

# Eastern Washington Fire Recovery Resources

Updated October 31, 2023  
Resource availability is subject to change.



To access this information electronically, open the camera app on your android or iPhone.  
Focus the camera on the QR code above and click the link that shows on your screen.

Link: [American Sign Language Translation: Eastern Washington Fire Recovery Resources](#)

# Disaster Assistance

The Disaster Assistance Center closed on September 1.

**Residents may continue to contact Spokane County Emergency Management to inquire about disaster assistance and recovery information.**

Call: 509-998-2750

Visit: [Spokane County Emergency Management's website.](#)



# Disaster Assistance Intake Form



**Spokane County**  
Emergency Management

The purpose of this form is designed to collect data to help the county address unmet needs, but it is not a guarantee of assistance. The data collected will be used to justify potential programs that may become available.

**IMPORTANT:** If you filled out this form at the Disaster Assistance Center, you DO NOT need to fill it out again.

[Click here access the online form](#)



# Application for Disaster Relief Foundation Assistance

**Providing up to \$2,000 grant for housing assistance, rental assistance, temporary lodging.**

Assistance is available to qualified applicants towards one of the following options:

- Monthly mortgage expense for the primary residence that was damaged by the Wildfire Disaster or;
- Rental cost due to displacement from the primary residence resulting from the Wildfire Disaster or;
- Hotel reimbursement due to displacement from the primary residence resulting from the Wildfire Disaster.

Relief assistance is limited to a maximum of \$2,000 per household. Deadline for application submission is November 10, 2023.

Please note this assistance is for housing relief only; other expenses including second mortgages (home equity lines or loans), clothing, appliances, equipment, vehicle purchase, rental or repair, and or mileage are ineligible for reimbursement under this program.

**Click this link to apply:**

[https://www.spokanerealtor.com/other/Spokane\\_Wildfire\\_Relief%20Assistance%20Application\\_Fillable%5B47%5D.pdf](https://www.spokanerealtor.com/other/Spokane_Wildfire_Relief%20Assistance%20Application_Fillable%5B47%5D.pdf)

# Property Tax Relief

Citizens with direct property losses due to the fires may call the Spokane County Assessor's Office to see if they qualify and to apply at: [\(509\) 477-3698](tel:5094773698) or visiting the [Assessor's website](#).

- The Assessor will then evaluate the taxpayer's claim and determine if the property and taxpayer qualify for a reduction in value and tax relief.
- The County Treasurer will calculate the amount of the abatements and/or refund of taxes and notify the taxpayer of their determination.
- An application must be filed within three years of the date of destruction or reduction in value.
- A [Frequently Asked Questions guide](#) is available from the Washington State Department of Revenue, along with additional details on the [state law](#). Link to: [Destroyed Property Form](#)

# Recovery Resources

## **Country Church of the Open Bible**

40015 N. Collis Rd, Elk WA, 99099

Call: 509-292-8770 Link: <https://ccob.life/>

Providing assistance to the Elk community

## **Medical Lake City Hall** [City of Medial-Lake.org](http://CityofMedial-Lake.org)

124 S. Lefevre St. Medical Lake, WA 99022

Receives and distributes daily donations from various organizations.

## **Bohemian Spokane**

Accepts donations and works with the Red Cross to distribute clothing, baby items, food and housewares. Please contact them through [their Facebook page](#) to request assistance.

## **Goodwill**

Please contact 509-838-4246 or <https://discovergoodwill.org/>

## **Redemption Church** (open through Labor Day weekend)

400 E. Grace Street, Medical Lake, WA 99022

Providing assistance to the Medical Lake Community

Call: 509-299-3139

## **Cheney Nazarene Church**

Help with clothing.

338 W Betz Rd, Cheney, WA 99004

Call: 509-747-8480

## **Need a replacement of Durable Medical Equipment?**

There is a local partner who can support replacement at no cost to the client.

Contact: [info@KCHelp.org](mailto:info@KCHelp.org) / Call: 509-212-0900

## **The Figtree**

Independent, nonprofit resource directory for the Inland Northwest

<http://www.thefigtree.org/connections-resources.html>

Call: 509-535-4112

# Recovery Resources continued

## **Salvation Army Spokane**

Providing resources to families affected by the fires.

