



FIRE/SMOKE DAMAGE EMERGENCY TIPS

Fire damage restoration is difficult, because firefighting can contribute to water damage. **RESTORx** takes care to insure contents are restored properly to prevent mold growth. If not charred, many items can be restored. Even a light coating of soot could be permanently embedded in items if professional restoration techniques are not used. **RESTORx** technicians are extensively trained to handle all types of disasters. It is natural to want to clean a building and its contents after a fire. Immediate action can be a great help, but incorrect or delayed action can jeopardize a satisfactory restoration.

The following Tips were compiled by members of the
National Institute of Disaster Restoration:
(This list will assist you in taking proper action until professionals from **RESTORx** arrive.)

EMERGENCY TIPS

DO'S

- 👍 Air out the house to reduce smoke odor.
(If the outside temp is above 60 degrees.)
- 👍 Discard open food packages.
The food could be contaminated.
- 👍 Limit movement in the home to prevent soot particles from being impregnated into upholstery and carpets.
- 👍 Keep hands clean- soot on your hands can damage upholstery, drapes, walls and woodwork.
- 👍 Place clean towels or old linens on rug and carpet traffic areas to prevent more soiling.
- 👍 Clean and protect chrome on kitchen and bathroom faucets, trim, and appliances with a light coating of Vaseline or oil.
- 👍 Wipe residue from porcelain bath fixtures to prevent etching.
- 👍 If the electricity is off, empty the freezer and refrigerator completely and prop doors open.
- 👍 Wash off house plants on both sides of the leaves.
(Water softener helps)
- 👍 Change the air filter on your furnace if blower is operating.
- 👍 Remove pets (especially birds) to clean environments.

DON'TS

- ⚠️ **DO NOT** attempt to wash papered or flat painted walls without consulting a professional.
- ⚠️ **DO NOT** use any canned or packaged good/beverages that may have been stored close to fire, heat or water. They may be contaminated.
- ⚠️ **DO NOT** use upholstered furniture if it can be avoided.
- ⚠️ **DO NOT** turn on ceiling fixtures if ceiling is wet. Wiring may be wet or damaged.
- ⚠️ **DO NOT** attempt to clean carpets or upholstered furniture. Incorrect procedure could increase damage.
- ⚠️ **DO NOT** use electrical appliances that have been close to a fire or water damaged area until they have been Professionally checked and cleaned, as they can malfunction.
- ⚠️ **DO NOT** send garments to an ordinary dry cleaner. Improper cleaning may set smoke odor.
- ⚠️ **DO NOT** use upholstered furniture if it can be avoided.
(cover with sheets before use)
- ⚠️ **DO NOT** touch anything. Soot on your hands could permeate upholstery, walls and woodwork causing more damage.