



Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Fire Response & Recovery Efforts



**Assembly Health Committee Hearing,
March 18, 2025**

Dr. Anish Mahajan, Chief Deputy Director

More than 10,500 structures damaged or destroyed

ROUX

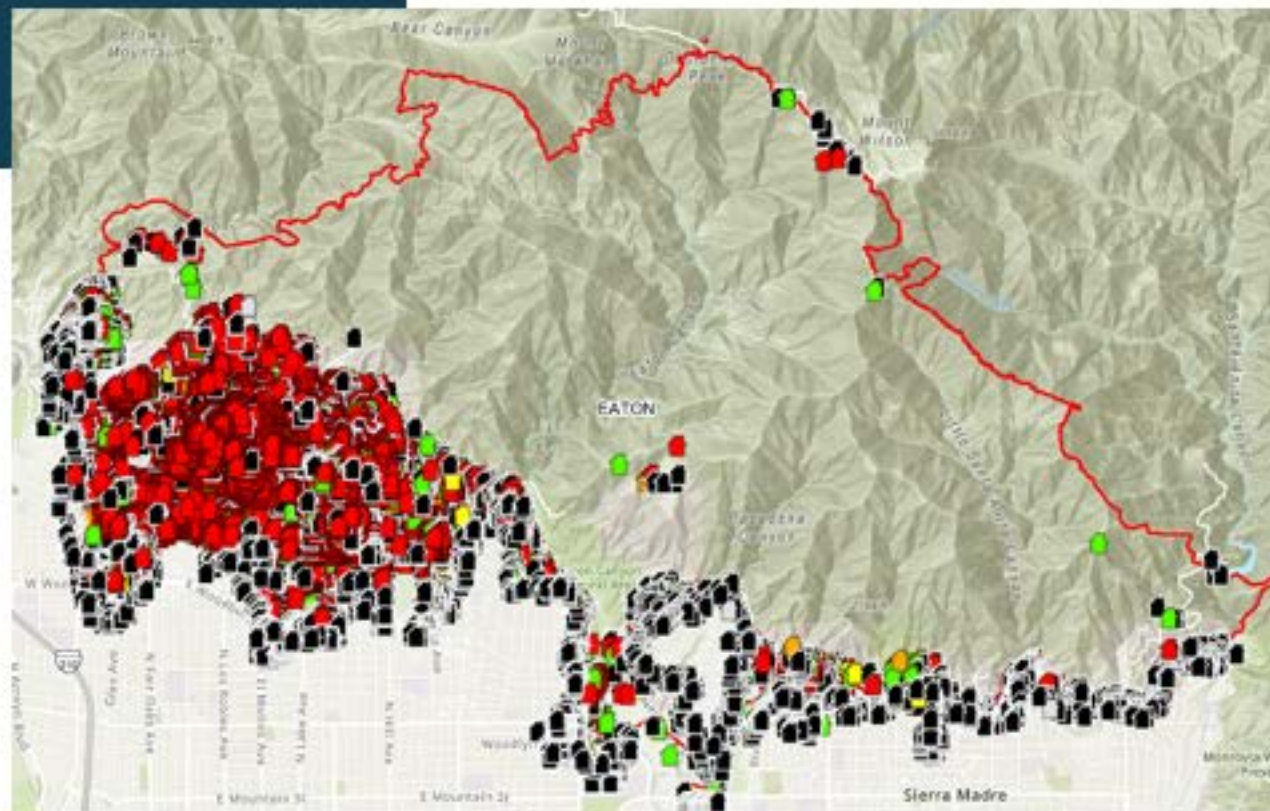
Eaton Fire Structure Status



Structure Status:

- Destroyed (>50%)
- Major (26-50%)
- Minor (10-25%)
- Affected (1-9%)
- Inaccessible
- No Damage

<https://gis.data.cnra.ca.gov/maps/CALFIRE-Forestry::eaton-fire-structure-status-map/explore?location=34.198955%2C-118.090549%2C13.19>