Phone: 509-325-6810 or email

[salvationarmyspokane@gmail.com](mailto:salvationarmyspokane@gmail.com)

## **The Washington Connection**

Provides information regarding emergency shelters & resources.

Phone: 1-877-501-2233

[Explore Options - Washington Connection](#)

## **Catholic Charities Spokane**

All residents of communities throughout Eastern Washington can access assistance with basic needs, from groceries and gas to utilities and rent through a network of parish and community partners.

Call Emergency Assistance 509-456-2253 | 12 E. 5th Avenue, Spokane WA 99202

## **Giving Back Spokane**

Community Facebook group where residents of Spokane are teaming together to gather specific needs for those in need. [Giving Back Spokane | Facebook](#)

**Burbity Workspaces** if you work remote and have been evacuated for any of the local fires, please call us or drop in! They will provide a free place with Wi-Fi, coffee and a quiet, calm environment to get some work done. Call 509-255-7275 or visit <https://burbity.com/sprague/> 1722 E Sprague Ave, Spokane, WA 99202

# Recovery Resources continued

## YMCA of the Inland Northwest

Providing free showers and a safe place.

Day pass fees waived.

- 1126 N Monroe St, Spokane, Phone: 509-777-9622
- 930 N Monroe St, Spokane, Phone: 509-777-9622
- 10727 N Newport Hwy, Spokane, Phone: 509-777-9622

## The Wellness Center

Providing free showers and a safe place.

- North Park: 8121 N Division St, Spokane  
Phone: 509-467-5124
- Central Park: 5900 E 4<sup>th</sup> Ave, Spokane  
Phone: 509-535-3554  
E-Mail: [info@wellnessco.com](mailto:info@wellnessco.com)

## Military & Family Readiness Center

Available to those with base access at Fairchild Air Force Base.

Safe place and supplies available.

- 4 W Castle St, Fairchild AFB, WA 99011,  
Phone: 509-247-2246

## Spokane County Information

- <https://spokanecounty.org/>
- <https://www.spokanetransit.com/>
- [Spokane County Emergency Management Facebook Page](#)

## Avista Utilities

Report the smell gas, power outages or downed power lines  
24/7 call 1-800-227-9187

Link: <https://outage.myavista.com/>

## Our Place Community Center (downtown Spokane)

Resources for survivors: Food Bank, Hygiene Bank, Clothing Bank, Laundry Services

Vouchers are available at the Disaster Assistance Center for survivors to come in during extended hours.

Hours: Wed, 10am-6pm & Tues/Thurs, 9am-4pm &  
Sat, 10am-4pm (only for survivors)

Visit: <https://www.ourplacespokane.org/>

Call: 509-326-7267



# Red Cross Offering Immediate Financial Assistance for Qualified Households

Please call 1-800-Red-Cross if your primary residence was destroyed or sustained eligible damage in the Spokane County Wildfires

## **Additional Help Available for Wildfire Recovery**

Thanks to the generosity of donors, the Red Cross is offering immediate financial assistance for those whose primary residences were destroyed or sustained eligible damage in Spokane County wildfires.



# Search resources in Washington with 2-1-1



**2·1·1**

Get Connected. Get Help.™  
Conéctese. Consiga ayuda.

**on demand  
has arrived!**

Find community resources  
and get connected today.



**¡Ya llegó  
respuesta  
rápida!**

Encuentre recursos  
comunitarios y  
conéctese hoy.

**Simply text  
211WAOD to 898211**

Standard msg & data rates may apply.  
Text STOP to opt-out. For end user privacy  
and terms and conditions of texting  
with 898211, go to: <http://www.preventpaytext.com/policies/>

Powered by PreventionPays Text.

**Simplemente envíe  
211WAOD por texto  
al 898211**

Es posible que se apliquen tarifas estándar de  
mensajes y datos. Envíe el mensaje de texto  
STOP para optar por no participar. Para ver la  
privacidad del usuario y los términos y  
condiciones de los mensajes de texto con  
898211, visite: <http://www.preventpaytext.com/policies/>

Provisto por PreventionPays Text.

You will reach a highly-trained information and referral specialist who will assess your needs and provide a list of referrals to available resources in your community. Washington 211 has a database of over 27,000 resources to help you find the right services.

