance agent. Provide your home inventory, if completed.</p> <p>Begin replacing your Driver's License and other important papers.</p>	<p>Are you insured?</p> <p>During the Carlton Complex fires in Washington State in 2014, 40% of those who lost homes did <u>not</u> have insurance. Many others were significantly under-insured.</p> <p>If you do not have insurance, what resources do you have available to help you in the immediate week following disaster? Do you have somewhere to stay? Funds for alternate housing? Friends or family who can help?</p>	<p><i>Surviving Wildfire</i> by Linda Masterson</p> <p>Replace vital documents (USA.gov) https://www.usa.gov/replace-vital-documents</p> <p>Clean up after a wildfire disaster (University of Colorado Extension) http://extension.usu.edu/files/publications/publication/DisasterPreparedness_2012-05.pdf</p> <p>Wildland Fire Chemical Clean-up (US Forest Service) http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/fire/wfcs/documents/cleanup.pdf</p>

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		Secure temporary housing. Even if you did not lose your home or have significant damage, you may have experienced long-term power loss or need to clean-up retardant from your property.		
2:30-3:45	Recovery	Recovery is a long-term process. Support networks are key to long-term recovery. Find people or communities that you can talk to and learn from.	What personal support networks do you have in place? What support networks or organizations exist within your community?	Recovering Emotionally After Disaster (American Red Cross) http://www.redcross.org/find-help/disaster-recovery/recovering-emotionally Disaster Emotional Care (National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster) http://www.nvoad.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/POC_-_DISASTEREMOTIONALCARE-Final.pdf
3:45-4:00	Rebuilding	The construction community is an important piece of the puzzle.	What other community organizations or groups would be instrumental in recovery and rebuilding? How does the phrase "There is a lot of love in that house." Impact you?	

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			Rebuilding “Firewise” is an important part of the conversation. But how do we talk about that without placing disproportionate blame on those who lost homes?	
4:00-5:00	Calls to action	<p>Actions can be taken to increase our ability to recover.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inventory your home. • Develop a personal support network. • Review and update your insurance policy. • Familiarize yourself with community resources. • Participate in community recovery planning efforts. 	<p>What would happen in your community if you lost 3 homes? 30 homes? 300 homes?</p> <p>If you are a community organization or wildfire preparedness organization, have you given any thought to what happens after the fire? What is your role?</p> <p>What can you do now to better prepare for what happens after the fire?</p>	<p>See above.</p> <p>And</p> <p>www.chumstickcoalition.org www.fireadapted.org www.novad.org</p>



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