More than 7,850 structures damaged or destroyed

ROUX

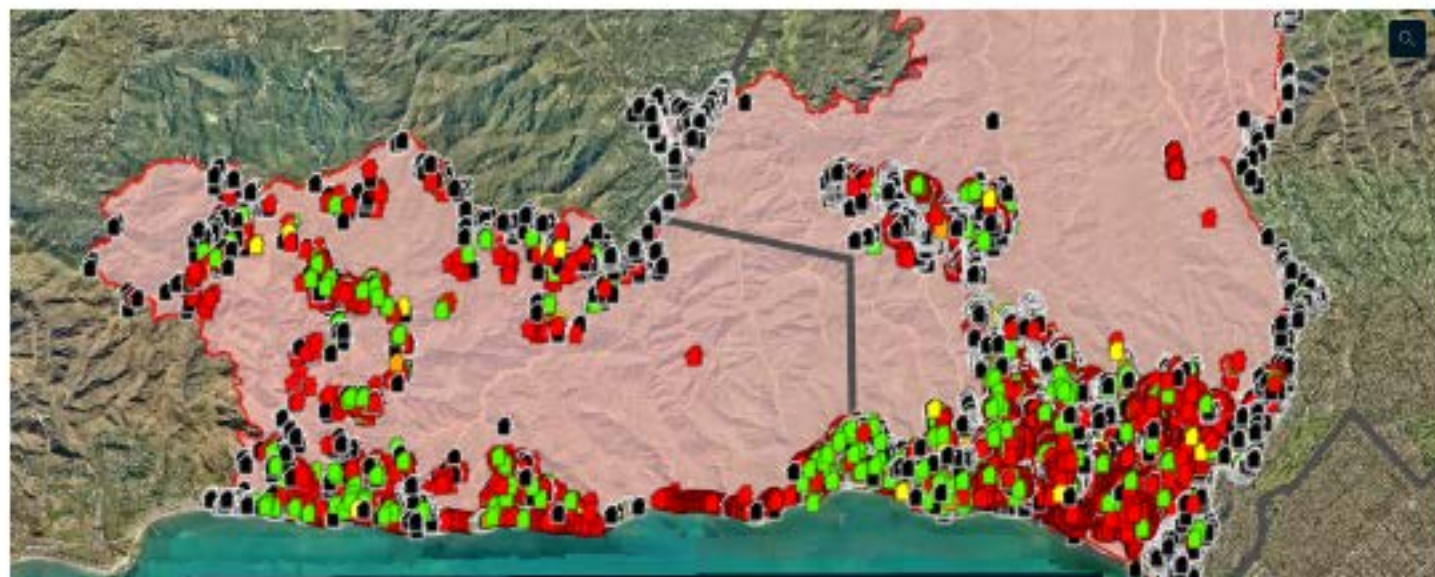
Palisades Fire Structure Status



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

Structure Status:

- Destroyed (>50%)
- Major (26-50%)
- Minor (10-25%)
- Affected (1-9%)
- Inaccessible
- No Damage



<https://emergency.lacity.gov/dashboard>








WILDFIRE RESPONSE & RECOVERY





Emergency Declarations


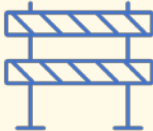

- **1/7/25:** LA County Board Chair proclaims local emergency
- **1/7/25:** Governor Newsom declares one-year state of emergency
- **1/8/25:** President Biden approves Major Disaster Declaration for CA

LA County Health Officer Orders

- **1/10/25:** Local Health Emergency Declared Due to Fire Impacts and Windstorm Conditions, ratified on 1/14/25
- **1/15/25:** Prohibit Unsafe Removal, Transport, and Disposal of Fire Debris to Ensure Community Safety; updated 3/4/25.
- **1/23/25:** Prohibit the Use of Power Air Blowers Within the Palisades and Eaton Fire Perimeters

Public Health Area	Early Response Actions
 Public Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Created webpage to share health protection guidance, FAQs, resources, and information Issued Smoke Advisories due to unhealthy air quality, Windblown Dust and Ash Advisories, and Ocean Water Quality Advisories
 Emergency Preparedness and Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activated DPH Incident Command Structure Reported to Incident Command Posts and the County and City of LA Emergency Operations Centers
 Skilled Nursing Facility Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inspected fire-impacted SNFs and provided bed availability information for patients who evacuate from SNFs
 Shelter Inspections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inspected evacuation shelters and fire camps
 PPE & Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided disaster kits with PPE and educational materials at all evacuation shelters, re-entry check points, community meetings, and for staff and students at camps run by LAC Parks & Recreation

Type of Safety Service	Services & Outcomes (as of 1/31/25)
 Assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessed 9 shelters across LA County. • Conducted a total of 3,747 assessments at food facilities and other regulated business that were ordered to evacuate due to the wildfires.
 Community & Worker Safety Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilized 19 CBOs and trained 400+ CHWs to address 553 HOO complaints, share health information, promote safety precautions, and connect affected communities with resources. • Conducted 867 outreaches, reaching over 500+ workers and 20 employers in the impacted industry. • Trained 45 worker organization staff through the Public Health Councils Program about wildfire smoke safety and workers' rights during active wildfires & recovery.
 Client Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Served 8,703 community members at the Disaster Recovery Centers in Westwood and Pasadena.
 Town Halls & Community Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended Town Halls/Community Meetings to provide PPE and environmental health consultation.

