



Neighborhood Captain Newsletter

For Neighbors, by Neighborhood Captains

Thursday, August 20, 2026

Next Issue: September 3 • Content Deadline: September 1

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Letter from the Editors

This week marks one year since we started the Altgether Newsletter. Starting on August 14, 2025 we have delivered aggregated information, events and resources every two weeks - because we all felt passionately that one of the most important tools for recovery was good, factual info. The goal was to create an email newsletter that was easy to scan, easy to share, and most of all helpful to everyone who is going through recovery after the Eaton Fire.

Thank you for all the contributions, corrections, and feedback - please keep them coming. To our amazing neighborhood captains and everyone who shares the newsletter with our community - thank you for the incredible work you do! Wishing everyone continued progress - we are in this Altgether!

From the Newsletter Editing Crew,

Recovery Updates

***NEW* "WILDFIRE VICTIMS FIRST" GROUP REVEALED TO BE BACKED BY UTILITIES**

Consumer advocates and survivor groups are cautioning residents about "Wildfire Victims First," a campaign mailing promotional material to victims. Watchdogs warn the coalition is heavily funded by major private utilities (including SCE, PG&E, and SDG&E) to advance policies that shield energy companies from liability and cap victim payouts.

***NEW* ALTADENA OFFICIALS CALL FOR ACCOUNTABILITY**

Following the release of the joint investigation report, Altadena's elected leadership publicly called on Southern California Edison to take full accountability for the devastation.

***NEW* SURVIVORS ACCUSE NEWSOM OF SECRETLY NEGOTIATING UTILITY BAILOUT**

Wildfire survivors and consumer advocate groups are opposing an unreleased liability bill package quietly negotiated by Governor Newsom's office, warning it could cap victim compensation and shift financial burdens from utility shareholders to policyholders. An open letter resisting the proposed bailout has gathered over 3.5 million signatures and widespread organizational backing despite a utility-funded counter-campaign.

***NEW* CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE SURVIVORS CALL FOR ACCOUNTABILITY ON UTILITY LAWS**

Every Fire Survivors Network issued an urgent memo opposing state proposals linked to SB 254, warning they could cap utility liability, reduce victim compensation, and shift recovery costs onto taxpayers. Survivors and advocates urge residents to review the memo and contact state lawmakers to reject closed-door utility bailouts and demand full corporate accountability.

***NEW* HARABEDIAN WILDFIRE RECOVERY PACKAGE PASSES STATE COMMITTEE**

Assemblymember John Harabedian's four-bill Wildfire Recovery Package advanced to the California Senate floor on August 13. The measures address indoor contamination testing (AB 1642), emergency mortgage forbearance (AB 1842, AB 1847), and insurance non-renewal protections (AB 2038).

***NEW* EATON FIRE SURVIVORS TRAVEL TO SACRAMENTO FOR \$25 MILLION CARE FUND**

On August 18, more than 100 survivors and advocates with the Dena Rise Up Coalition rallied at the Pasadena Community Job Center before heading to Sacramento. The delegation is urging state lawmakers to establish a \$25 million Community Aid for Rebuilding Equity (CARE) Fund to help lower-income homeowners rebuild and secure affordable housing for displaced renters.

***NEW* DAMAGED ALLEN RESERVOIR RESTORED TO FULL SERVICE IN ALTADENA**

Pasadena Water and Power has fully restored and returned Altadena's 4.1-million-gallon Allen Reservoir to service following structural repairs to its catwalks, handrails, and drain valves damaged during the Eaton Fire.

***NEW* LOMA ALTA POOL HOURS EXTENDED**

Summer season at Loma Alta Park extended to September 30, see [pool hours here](#).

LOOKING FOR UNDERGROUNDING UPDATES FROM EDISON?

To receive advance notice about areas targeted for undergrounding, you must be an active SCE customer *and subscribe* to notifications. Log into your SCE My Account and visit the Customer Preference Center at sce.com/mysce/preference-center to set your outage notification preferences.

