# ODO AFTER A WILDFIRE



Evacuating from a fire is stressful and frightening. After it's over, the next challenge is returning home and assessing the damage.

## BEFORE RETURNING HOME

Check with the authorities.
These may include your local fire department, your state's forestry and fire department, or the US Forest Service.

### PROTECT YOURSELF FROM IRRITANTS

Once you have been given the all-clear signal from the authorities to go back home, you need to be sure and protect yourself by wearing:

- Safety goggles
- Gaiter or filtered mask
- Floppy hat
- Long sleeves

- Leather gloves
- Long pants
- Wool socks
- Leather boots



#### MIND YOUR SAFETY

Here are some things to check for and keep in mind as you drive to your property and start inspections:

- Do not go alone, bring another trusted adult.
- Go in the daylight, never at night.
- Drive safely and keep an eye out for caution signs.
- Check for downed telephone poles and wires.
- Do not park your vehicle close to structures that have been burned.
- Do not park under any trees that have been burned.

# **INSPECT PROPERTY**

- Check for signs of active burning.
- Check roof and exterior foundations for structural damage.
- Turn off all appliances and make sure the meter is not broken. Then, turn off the main breaker.
- Check well or pump house.
- If you see anything that looks dangerous, call 911 and retreat from the area as quickly as possible.

# TAKE INVENTORY

- Make a list as well as take pictures of the items that have been damaged.
- Wear gloves and other protective gear when handling any objects within your home or outside on the property.
- Ensure appliances are unplugged and the electricity is turned off before you start interacting with electronics.