Emergency Response Location	DPH Early Response Actions
<p>Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) – January 14 – January 26</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided medication assistance and other referrals to over 650 clients at the Pasadena DRC and over 500 clients at the Westwood DRC • Referrals to pharmacies, healthcare providers, DPH telehealth, and on-site MD • Provided PPE for residents
<p>Re-Entry Checkpoints</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided disaster recovery kits and education to protect residents returning to fire impacted areas.
<p>American Red Cross Shelters</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DPH supplemented nursing staffing • Mobile Vaccine Team provided flu, COVID, and Hep. A vaccines at shelters

Distribution of Re-Entry Kits, Protective Supplies, & Air Purifiers



- Worked with DirectRelief, CalOES, and others to obtain **re-entry kits** containing PPE including Tyvek coverall suits, goggles, masks, gloves, booties.
- Provided kits and personal protective equipment (PPE) at **DRCs**, at **Wildfires Resource Hub** hosted by **ENLA** and **Kaiser Permanente**, and other community events.
- Stood up **Public Health Distribution Points** to provide PPE and health information to residents re-entering areas where homes were damaged and destroyed by the Eaton and Palisades Fires.
- **Distributed ~3800 air purifiers** to 4 County departments and 38 partners across 10 sectors including nonprofits, schools, early child care and education, congregate living health facilities, skilled nursing facilities, substance use disorder providers, faith-based organizations, etc.



- Added information and materials to website dedicated to Wildfire including public health information about
 - Returning to areas impacted by wildfires
 - Workplace health and safety
 - Resources for schools
- <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Wildfire/>

**Fire Safety and
Health Information**



Website (cont.)



Translate A-Z Index A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z ALL Font Size | A A A



Communications & Public Affairs

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Fire Safety and Health Information



CURRENT SITUATION

The impacts of the fires that burned through homes and other structures have been... Management, Public Works and Public Health... the wildfires have the information and su...

For a comprehensive list of information related to wildfires response services being provided in Los Angeles, visit <https://www.lacounty.gov/emergency/>.

✓ Page Navigation

- Current Situation
- Recovery Resources
- Health Officer Orders
- News & Updates
- Protecting Your Health After a Fire
- Frequently Asked Questions

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- + Resident FAQ's
- + FAQs for Properties in Burned Areas
- + FAQs for Properties Just Outside Burned Areas
- + FAQs for Properties in Indirectly Affected Areas

PROTECTING YOUR HEALTH AFTER A FIRE

Public Health reminds residents in the affected areas to take precautions to protect their health and well-being after a fire. Once local officials have cleared the area and allowed entry, it is important to know the proper steps and actions to take to clean, rebuild and recover safely.

- + Returning to Areas Impacted by Wildfires
- + Safe Cleaning
- + Restoration and Rebuilding
- + Workplace Health and Safety
- + Resources for Schools
- + Mental Health Resources
- + For Businesses
- + Post-Fire Assessment Resources

- Convening **Health and Social Services Recovery Task Force**
 - Subcommittees: Environmental Health Impacts, Health Care Access, Optimizing Enrollments, Vulnerable Populations
- Develop the **LA County Post-Fire Air, Soil, and Water Assessment [Plan](#)**
- Conducting a **[Rapid Needs Assessment](#)** to learn the best ways to help people living in areas affected by the Fires





LA FIRE HEALTH STUDY

www.LAFireHealth.org



SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH



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and Applied Sciences



ROUX

Soil Sampling

What fire-related soil impacts are reasonably expected based on location and parcel condition?

- Representative Soil Sampling
 - Testing for fire-related chemicals of concern
- Destroyed
- Minor/Affected Damage
- No Damage
- Adjacent to fire areas



Critical Needs

- Assessment of Short-Term and Long-Term Impacts of Air, Water, Soil Quality, and Debris Removal on Health and the Environment
- Assistance for Residents and Businesses in Areas Adjacent to Burned Areas or In Indirectly Affected Areas
- Infrastructure Support for Public Health for Long-Term Recovery, e.g., Environmental Health Permitting





Thank You!

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