CONSORTIUM UPDATES (Loyola Marymount University, [CAP.LA](#), and more dedicated researchers):

- Launched its [new soil remediation guide](#)

- Has [limited spots available for indoor testing](#) (CAM-17 metals, VOCs)
- Updated its [map of metal exceedances](#)

Opportunities & Deadlines

***NEW* Weekly Fire Recovery Job Sessions:** The LA County Department of Economic Opportunity and America's Job Centers of California (AJCC) host free weekly employment sessions. Open to fire-affected youth and adults (ages 14+), offering paid work experience, career planning, and direct employer hiring connections. Contact: (888) 226-6300.

- Thursdays @ 1-4 pm
- Altadena Job Center (464 W. Woodbury Rd., Suite 210)

***NEW* Community Rebuilding Response has pro bono spots for design, planning, and advocacy.** [Office Of: Office](#) is an architecture, urban planning, and policy non-profit organization based in Los Angeles and supported by The Center for Lendistry. Primarily supporting residents of color, add your info to learn more: [Homeowner Interest Form](#) or call: 213.282.8123

***NEW* Reminder: CORE's Disaster Case Management (DCM) services have NO income limits.** They can provide: Funding and financial recovery resources, rebuilding support, resource navigation, ongoing case management. To refer a resident, collaborate with our team, or ask questions, contact us at dcmp@coreresponse.org

- Visit [CORE](#) at The Hub (2333 Lake Ave, Suite 2A)

***NEW* Apply for home remediation assistance from [the Fire Poppy Project](#)**

***UPDATED* [AltadenaWILD](#) continues to collect signups for the ReGreen Altadena initiative, [Altadena Tree Stewards](#).** Announcements will be sent to Altadena residents [who register for the program](#). A limited number of free trees will also be available this winter. Priority goes to standing homes with no active construction, and properties completing construction this fall/winter.

SWITCH: Simplified Wildfire Incentives for Transforming Customer Homes

SCE's SWITCH program helps wildfire-impacted homeowners rebuild or repair using energy-efficient electric technologies. Eligible customers can receive incentives typically ranging from \$100 to \$2,400 per technology category.

- Equipment must be purchased and installed on or after August 1, 2026.

Eaton Fire Collaborative seeking help with website redesign

The EFC is overhauling its website to become more survivor-facing and they're looking for community members to help. If that sounds like something you'd like to help with, [sign up here](#).

Project Passion HIRING a Community Disaster Preparedness Coordinator

Project Passion is hiring a Dena-based part-time coordinator. \$28 an hour. Inquire and send your résumé/cover letter to: staff@projectpassioninc.com

Weed Abatement & Brush Clearing Assistance

- Pasadena Jobs Center is helping hire out day laborers at \$25/hour for brush and weed clearing. Call coordinator Juan at 626-440-0112.
- [Altadena Talks Foundation](#) is providing assistance with weed clearing on lots.
 - [Request a lot cleaning](#)
 - [Sign up to volunteer](#)

Park on the Move - Mobile Recreation Van

FREE Mobile Recreation brings sports, wellness, fitness, arts & crafts, ESTEAM, games, and more directly to Altadena families impacted by the Eaton Fire. For more information contact: MobileRecreation@Parks.lacounty.gov or call: 626-977-8432.

SoCal Edison Wildfire Recovery Compensation Program |

DEADLINE November 30, 2026

Events

Ensuring No Survivor Is Left Behind: Senior And Disability Advocacy | [Register for Zoom](#)

Part of Extreme Weather Survivors' monthly Survivors for Change series (every third Thursday).

- Thursday August 20, 2026 @ 5-7 pm
- [Register for Zoom](#)

Rally for Recovery

A day of pickleball, community, and connection hosted by Every Fire Survivors' Network. Play in the tournament, join the Brunch Club, or simply come connect to support LA fire recovery in year 2. Food, children's activities (...and free-flowing mimosas).

- Saturday, August 22 @ 8 am
- iPickle Arcadia (405 S Santa Anita Ave, Arcadia)
- [Use the code COMMUNITY for a 35% discount](#)

Altadena Cars & Coffee

Local community gathering for coffee, neighbors, and car enthusiasts, supporting neighborhood connection during the rebuild.

