

Worker Safety: Wildfire Smoke and Evacuation Zones

Wildfire Smoke Protection

In California, there is a law that requires your employer to protect you from wildfire smoke. Your employer has to reduce your exposure to unhealthy air by:

- Changing the worksite to a location where the air is not unhealthy,
- Altering your work duties or schedule to reduce time in unhealthy air, or
- Providing N95 masks.



Wildfire Smoke Training



Wildfire Smoke Training

You should be trained on how to properly use the masks and on the steps your employer takes to protect you and your coworkers from wildfire smoke. Read more on the requirements on Cal/OSHA's webpage www.dir.ca.gov/wildfire.

Evacuation Zones

You are not required to work in an evacuation zone. California laws give workers the right to refuse to work in unsafe conditions, including refusing to work in areas that require evacuation.

The law can help you recover unpaid wages if your employer fires you or reduces your hours for refusing to work in an evacuation zone.



Get in touch with the Department of Industrial Relations

In California, labor laws protect all workers regardless of immigration status. You have the right to file a confidential complaint if your employer is not protecting you from wildfire smoke. If your employer fires you or reduces your work hours for exercising your rights, you can file a claim to possibly recover unpaid wages and more.

- [How to file a confidential complaint about workplace safety with Cal/OSHA.](#)
- [How to file a retaliation claim with the Labor Commissioner's office.](#)