



L.A. COUNTY RECOVERS PRESS RELEASE

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LA COUNTY MARKS ONE MONTH SINCE WOOLSEY FIRE BEGAN AS RECOVERY EFFORTS CONTINUE

The Woolsey Fire is one of the most destructive fires Los Angeles County has experienced. The blaze, which began on Nov. 8, was a fast-moving brush fire burning through 96,949 acres of land in the cities of Agoura Hills, Bell Canyon, Calabasas, Chatsworth, Hidden Hills, Malibu, Oak Park, Simi Valley, West Hills, and Westlake Village.

Three canyons were affected and 70,000 homes, businesses and other structures lay in the fire's path. A quarter of a million people were evacuated in 18 hours. By the time the fire was 100 percent contained on Nov. 22, three people had lost their lives, approximately 1,100 structures in LA County were destroyed, about 190 structures damaged and three firefighters were injured.

Supporting the rebuilding and recovery process of residents and business owners impacted by the fire continues to be the focus of multiple government entities. "The Woolsey Fire is a disaster of historic proportions, and it requires an equally historic response," said Los Angeles County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, whose district encompasses the area affected by the fire. "Our County stands ready to assist residents in every way possible so they can rebuild their lives."

On Nov. 12, the President approved a major disaster declaration which provides federal recovery support through Individual Assistance, Public Assistance, and Hazard Mitigation grants for Butte, Los Angeles, and Ventura counties.

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Woolsey Fire Key Recovery Milestones

- More than 2,800 applicants have qualified to receive more than \$1.7 million dollars in individual financial assistance approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA);
- Two Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) have been activated and have received over 3,100 visits since Nov. 17. FEMA and County Departments continue providing recovery assistance and services at the DRCs, which are located at the following locations: Malibu Courthouse (23525 Civic Center Way, Malibu, CA 90265) and the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation Building (30440 Agoura Road, Agoura Hills, CA 91301);
- 211 LA County has provided more than 14,000 calls and referrals to individuals seeking disaster recovery information and support; and
- Two new ordinances have been implemented by the County's Board of Supervisors: one that advances the process to assist property owners in removing fire debris, and a second motion that allows L.A. County Public Works to supplement and extend professional contracts for repair and reconstruction.

Important Deadlines

Federal Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA)

For workers, business owners and self-employed individuals who lost their jobs or businesses, or had their work hours substantially reduced as a result of the Woolsey Fire, unemployment assistance is available through the DUA program. The deadline to apply is Dec. 14 and residents can apply online at edd.ca.gov or by phone between 8 a.m. and noon, Monday through Friday at the following phone numbers:

- English: 1-800-300-5616
- Spanish: 1-800-326-8937
- Chinese (Cantonese): 1-800-547-3506
- Chinese (Mandarin): 1-866-303-0706
- Vietnamese: 1-800-547-2058

FEMA

Residents also are reminded that the deadline to register to receive financial assistance from FEMA is Jan. 11, 2019. The assistance available ranges from financial help to low-interest loans for rebuilding. Registration is available on DisasterAssistance.gov or by calling 800-621-3362. For additional fire-related resources, visit www.lacounty.gov/lacountyrecovers.

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For more images from the Woolsey Fire, please visit vimeo.com/304930646.

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211 LA County

Los Angeles County residents, renters, and business owners, including persons with disabilities and others with access and functional needs, may call 211 LA County at any time for emergency preparedness information, and other referral services. The toll-free 2-1-1 number is available 24 hours a day and seven days a week. 211 LA County services can also be accessed online by visiting 211la.org.