Referrals are usually given over the phone or can be emailed or text to you. In crisis situations a warm transfer can be made directly to crisis specialists or 9-1-1. This includes categories such as free meals, shelter/housing, clothing, hygiene items, financial assistance, transportation, etc.

## 3 Ways to contact

### 1. Call 2-1-1 by phone

TTY for the deaf and hard of hearing and interpreter services are also available in 140+ languages.

### 2. Text 211WAOD to 898211

### 3. Visit [Washington 2-1-1 \(wa211.org\)](http://wa211.org)

# Crisis Counseling Support

- **SAMHSA The Disaster Distress Helpline (DDH)** is the first national hotline dedicated to providing disaster crisis counseling. This toll-free, multilingual, crisis support service is available 24/7 to all residents in the U.S. and its territories who are experiencing emotional distress related to natural or human-caused disasters.
- **Call or text [1-800-985-5990](tel:1-800-985-5990).**
- **Español:** Llama o envía un mensaje de texto [1-800-985-5990](tel:1-800-985-5990) presiona “2.”
- **For Deaf and Hard of Hearing ASL Callers:** To connect directly to an agent in American Sign Language, click the "ASL Now" button below or call [1-800-985-5990](tel:1-800-985-5990) from your videophone. ASL Support is available 24/7. [FAQs for ASL NOW users](#).
- **Suicide & Crisis Lifeline:** Text **988**

# Suggestions for Caring for Yourself and Loved Ones

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- **Acknowledge your thoughts and emotions.** It is common to experience a wide range of emotions following a disaster. Avoid self-talk about what you “should” be feeling.
  - **Reach out to family, friends, and community.** Talk with trusted people in your life about how you are doing. Seek support from your community and faith-based resources, if applicable.
  - **Set boundaries around when and how often you consume media.** Constant access to news and social media means that we can easily become overloaded by bad news. You might make a conscious choice not to watch the news right before bedtime. You might decide to leave your phone charging in another room, so you don’t check social media during a meal, at work, or from bed. You may want to set a timer and limit access to newsfeeds to limited blocks of time.
  - **Identify things within your scope of influence.** It is easy to feel helpless in overwhelming situations, so it can be useful to focus on what you can do. How can you most directly and positively make an impact? This could include actions like donating to a credible relief organization, checking in on someone you feel concerned about or volunteering with a relevant cause or group.
  - **Take care of your physical health.** Remember to move yet be conscious of the air quality that surrounds you. It’s not just that exercise can help us feel physically better. Trauma tends to “get stuck” in our bodies and choosing to move can help shift hard feelings. Try any movement that works for your body. Eat healthy foods and get adequate sleep and rest when you can.
  - **Be gentle with yourself.** Know that you are not alone in experiencing strong reactions to these events. Don’t despair if you are having a hard time concentrating at work or keeping your cool with your partner or kids. What’s one thing you can do to be kind to yourself today?
  - **Seek out and use supportive resources.** Ask for support and help from the people, places and programs that are helpful to you.

# How do I replace my personal documents?

- **Driver's License or Identification Card:** Contact your local **Department of Licensing (DOL) office** or other issuing authority. Visit [dol.wa.gov](https://dol.wa.gov) or call 360-902-3900
- **Military Documents:** Contact the Department of Veteran Affairs at 1-800-827-1000 or TDD/TTY 1-800-829-4833.
- **Passport:** Visit the U.S. Department of State's [How to Apply page](#).
- **Birth, Death, Marriage or Other Certificates:** Contact the Department of Health (DOH) at [ContactCHS@doh.wa.gov](mailto:ContactCHS@doh.wa.gov) or 360-236-4300.
- **Credit or Debit Cards:** Contact your banking or credit institution.
- **Citizenship Papers:** Contact the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services at 1-800-375-5283.



**Tip: Reach out to your current employer as Human Resources may have copies of documents you provided during your onboarding process.**

*This may include copies of your Social Security Card, Birth Certificate, Passport, etc.*

# Fire Remediation and Debris Removal Services in and around Spokane

Residents should contact their insurance providers first to see if the insurance company has a preferred choice and to ensure that services are covered.

