



# After a Fire: A Guide to Fire Recovery

This Guide to Fire Recovery is distributed by the City of Plymouth and the Plymouth Public Safety Department. It is to be used as a reference by residents as they begin to rebuild after a fire.

In providing this handbook, we make no endorsements, nor do we recommend any specific business professionals. Rather, we encourage residents to consult the advice and expertise of the many professionals who can assist them during the various stages of recovery.

## What to Expect

Do not go into a fire-damaged structure unless you have been advised by the Plymouth Fire Department that it is safe to do so.

There are three main sources of damage in a house fire: flames/heat, smoke, and water. Each of these or their combination can damage virtually everything in your home. It is important to understand the risk to your safety and health even after the fire is out. The soot and dirty water left behind may contain things that could make you sick. Be very careful if you go into your home and if you touch any fire-damaged items.

**When declared safe, or if escorted by the Fire Department, remove valuables** remaining in the building if you plan to leave the site of the fire, including:

- Identification
- Vital medications. If medication was exposed to heat, smoke or water, it should be replaced.
- Eyeglasses, hearing aids, prosthetic devices and other personal aids.
- Valuables and documents.

**Take care of yourself** and your family. You have a big job ahead of you. Don't try to do it alone. There are many organizations that can help.

**Contact your insurance company** immediately and ask them what to do first. They can recommend companies that specialize in cleaning and restoring items after a fire. Your insurance company can also recommend a company to board up your home, if needed. Be sure to get a cost estimate in writing and to know who is paying for it – you or your insurance company.

**If you are not insured**, contact your local American Red Cross or the Salvation Army. Aid is given without regard to income.

**Keep all receipts** of any money you spend on your recovery. You may be entitled to an income tax return deduction.

**Contact local disaster relief services** whether you are insured or not. The American Red Cross or Salvation Army can help arrange temporary housing, food, eyeglasses, medication, and other essentials destroyed by the fire. Emergency relief is given regardless of income.

**Remove all pets** to a cleaner and safer environment. Try to leave pets with a family member, friend, or veterinarian until you are settled.

**Contact the police department.** They can be a resource to assist you in providing appropriate security for your property.

**Notify the following** of your situation:

- Family and friends
- Your employer

- Landlord or mortgage company
- Your children's school
- The post office –mail can be held or forwarded, depending on the length of your relocation
- Bank and credit card companies
- Utility companies

**Documents and records to replace if lost or destroyed**

Driver's license or ID card	Medical records
Auto registration and title	Military discharge papers
Citizenship papers	Stocks and bonds
Credit cards	Titles and deeds
Health insurance cards	Social security or Medicare cards
Insurance policies	Income tax records
Marriage/divorce papers	Warranties
Passports	Wills

**Phone Numbers**

**City of Plymouth - 3400 Plymouth Blvd, Plymouth, MN 55447**

Plymouth City Hall	(763) 509-5000
Fire Administration	(763) 509-5120
Police Administration	(763) 509-5160

**General Service Organizations**

American Red Cross	(651) 291-6789
United Way/First Call for Help	(651) 291-0211
Interfaith Outreach	(763) 489-7500
Salvation Army	(612) 522-6581

**Utilities**

CenterPoint Energy	(612) 372-4727 or (800) 245-2377
Xcel Energy	(651) 282-1234 or (800) 895-4999
Wright-Hennepin Cooperative	(763) 477-3000

**Fire and Water Damage Restoration Services**

Ungerma, Inc.	(612) 825-2800
Lindstrom Restoration	(763) 238-1076

**U.S. Post Office**

3300 Plymouth Boulevard, Plymouth, MN 55447 (763) 557-1372  
 9705 45th Avenue, Plymouth, MN 55442 (763) 557-1386

**Other Documents**

Hennepin County Service Centers - Birth, Death, Marriage Certs (612) 348-8240  
 Citizenship Papers - US Immigration & Naturalization Services (800) 375-5283  
 Deed/Titles - Records Dept of Hennepin County (612) 348-3050  
 MN Dept. of Motor Vehicles (651) 296-6911  
 Federal Income Tax Records (651) 290-3628 (MN)  
 State Income Tax Records (or state filed) (651) 296-3781 (MN)  
 Military Discharge Papers - Veteran's Administration (612) 725-2000  
 Passports (612) 348-8240  
 Social Security or Medicare Cards - Social Security Office (800) 772-1213

**Hotels in Plymouth**

<b>Comfort Inn</b> , 3000 Harbor Lane N Plymouth, MN 55447	(763) 559-1222
<b>Country Inn &amp; Suites Mpls West</b> , 210 Carlson Pkwy N Plymouth, MN 55447	(763) 473-3008
<b>Crowne Plaza Mpls West</b> , 3131 Campus Drive Plymouth, MN 55441	(763) 559-6600
<b>Holiday Inn Express Mpls West</b> , 2955 Empire Ln N Plymouth, MN 55447	(763) 559-3100
<b>Home 2 Suites Plymouth</b> , 2990 Harbor Lane North Plymouth, MN 55447	(763) 235-5150
<b>Ramada Plymouth Hotel</b> , 2705 Annapolis Ln N Plymouth, MN 55441	(763) 210-4525
<b>Red Roof Inn</b> , 2600 Annapolis Ln N Plymouth, MN 55441	(763) 553-1751
<b>Residence Inn</b> , 2750 Annapolis Circle Plymouth, MN 55441	(763) 577-1600
<b>WaterWalk Minneapolis-Plymouth</b> , 10000 59 <sup>th</sup> Ave N Plymouth, MN 55442	(763) 343-5558

**School Districts Serving Plymouth**

District 281 (Robbinsdale) Administrative Offices – (763) 504-8000  
 District 284 (Wayzata) Administrative Offices – (763) 745-5000  
 District 270 (Hopkins) Administrative Offices – (952) 988-4000  
 District 279 (Osseo) Administrative Offices – (763) 391-7000