

## What to do during and after a natural disaster

When a natural disaster hits, it can be hard to know what to do first. In the middle of the chaos, it's okay to feel uncertain. This guide is here to support you with clear, steady steps for navigating the crisis and its aftermath. From staying safe in the moment to beginning the process of recovery, you'll find guidance to help protect your loved ones and care for yourself along the way.



## **During the disaster:**

- ✓ Follow official instructions

  Stay tuned to updates from trusted sources like
  the National Weather Service, FEMA, or your local
  emergency management agency. If authorities tell
  you to evacuate or shelter in place, do so right
  away.
- Get to a safe location Your priority is physical safety. Move to an interior room, higher ground, or a designated shelter depending on the situation. Avoid areas with flooding, downed power lines, or structural damage.
- Use your emergency supplies carefully
  Conserve food, water, flashlights, and phone
  battery. Only operate generators outside and far
  away from windows to prevent carbon monoxide
  poisoning. If cell towers are down, battery-powered
  radios may be your best source of news.
- Weep communications brief and focused
  Use your phone sparingly and for urgent needs
  only. Texting is often more reliable than calling
  when networks are overwhelmed. Group chats can
  help you update multiple loved ones at once.

## After the disaster:

- Check in with loved ones

  Let family and close friends know you're safe. If
  you've been separated from household members,
  check in with local emergency shelters or use
  available reunification services.
- Vinspect your home and surroundings carefully
  Wait until local officials say it's safe to return. Look
  for visible damage, gas smells, water intrusion, or
  electrical issues. Take pictures of any damage for
  your records and insurance.
- Contact your insurance provider

  Report damage as soon as possible and start the claims process. Document everything with photos, videos, and written notes.
- Find shelter and support if your home is not livable
  If you cannot return home, reach out to trusted
  organizations for temporary housing. Wellthy can
  also help locate food banks, clothing donations,
  and transportation services.
- Begin planning your next steps

  Recovering from a disaster takes time. From replacing documents and contacting contractors to coordinating clean-up or relocation, Wellthy's Care Coordinators are here to help you move forward, one step at a time.

We understand that natural disasters can be overwhelming and disrupt your life in unexpected ways. Wellthy is here to help you navigate these challenges. Visit join.wellthy.com/aifire to learn more and be prepared for whatever comes your way.