- Saturday August 22 @ 8-10 am
- Rite Aid Parking Lot (735 E. Altadena Dr)

Understanding the SCE Compensation Program | [Register](#)

Hosted by LA County Dept of Consumer and Business Affairs, Bet Tzedek, Public Counsel

- Saturday August 22 @ 10-12 pm
- Altadena Community Center

29th Annual Summer Concert Series at Loma Alta Park

Join the Rotary Club of Altadena and LA County Parks & Recreation for the finale concert with Stevie Nicks Illusion! [Series lineup.](#)

- Saturday, August 22 @ 7 pm
- Loma Alta Park

Understanding Home Rebuild Contracts After A Disaster | [Register](#)

LAFLA consumer webinar with construction law experts on reviewing rebuild contracts, avoiding contractor scams, preventing disputes, and protecting your rights. Submit questions ahead via the registration form; a recording will be posted afterward on LAFLA's wildfire recovery webpage.

- Monday August 24, 2026 @ 1-2 pm
- [Register for Zoom](#)

Small Business Recovery Workshop | [Register](#)

- Thursday, August 27 @ 10-11:30 am
- Collaboratory (540 W. Woodbury)

Ingredients For Healing: A Tasting and Wellness Gathering | [Register](#)

Hosted by Altadena Farmer's Market, enjoy an afternoon of free seasonal small tasting bites, alongside demos and short talks on how specific ingredients can aid in wellness and healing

- Saturday August 29, 2026 @ 2-4 pm
- Collaboratory (540 W. Woodbury)

Wildfire Consumer Legal Clinic | [Register](#)

Hosted by Bet Tzedek

- Tuesday September 1, 2026 @ 1:30-5 pm

- CORE @ The Hub (2333 Lake Ave, Suite 2A)

Broken Systems And Burnout | Community Conversation Series | [Sign into Zoom](#)

Hosted by the Extreme Weather Survivors

- Wednesday September 2, 2026 @ 6-8 pm
- [Sign into Zoom](#)

Our Beloved Altadena: Sweet Sweet Memories | [Details](#)

Hosted by Nahshon Dion, a community gathering to connect, heal, and celebrate September birthdays with free treats, live music, open mic storytelling, and the Parks on the Move van.

- Friday September 4, 2026 @ 6-9 pm (Program begins at 6:30 pm)
- Collaboratory (540 W. Woodbury)

Saved by a Story Wildfire Survivor Community Writing Group

Survivors of the wildfires come together in community to write, share (or not, you decide), listen, and write some more in this prompt-driven group.

- Wednesday, September 9, 1-2:30 pm
- Bob Lucas Memorial Library

[After the Fire: The Art of Resilience Community Workshops](#)

Lineage Performing Arts Center artists and Eaton Fire survivors host their second storytelling, music, and dance workshop for community members. The inclusive, intergenerational workshop will build toward collaborative pieces. Proceeds from a culminating event open to the public will support ongoing wildfire recovery efforts. Open to all over the age of ten, no registration required.

- Saturday, September 12 @ 10-12 pm
- Lineage Performing Arts Center (920 E Mountain Street)

Community & Financial Resources

***NEW* [Altadena Land Initiatives \(ALI\)](#)**

Interest-free gap financing to help Altadena families rebuild when insurance falls short when working with an ALI network builder. Repayment is tied to future legal settlement proceeds, sale, or refinance – not monthly payments – and comes with coordinated support across insurance review, rebuild cost analysis, and builder/financing partners: alirebuilds.org

LA County's Recover Local [BOGO Gift Card](#) deal relaunched! Now supporting 67 vendors across LA County.

Greenline Housing Foundation is offering up to \$250,000 per family in construction support to help fire-impacted families rebuild and remain in Altadena. [More Info](#): Express your interest in the [NEW intake form](#).

