

Fire Damage Tips



ServiceMaster Clean
Disaster
Restoration
Specialists

Even after the fire is doused and the smoke cleared, time is of the essence. There are a few things you can do to ensure a more successful restoration.

What to do:

- Corrosive byproducts from fire and smoke can cause permanent etching in as few as 72 hours. Call ServiceMaster of Allegany County immediately.
- If the temperature is above 60 degrees, air out your home by opening windows and doors to reduce smoke odor.
- Clean Formica, chrome, porcelain and aluminum fixtures to prevent permanent tarnishing or etching.
- Change the air filter on your furnace if it uses forced hot air.
- Tape damp cheesecloth over important documents to capture loose soot.
- Discard any open food packages.
- If the electricity is off, clean out the refrigerator and leave doors propped open.
- Send clothing with heavy smoke damage to a qualified restoration dry cleaner.

What not to do:

- **Do not touch anything.** Don't touch the walls, upholstery, woodwork, carpets rugs, etc. Oil from your hands can permeate any surface and cause additional damage.
- Do not use electrical appliances until having them checked.
- Do not use ceiling fixtures if the ceiling appears to be wet.

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