**Spokane County Regional Solid Waste System** is advising insured property owners to speak with their insurance providers and only hire certified, licensed, and bonded contractors for clean-up. A verification tool is available from the Washington State Department of Labor & Industries. Visit: [Spokane County Regional Solid Waste System Offers Guidance for Fire Debris Disposal | Washington Updates | NewsBreak Original](#)

**Servpro-** When you need fire damage restoration, SERVPRO is here to help with smoke removal and fire damage cleanup, assessment, soot removal, and restoration services. Handles insurance navigation and paperwork.

Visit: [www.servpro.com](http://www.servpro.com) or [Fire Damage Restoration and Smoke Removal | SERVPRO](#)

Call: 509-822-5995

**PuroClean-** (North Spokane) Offers expert smoke & fire damage restoration and repair services.

Visit: [www.puroclean.com](http://www.puroclean.com) or [Fire Damage Restoration and Cleanup Services in Spokane, WA \(puroclean.com\)](#)

Call: 509-505-5353

**Restoration Done-** Professional Fire Damage Cleanup and Repair, Emergency Response & 24/7 Assistance.

Visit: [www.restorationdonellc.com](http://www.restorationdonellc.com) or [Fire Damage Restoration](#).

Call: 509-272-9030





# ARE YOU AFFECTED BY THE FIRE?

Veterans Community Response  
wants to help.

IF YOU ARE UNINSURED AND YOU HAVE NO OPTIONS  
FOR HELP WITH DEBRIS REMOVAL CALL TRAVIS  
ALEXANDER AT HIS NUMBER BELOW TO SEE IF YOU  
QUALIFY FOR FREE ASSISTANCE FROM OUR TEAM.

Our all-volunteer team of Community Responder Sawyers are  
certified and trained to conduct hazardous shrub and tree  
removal, debris removal, displacement, and other chainsaw  
work.



Travis Alexander 509-981-4313  
[www.vetcomres.org](http://www.vetcomres.org)



VETERANS COMMUNITY  
RESPONSE

Contact Travis Alexander  
Call 509-981-4313

Visit [www.vetcomres.org](http://www.vetcomres.org)

# Hazardous Materials Resources

Returning to your property after a fire can be dangerous. Please see below for information on hazardous materials you may find, and how to stay safe! Click on the following links for more information.

## Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency

- [Special Notice to Property Owners Affected by the Gray and Oregon Road Fires: Asbestos & Fire Damaged Structures](#)

## The Spokane Regional Health District information on residential post-fire cleanup:

- [Cleanup of Wildfire Debris Can be Hazardous to Your Health](#) and [After a Wildfire](#).
- [Asbestos & Fire Damaged Structures - FAQs](#)

## Washington Department Of Ecology resources:

- [Where can I dispose of household hazardous waste?](#)
- [Report an environmental Issue \(including oil or other spills\)](#)





# Eastern Washington Access and Functional Needs Resources

## Statewide Resources

- [AFN | Washington State Military Department, Citizens Serving Citizens with Pride & Tradition](#)
- [Coalition on Inclusive Emergency Planning \(CIEP\) \(wasilc.org\)](#)

## Independent Living Centers

- [Disability Action Center NW | Your Community. Your Access. Your Life. \(dacnw.org\)](#)  
Counties Served: Asotin, Garfield, and Whitman
- [INDEX | Disability Action Center NW \(dacnw.org\)](#)  
Counties Served: Spokane, Stevens, Ferry, Pend Oreille, and Lincoln

## Communication Assistance, Advocacy, and other Services for Deaf, Deaf Blind and Hard of Hearing

- [Washington Advocates of Deaf & Hard of Hearing \(wadhh.org\)](#)



# Eastern Washington American Sign Language (ASL) Interpreter Resources

Selected ASL Interpreter Services (\* = State Vendor)  
Click links for more information and details.