FEMA Extension

[FEMA officially extended financial and housing assistance](#) under the Individuals and Households Program (IHP). Contact: 800-621-3362 or apply at DisasterAssistance.gov

- Renters: Direct assistance has been extended through October 9, 2026

Log into buildnotes.la for an evolving list of resilient materials aligned with the Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety, The Resiliency Company, San Gabriel Valley Habitat for Humanity, and the Foothill Catalog.

[The Step Fund](#) is giving \$2,500 to fire survivors who face eviction.

[Union Station Housing Assistance](#) helps Eaton Fire survivors covering security deposits, rent, motel vouchers, and essential furnishings.

Free Wellbeing Support Available for Residents Impacted by

Wildfires: Individual and family counseling, support groups, wellness activities, and case management. From the LA County Department of Mental Health.

- Monday-Friday, 9-6 pm @ The Collaboratory

6 free mental health support sessions from **Didi Hirsch** for anyone impacted by the fires.

The CalAssist Mortgage Fund Reopened and provides up to \$100,000 in non-repayable mortgage assistance, covering up to 12 months of payments. Income limits are now up to \$281,400 in LA County.

Disaster Case Management provides household support and is available through multiple organizations:

- **CORE:** dcmp@coreresponse.org
- **LA County & Catholic Charities of California** (FEMA-funded):
(833) 775-DCMP (833-775-3267)

The LA County Sheriff's Department Altadena Station's

Construction Check Program provides free, regular courtesy checks during the rebuilding process. Email altadenahomecheck@lasd.org

In-Person Locations & Resources

24LA

- No-cost "shopping", recovery resources, and town beautification projects. See website for appointment and volunteering opportunities.
- 5760 West Jefferson, Los Angeles

Eaton Fire Collaborative's Collaboratory

- Monday-Wednesday: 9-5 pm | Thursday: 9-7 pm | Friday: 9-1 pm
- [Book an Appointment to Visit the Store](#)

The HUB Rebuilding Altadena CORE

First Time Visitors: [Schedule Appointment](#)

- Suite 2A, 2333 Lake Ave
 - Wed-Thurs @ 11-6 pm | Fri-Sat @ 10-3 pm
- Drop-in office hours:
- Foothill Catalog: Wednesdays @ 2-4 pm
- Collective O/R: Wednesdays @ 2:30-5 pm
- Neighborhood Legal Services LA County Clinics: 2nd and 4th Thursdays @ 12:30-4 pm

Wildfire Survivor Support Centers (FEMA, SBA, LA County departments)

Optional: [Schedule an SBA Appointment](#)

- Mon-Fri, 9-4:30 pm @ Altadena Community Center, 730 Altadena Dr.
- Mon-Fri, 9-4:30 pm @ One-Stop Rebuilding Center, 1828 Sawtelle Blvd, Los Angeles

Altadena One-Stop Permit Center

- Mon-Fri, 8-4:30 pm @ 464 W Woodbury Rd. Suite 210

SCE Altadena Rebuild Community Hub (ARCH)

Support for customers with billing inquiries, planning inquiries (i.e. service reconnections, undergrounding, temporary power poles and panel), and other SCE programs and services.

- Monday-Friday, 8-4:30 pm
- 2680 Fair Oaks Ave.

Links

[Eaton Fire Residents United](#) | [Altadena Town Council](#) | [Altadena Calendar](#) | [Altadena Connections](#)

Links

[Altadena Library eConnect](#) | [Altadena Recovery Wiki](#) | [Altadena Talks Foundation & Podcast](#) | [Buildnotes.LA](#) | [CalAssist Mortgage Fund](#) | [Department of Mental Health Resources](#) | [Disaster Legal Assistance Collaborative](#) | [Eaton Fire Residents United](#) | [Eaton Fire Survivors Network](#) | [LA County GIS Visualizations](#) | [LA County Recovers](#) | [Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles](#) | [Mortgage & Foreclosure Relief](#) | [NSLSA Disaster Assistance](#) | [PostFire LA](#) | [United Policy Holders](#)

It's been an honor to keep you informed for a year. We're committed to our future together!

Altagether

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United States of America



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