

CALAMITY JANE EXPRESS (R)
Emergency Checklist
at www.calamityjaneexpress.net
Standard Messages

Return

When you return to your home , you should:

- Obtain permission from officials before entering a burned wildland area.
- Use caution
- Avoid damaged or fallen power poles or lines, and downed wires.
- Watch for ash pits and mark them for safety.
- If there is no power, check to make sure the main breaker is on.
- If you turned off the valves on a propane tank system contact the propane supplier first
- If you have a heating oil tank system, contact a heating oil supplier first
- Discard food that has been exposed to heat, smoke, or soot.
- If you are in doubt about the safety of your water, contact local public health officials.
- Stay out of a canyon below a burned hill or mountain if there is even a chance of rain.
- Throw away food and drinking water that has come in contact with floodwater, including canned goods.
- Discard wooden spoons, plastic utensils, and baby bottle nipples and pacifiers if they have been covered by floodwater.
- Disinfect metal pans and utensils by boiling them in clean or properly treated water.
- If water is of questionable purity, boil the water or add bleach to it, and then distill the water if you will be drinking it.
- Avoid drinking or preparing food with tap water until you are certain it is not contaminated.
- Pump out flooded basements gradually (about one-third of the water per day) to avoid structural damage.
- Service damaged septic tanks, cesspools, pits, and leaching systems as soon as possible.
- Get medical care at the nearest hospital or clinic, if necessary.
- Help people who require special assistance
- Stay away from damaged areas.
- Continue to listen to NOAA Weather Radio or a local radio or television station and return home only when authorities indicate it is safe to do so.
- Stay out of any building if floodwater remains around the building.
- Avoid entering any building (home, business, or other) before local officials have said it is safe to do so.
- Report broken utility lines to the appropriate authorities.
- Avoid smoking inside buildings.
- When entering buildings, use extreme caution.
- Wear long pants, a long-sleeved shirt, and sturdy shoes.
- Use battery-powered lanterns or flashlights when examining buildings.
- Examine walls, floors, doors, staircases, and windows to make sure that the building is not in danger of collapsing.
- Inspect foundations for cracks or other damage.
- Look for fire hazards.
- Check for gas leaks.
- Look for electrical system damage.
- Check for damage to sewage and water lines.
- Watch out for wild animals, especially poisonous snakes, that may have come into buildings with the floodwater.
- Watch for loose plaster, drywall, and ceilings that could fall.
- Take pictures of the damage

Take precautions while cleaning your property.

- Keep children away from these hazardous sites.
- Debris should be wetted down to minimize health impacts from breathing dust particles.
- Use a two-strap dust particulate mask with nose clip and coveralls for protection.
- Wear leather gloves and heavy-soled shoes to protect hands and feet from sharp objects while removing debris.
- Wear rubber gloves when working with outhouse remnants, plumbing fixtures, and sewer piping. They can contain high levels of bacteria.
- Hazardous materials such as kitchen and bathroom cleaning products, paint, batteries, contaminated fuel, and damaged fuel containers need to be properly handled to avoid risk. Check with local authorities for hazardous disposal assistance.

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