

# Service and Protection

Erie Insurance Group...Serving You In Time Of Need

## What To Do After A Fire

### Immediately

- Evacuate the burning structure.
- Call 9-1-1 or your local emergency number.
- Give first aid where needed. Cool and cover burns; it will reduce the chance of further injury or infection. Severely burned or injured victims should be transported to professional medical assistance immediately.

### As soon as possible

- Contact your Erie Insurance Group Agent.
- If you are a renter, contact your landlord.
- Check with the fire department to see if utilities (water, electricity and natural gas) are shut off and if the structure is safe to re-enter.

### When you're able to return to your home...

- Look for structural damage. Fire authorities may allow you to re-enter, but may not have completed a thorough inspection.
- Make a detailed list of damaged or destroyed property. Use pictures and inventory lists to help your ERIE Agent and ERIE adjuster assess the damages.
- Don't discard damaged goods until after The ERIE has conducted an inspection.
- Secure your home from further damage by weather, theft or vandalism. Save receipts for materials purchased to make temporary repairs.

- Discard food that has been exposed to heat, smoke or soot. The high temperatures of fire and its by-products can make food unsafe.
- If power was shut off, keep the refrigerator and freezer closed to maintain temperature.
- Do not attempt to reconnect utilities yourself. Only the utility company should restore gas service. A professional should inspect all wet appliances before re-use. If damaged, improper grounding or short-circuiting may result in further property damage and safety hazards.
- Don't be rushed into signing repair contracts. Deal with reputable contractors. If you are uncertain about a contractor's credentials, contact the Better Business Bureau or your local Chamber of Commerce for referrals.

### If your home is uninhabitable...

- Remember to take the following:
  - Identification
  - Medicines, eyeglasses, hearing aids or other personal aids
  - Valuables – credit cards, checkbooks, insurance policies, money, jewelry, firearms, etc.
- Notify:
  - Your ERIE Agent
  - Your mortgage company
  - Your employer
  - The telephone company



ERIE INSURANCE GROUP

100 Erie Insurance Place • Erie, PA 16530 • (814) 870-2000  
www.erieinsurance.com

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Your ERIE Agent...  
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