

Fire and Water Study: Investigating Drinking Water Contamination in Paradise, California after the Camp Fire



What is this study about?

This study will identify if there are drinking water contaminants in household tap water in homes affected by the Camp fire. We hope to answer the following questions:

- 1. Benzene has been detected in the water systems, but is it also in the homes?
- 2. Where is the benzene coming from?
- 3. Are there other contaminants that haven't yet been identified?

The goal of the study is to collect information that may help to better understand, identify, and address drinking water contamination after fires.



What will happen in the study?

Estimated timeline

September	October		November		April-May 2020
Public meeting to introduce study.	Phase 1: Give participants a short survey and collect tap water at their homes.	Give Phase 1 testing results back to participants.	Phase 2: Collect more water and air samples from 20 homes.	Public meeting to share updates.	Give Phase 2 testing results back to participants.
Recruit 175 study participants.	Test for benzene and other volatile organic compounds.		Test for more contaminants.		Share the study results at a public meeting.



Who can participate in the study?

We are interested in participants who are living in a standing home in Paradise, Magalia, Lime Saddle, Paradise Pines, or in unincorporated areas within the Camp fire burn zone. Homes that are not occupied may also be considered. We are able to include about 175 homes in this study.



Questions? Interested in joining?

If you (or someone you know) has questions or may be interested in joining the study, please contact us:

Dr. Gina Solomon Principal Investigator (415) 289-9310 gina.solomon@phi.org



Is this study related to other water testing efforts?

The local water companies (Paradise Irrigation District and Del Oro Water Company) and the Division of Drinking Water at the State Water Resources Control Board are conducting their own investigations of local water quality.

This study is not related to those efforts, but we are using their data to inform our study.







