

POST-WILDFIRE RESPONSE RESOURCES

After a wildfire, there are numerous changes to the landscape which can bring devastating floods to communities downstream of a watershed that was severely damaged by the wildfire. This document is meant to serve as a quick reference to find additional information for post-wildfire erosion mitigation, tips to help cover the costs of preparing for post-wildfire debris flows, and who to contact.

New Mexico State Forestry and the USDA Forest Service have put together an all-inclusive website for post-wildfire response. Each FAQ below refers to a document or information found on this website: After Wildfire (afterwildfirenm.org)

MY LAND IS DAMAGED FROM FIRE. WHAT CAN I DO TO STABILIZE THE LAND?

This guide (https://www.afterwildfirenm.org/post-fire-treatments/report print section) includes post-fire treatments to be used on hillslopes, in channels, and along roads and trails as well as cost estimates for each treatment to help reduce, mitigate, and prevent stormwater from transporting contaminants downstream.

HOW DO I PAY FOR POST-FIRE TREATMENTS?

This guide (https://www.afterwildfirenm.org/financial-tips/report_print_section) provides tips about available funding and how to get reimbursement after experiencing a destructive wildfire and/or related flooding. The guide is a high-level tip sheet for both communities and individuals.

WHO DO I CONTACT FOR HELP TO GET POST-FIRE TREATMENTS OR OTHER KINDS OF SUPPORT POST-FIRE?

Who to contact may vary depending on the kind of support needed. This link can help connect both communities and individuals to many programs and services provided by agencies and organizations who can provide assistance: https://afterwildfirenm.org/who-can-help.

WHAT CAN THE NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT (NMED) PROVIDE?

For communities, NMED can provide free testing of private domestic wells for individual private well owners through the Water Fair Program to check for contamination after a wildfire. Contact the Ground Water Quality Bureau for more information: gwqb.general@state.nm.us or (505) 827-2900.

For communities, NMED also offers water quality testing for drinking water systems. Contact the Drinking Water Quality Bureau for more information: drinking.water@state.nm.us or (505) 476-8620.

For inquiries related to surface water quality, the Surface Water Quality Bureau (SWQB) can provide support. Contact Abraham Franklin, SWQB Watershed Protection Section Manager, at wpsprogram.manager@state.nm.us or (505) 827-0187.