- [Sign Language Interpreter Contracts and Resources Program | DSHS \(wa.gov\)](#)\*
- [A2Z Interpreting Services Washington ASL American Sign Language](#)\*
- [All Hands IS | Sign Language Interpreting Services](#)\*
- [AML-Global American Language Services \(alsglobal.net\)](#)
- [Away With Words \(awwasl.com\)](#)
- [DeafBlind Interpreter Referral Service | DeafBlind Service Center \(seattledbsc.org\)](#)\*
- [Hearing Loss Advocacy in Spokane, WA | Nexus \(nexusinw.com\)](#)
- [Professional Interpreter Services | Naegeli \(naegeliusa.com\)](#)
- [Purple Communications - On-site ASL Interpreting and VRI \(signlanguage.com\)](#)
- [Sorenson Express – SorensonSpokane Interpreting & Translation Services](#)
- [LinguabeeUniversal Language Service - Interpreting and Translation Service](#)\*

# Washington State Offices Serving People with Disabilities / Communication Access Realtime Transcription (CART) Captioning Resources

## State Offices Serving People with Disabilities

- [Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing | DSHS \(wa.gov\)](#)
- [Office of Developmental Disabilities | DDOmbuds.org](#)

Click links for more information and details.

## Selected CART Captioning Services (\* = State Vendor)

- [DES CART Contract Summary \(wa.gov\)\\*](#)
- [AI-Media Captioning Services - AI-Media\\*](#)
- [AML-Global American Language Services \(alsglobal.net\)](#)
- [GLOBO \(helloglobo.com\)\\*](#)
- [Linguabee Captioning Services | Linguabee](#)
- [LNS Live Captioning - LNS Captioning](#)
- [Partners Interpreting / Captioning \(CART\) Real-time Translator\\*](#)
- [Purple Communication Access Real-time Translation \(CART\) by Purple \(signlanguage.com\)](#)
- [Universal Language Service - Interpreting and Translation Service\\*](#)
- [VZP Digital Captions - VZP Digital\\*](#)

# Homeowner Assistance Fund



The Washington State Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF) provides individual support and federal relief funds to qualified Washington homeowners behind on their mortgage due to pandemic hardship. This program is administered by the Washington State Housing Finance Commission. Click here [learn more](#).

Washington HAF connects you with a housing counselor who provides free and confidential support and can assist you with many options to prevent foreclosure. Call the Hotline at [1-877-894-4663](tel:1-877-894-4663) for a no-cost assessment and referral to a housing counselor in your area.

# Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Description of Post Wildfire Assistance



NRCS can provide technical and financial assistance to landowners. The most applicable financial assistance program for fire affected land will be the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Applications for the EQIP program are accepted at any time, however there is an application cutoff date of 10/20/23 for fiscal year 2024 funding. Applications received after close of business 10/20/23 will go into the next funding cycle.

## Common Activities:

- Woody debris treatment to prepare site for replanting and/or reduce hazardous fuels.
- Tree and shrub planting to restore woody vegetation
- Grass/Forb planting to reduce erosion risk, restore desirable vegetation

NRCS Washington website: [Washington | Natural Resources Conservation Service \(usda.gov\)](https://www.usda.gov/nrcs/washington)

To get more details and start application process contact call: [509\) 381-6732 Ext. 3](tel:5093816732)

Staff: Richard Edlund -District Conservationist  
Steve Sprecher -Resource Conservationist  
Tiffani Walker -Soil Conservationist  
Melissa Pierce -Soil Conservationist  
Logan Carr -Soil Conservationist

Address: Spokane Service Center  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
8815 E Mission Ave Ste B  
Spokane Valley, WA 99212-2532



# Help for older adults and adults living with disabilities to age safely at home

## Spokane County

Help Line: 509-960-7281

[action@altcew.org](mailto:action@altcew.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/AgingLTC/>

<https://www.altcew.org/>



## Whitman, Ferry, Stevens and Pend Oreille Counties

Rural Resources Community Action

1-800-873-5889



# Services offered by the Department of Social and Health Services



[Washington Connection](#) offers a way to find and apply for a variety of services and assistance online. By entering in basic household information, Washington Connection will let you know what programs or services you or your family may be qualified to receive from various local, state or federal sources. You can also apply for assistance in person at a local Community Service Office or by calling the Customer Service Contact Center at 877-501-2233.

