

Wildfire Pollution Preparedness

Wildfires, whether naturally-occurring or man-made, present a significant public health risk. Fires, extreme heat, and fireworks generate high levels of smoke, ash, and other airborne contaminants, which can disperse rapidly, and expose people, wildlife, and pets to dangerous and harmful levels.

Smoke, ash, and air pollution exposure symptoms include:

- Eye irritation, sore throat, runny nose, and cough,
- Incidents of asthma, rapid heartbeat, and chest pain,
- Bronchitis, pneumonia, and other respiratory complications

People at higher risk:

- Adults over 65
- Children
- Pregnant people
- People with pre-existing health conditions
- People without air filtration and AC
- People with weakened immune systems

Prepare Today LA

Learn about your local area's fire Reduce smoke exposure hazard risk

Visit **LAFD.org/Wildfire** for more info

Sign up to receive information, alerts and health warnings

Get local alerts from Emergency Management Dept's NotifyLA

Prepare an emergency go-bag

including govt-issued photo ID, personal documents, medications and supplies: Ready.gov/Kit

Plan evacuation routes and any other actions in an emergency

Prepare the entire household to know where to go and what to do

Improve indoor air quality

Check and change HVAC filters regularly, rated MERV 13 or higher

Check your insurance policy for disaster coverage, don't wait!

Protect During

Avoid and limit outdoor activities

Maintain indoor air quality

Close all windows and doors, use recirculated HVAC systems.

Improve indoor air quality

Use a portable air purifier or HVAC system with a high-efficiency filter.

Use a disposable mask when outside (P100 or N95)

Don't rely on bandanas, cloth, surgical, and other regular masks.

Learn to recognize the signs of smoke exposure

Visit City facilities and cooling centers during hours of operation:

Climate4LA.org/CoolSpotsLA

Stay Safe After

After an evacuation, always check with officials that it is safe to return home

Listen to officials for water, air, and soil safety notices

Inspect water, electric, gas, and other home systems for fire damage

Report damaged water facilities and power lines to LADWP at **LADWP.com/report-problem**

Protect yourself from smoke and ash

Wear long sleeves and pants, goggles, gloves and masks as needed. Avoid tracking ash into the home.

Call 911 immediately

If observing life-threatening danger





City of Los Angeles CVA Map of Wildfire Hazard Area



Visit <u>Hazard Mapper</u> for more wildfire risk area info.

Protect your Health from Smoke and Ash

Wildfires pose a serious risk to public health, homes, businesses, and infrastructure. Many Los Angeles neighborhoods and vulnerable communities face severe smoke and ash exposure, as highlighted in the map.

The AQI shows how polluted the air is. You can check the current AQI at **AirNow.gov**.

Air Quality Index (AQI)				
0-50	GOOD			
51-100	MODERATE			
101-150	UNHEALTHY FOR SENSITIVE GROUPS			
151-200	UNHEALTHY			
201-300	VERY UNHEALTHY			
301-500	HAZARDOUS			

The City created **Protect Yourself From Wildfire Smoke**, focused on how to reduce exposures to smoke and ash during a wildfire, and the following resources: **Climate Vulnerability Assessment (CVA) StoryMap**, and the **Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP)**.

Reducing Indoor Air Pollution with Air Filtration

The most effective way to limit and reduce exposure to smoke and ash inside the home is by using appropriate air filtration systems, such as air purifiers or HVAC systems, which help reduce indoor air contaminants.

• HVAC System Filtration

- o HVAC system filters will filter the air when the filters are replaced, and the system works.
- $\circ\,$ Choose a filter that has a Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV) 13.

• Air Purifiers

- $\circ\,$ Air purifiers are designed to filter the air in a single area or room.
- Choose a portable air purifier that has a clean air delivery rate (CADR) that is large enough for the area where it will be placed.
- For more information, visit the EPA website: <u>EPA.gov/air-quality</u>

Room area (square feet)	100	200	300	400	500	600
Minimum CADR (cfm)	65	130	195	260	325	390



Scan here for more info



