



Rapid Evaluation Safety Assessment Handout

What is Rapid Evaluation Safety Assessment (RESA)?

Rapid Evaluation Safety Assessment, also known as RESA, is an important step in assessing the damage and safety concerns of structures after a natural disaster. The assessment allows people to use safe homes or businesses, and ensures that people are protected from entering unsafe structures after a disaster.

If a structure is damaged by a disaster, it should be inspected by safety evaluation personnel working for the local government building jurisdiction. You can contact the jurisdiction to request this safety evaluation.

If substantial damage is apparent, do not wait for an official evaluation of the building: discontinue use and occupancy of the building to prevent potential injuries that may occur due to collapse or other falling hazard conditions that could occur unexpectedly. You may want to engage a design or construction professional at this time to inspect the damage, recommend repair work, obtain emergency permits, or begin repair work, as required.

What color is the RESA tag that was posted on/at your structure? [See Diagram 1.0]

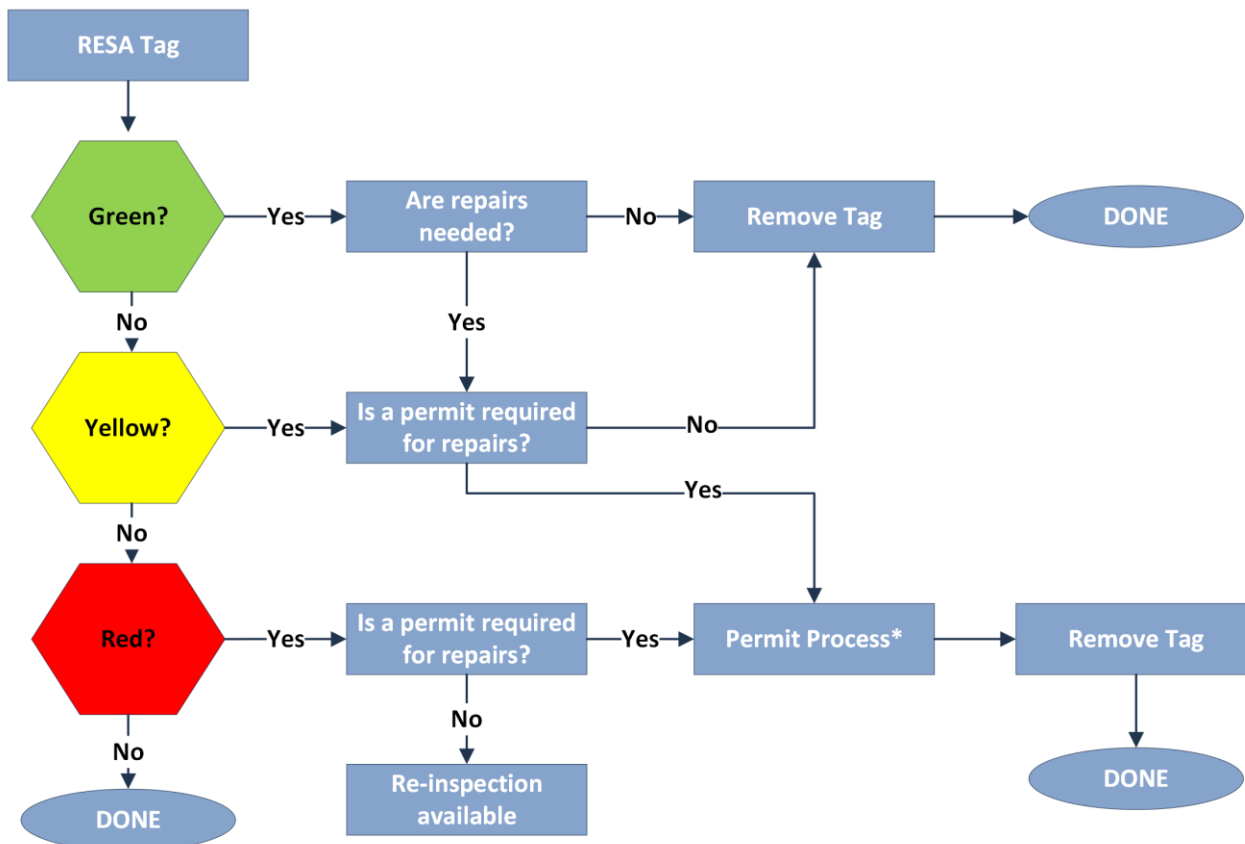
- **Green (Inspected):** Buildings can be damaged yet remain safe – the safety of the building was not significantly changed by the disaster.
 - Are repairs needed?
 - No:** Remove tag. Done.
 - Yes:** Is a permit required for the repairs?
 - Yes:** Proceed through and complete the permit process. When repairs and permit process are completed, remove tag. Done.
 - No:** Complete repairs and remove tag. Done.
- **Yellow (Restricted Use):** There is some risk from damage in all or part of the building that does not warrant a red tag. The extent of damage may be uncertain or cannot be ascertained within the time and resources available to a Rapid Evaluation team.
 - Repairs must be made. Is a permit required for the repairs?
 - Yes:** Proceed through and complete the permit process. When repairs and permit process are completed, remove tag. Done.
 - No:** Complete repairs and remove tag. Done.
- **Red (Unsafe):** Buildings are damaged and pose an imminent threat to life or safety under expected loads or other unsafe conditions – No access to the structure is permitted. A California licensed design professional may be required to assess the structural integrity of building.
 - Repairs must be made, and a permit is required. Proceed through and complete the permit process. When repairs and permit process are completed, remove tag. Done.

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Is a Permit Required? [For a complete list, see Title 19 of The San Luis Obispo County Code, Building and Construction Ordinance: Section 105.2 Work exempt from permit]

PERMIT NOT REQUIRED	PERMIT REQUIRED
Finish work: Painting, papering, tiling, carpeting, cabinets, counter tops, and similar	Subfloors / Structural elements
Nonfixed and movable fixtures, racks, and counters	Mechanical Equip / Electrical / Plumbing or fixtures
Replacement doors and windows (same size & location)	Sheetrock / gypsum wallboard / insulation
Replacement asphalt shingle roof (no-sheathing)	Foundation repairs
	Repairs to Onsite Waste Water Treatment Systems
	Grading over 50 cubic yards / Retaining walls

Diagram 1.0 Rapid Evaluation Safety Assessment Flow Chart



MORE HELPFUL LINKS

www.redcross.org/get-help/disaster-relief-and-recovery-services

www.epa.gov/flooded-homes

www.recover slo.org/stormrecovery