**Applications for the Disaster Cash Assistance Program expires on September 29, 2023. Applications will no longer be accepted after this date.**

- [Aged, Blind or Disabled Cash Assistance Program \(ABD\)](#)  
Cash help for Aged, Blind or Disabled people
- [Housing and Essential Needs](#)  
Provide non-cash housing and other assistance
- [Child Support Services](#)  
Help in getting child support
- [DSHS Emergency Programs](#)  
Programs to help in emergency situations
- [Medical Assistance Programs](#)  
Help with health care and medical expenses
- [Refugee Cash Assistance \(RCA\)](#)  
Cash and medical help for refugees
- [Temporary Assistance for Needy Families \(TANF\)](#)  
Cash help for families with children
- [Voter Registration Assistance](#)  
Local offices can help you to register to vote
- [Washington Basic Food Program](#)  
Help with putting food on the table
- [Workforce Innovation](#)  
Improving economic self-sufficiency

# Community Service Office locations in the Spokane/Elk vicinity

**DSHS Maple CSO**

1313 N Maple  
Spokane WA, 99201

**DSHS Newport CSO**

1600 W 1st St  
Newport, WA 99156

**DSHS Colville CSO**

1100 S Main St #1  
Colville, WA 99114

**DSHS Trent CSO**

8517 E Trent Ave  
Spokane Valley, WA 99216

**DSHS Colfax CSO**

418 S Main St Suite 1  
Colfax, WA 99111

Find a Community Service Office anywhere in Washington State. Click the [Office Locator](#) link.

DSHS has [Mobile Community Service Office](#) units responding to requests.

Find where we're going to be next by following us on our social media channels.



# Tips and reminders for homeowners working with contractors



The [Washington State Department of Labor & Industries](#) (L&I) cautions homeowners to work only with registered contractors, and to obtain three bids for any repairs. Though a homeowner may be in a rush to repair damage, keep these tips in mind to [Hire Smart](#) and avoid shoddy work or bad contractors:

- Check whether a contractor is registered by clicking on the link at [protectmyhome.net](#). You can verify whether contractors are licensed, how long they have been in business and see the amount of their insurance coverage and bond.
- Beware of red flags, including contractors who ask to be paid in cash, have a check made out to someone other than the business, or work only evenings or on weekends. Unregistered contractors or scam artists typically use these tactics.
- Don't pay in full until the job is done.
- See more tips and download the "Hire Smart" worksheet at [protectmyhome.net](#). Also on the page are reminder signs in English and Spanish.
- Additional information on recovery from a natural disaster, including reconnecting power to your home, is also available from L&I. Simply go to [www.L&I.com](#), and enter "Disaster recovery" in the search bar, or call your nearest [L&I regional office](#).

# Insurance Assistance



- **Wildfire webpage for consumers:**  
<https://www.insurance.wa.gov/wildfires-and-homeowner-insurance>
- Contact your insurance company to report the how, when and where of the damage.
  - Prepare a list of damaged or lost items and provide receipts if possible. You may want to take pictures or video of the damage for additional claim documentation. Do not throw anything away without discussing it with your claim adjuster.
  - Keep receipts for expenses including lodging, repairs or other supplies.
- Besides insurance, there are many questions related to taxes, expenses and determining just how you will recover from a personal financial point of view. For helpful advice, please see Disaster Recovery: A Guide to Financial Issues (A5076), which is available from your local Red Cross chapter.
- The Washington State Office of the Insurance Commissioner's offers assistance on insurance claims regarding natural disasters. They answer questions about the claims process. They can also help answer questions about what to expect after you file a claim, and how to file a complaint against an insurer.
- Visit <https://www.insurance.wa.gov/natural-disasters> or call 800-562-6900.

Have questions?  
Need help?

Call the OIC at:  
800-562-6900

Verify your insurance  
adjuster is licensed:  
[www.insurance.wa.gov](http://www.insurance.wa.gov)

Verify your contractor  
is licensed:  
[www.lni.wa.gov](http://www.lni.wa.gov)

Verify your attorney  
is licensed:  
[www.mywsba.org](http://www.mywsba.org)

# Resources and training related to insurance processes for policy holders



**United Policyholders** is a non-profit organization whose mission is to be a trustworthy and useful information resource and an effective voice for consumers of all types of insurance in all 50 states.

## Programs:

- [Disaster Recovery Help 2023 Washington \(Gray and Oregon Road\) Wildfires](#) – Insurance Claim and Recovery Help
- [Roadmap to Recovery](#)<sup>™</sup> provides tools and resources for solving insurance problems after an accident, loss, illness or other adverse event.
- [Roadmap to Preparedness](#) promotes disaster preparedness and insurance literacy through outreach and education in partnership with civic, faith based, business and other non-profit associations.
- [Advocacy and Action](#) advances pro-consumer laws and public policy related to insurance matters.

# Unemployment Information



## How do I apply for unemployment benefits?

You can apply online ([esd.wa.gov](https://esd.wa.gov)) or by phone (800-318-6022). The best and fastest way to apply is online. Using a laptop or desktop computer works best. You can use a phone or tablet, but the service is not optimized for mobile and may be difficult to navigate.

Like most Washington state agencies, the Employment Security Department uses [SecureAccess Washington \(SAW\)](#) to manage access to customer accounts. If you do not already have a SAW account, you'll need to create one. If you have an account, you can use that same username and password to access [eServices](#) — ESD's online portal.

## General unemployment benefits information:

Avoid mistakes that could delay your benefits! Before you apply, go to [esd.wa.gov/unemployment](https://esd.wa.gov/unemployment) to become familiar with the process.

## What are unemployment benefits?

Unemployment benefits provide you with temporary income when you lose your job through no fault of your own. The money partly replaces your lost earnings and helps you pay expenses while looking for new work or waiting to return to work. The benefits are paid by taxes on employers and are not based on financial need.

## How do I know if I am eligible for unemployment benefits?

You must have worked at least 680 hours in your base year, and you must have earned at least some of your wages in Washington state. Your base year is the first four of the last five completed calendar quarters before the week in which you file your claim.

For example:

- If you file your claim in August 2023, your base year is April 1, 2022, through March 31, 2023.

**Find out more:** [esd.wa.gov/unemployment/basic-eligibility-requirements](https://esd.wa.gov/unemployment/basic-eligibility-requirements)

# Unemployment Information continued



**Employment Security Department**  
WASHINGTON STATE

## **What information do I need before I apply?**

Get all your information ready before you apply, including your:

- Name, Social Security number, birth date and contact information.
- Driver's license information, if you have one.
- Complete work history for the past 18 months including:
- Employer name(s)
- Address(es)
- Phone number(s)
- Start and end dates of employment for each employer
- Your bank account and routing number, if you want to sign up for direct deposit.

Find out more: [esd.wa.gov/unemployment/have-this-information-ready](https://esd.wa.gov/unemployment/have-this-information-ready)

## **What do I need to do after I apply?**

- Submit your weekly claims.
- Report honestly.
- Watch for and read any information we send you. If you chose to receive information via eServices, we will email you when we require your attention. Some information is time-sensitive!

## **What if my worksite was affected by the fires?**

If your place of employment burned down or you no longer have work with your employer due to the wildfires, select "laid off" when on the application. The system will then ask for more information about your job separation. You can then select "business closed," "company closed temporarily," "on call or standby with my employer" or "other reason not listed."

# Agricultural and Animal Resources



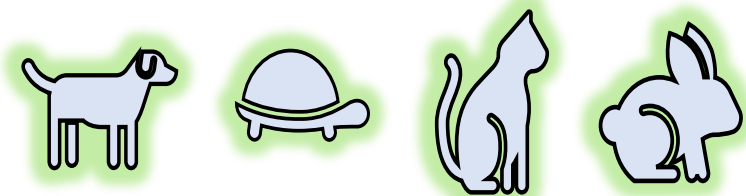
Washington  
State Department of  
Agriculture

Assistance may be available to support agricultural recovery. Document and report losses to your county Emergency Management office and local Farm Service Agency service center. To learn more about resources that may be available visit the following:

- **USDA Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool:** <https://www.farmers.gov/protection-recovery/disaster-tool> and call Farm Service Agency Office Spokane Service Center: (509) 924-7350
- **Spokane Conservation District Post Fire Assistance:** <https://www.spokanecd.org/post-fire-assistance/> and call (509) 535-7274

## If you are in need of, or have cattle feed to donate...

Please call the Washington Cattlemen's Association:  
509-925-9871 or the [WA Cattlemen's Facebook page](#)



## If you have lost a pet...

Call Spokane Humane Society: 509-467-5235  
[Spokane Area Lost and Found Pets Facebook Group](#)

# Watch out for scams

Fraudsters often take advantage of the chaos after a disaster, we urge you to verify licenses and check references before making agreements on selling your land, rebuilding your home, etc.

<https://suspectfraud.wa.gov/>

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