



STAYING SAFE DURING DISASTERS.

DURING A WINTER POWER FAILURE:

Turn the thermostat down to a minimum and turn off all appliances, electronic equipment and tools to prevent injury, damage to equipment and fire. Power can be restored more easily when the system is not overloaded. Remember: Use proper candleholders and never leave lit candles unattended. Do not use charcoal or gas barbecues, camping heating equipment or home generators indoors.



DURING A TORNADO:

If you are in a building, go to the basement immediately. If there isn't one, crouch or lie flat under heavy furniture in an inner hallway, room or stairwell away from the windows. Stay away from large halls, arenas, shopping malls, and other large buildings as their roofs could collapse.

If you are outside and there is no shelter, lie down in a ditch or ravine, protecting your head.

If you are driving, get out of the car. It could blow through the air or roll over on you. Lie down as explained above.



DURING A FLOOD:

Turn off basement faucets and the outside gas valve. Shut off the electricity. If the area around the fuse box or circuit breaker is wet, stand on a dry board and shut off the power with a dry wooden stick.

Never try to cross a flood area on foot. The fast moving water could sweep you away.

If you are in a car, try not to drive through floodwaters. Fast moving water could sweep your car away. If your car is caught in fast rising waters, leave it and save yourself and your passengers.



DURING A SEVERE LIGHTNING STORM:

If you are in a building stay inside and away from windows, doors, fireplaces, radiators, stoves, metal pipes, sinks or other electrical charge conductors. Unplug TVs, radios, toasters and other electrical appliances. Do not use the phone or other electrical equipment.

If you are outside, seek shelter in a building or other protected area. If you're caught in the open, crouch down with your feet close together and your head down (in the 'leap-frog' position). Don't lie flat - by minimizing your contact with the ground you reduce the risk of being electrocuted by a ground charge. Keep away from telephone and power lines, fences, trees and hilltops. Get off bicycles, motorcycles, and tractors.

If you are in a car, stop the car and stay in it. Don't stop near trees or power lines that could fall.



DURING A BLIZZARD:

If roads are in poor condition and travel is not recommended, stay where you are until the situation changes. If you must travel, take a cellular phone with you or advise someone of what route you are taking and your expected arrival time. Drive with extreme caution.

If you are in your vehicle when a blizzard hits, stay in the vehicle and wait for help. Rescue workers will be looking for stranded vehicles. Be sure to check your vehicle's exhaust pipe to make sure it isn't buried in the snow. Leave your car hood up and your emergency flashers on to signal distress to passing motorists and to the police.

THE MOST COMMON EMERGENCIES THAT OCCUR IN ALBERTA ARE WINTER STORMS, FIRES (HOME, FOREST & GRASS FIRES), FLOODS, & THUNDERSTORMS.

Contact your Municipal Director of Disaster Services or your Municipal Government Office at:
Phone 1-403-485-2241 Fax 1-403-485-2920 E-mail: administration@vulcancounty.ab.ca
Website: www.vulcancounty.ab.ca

WHAT TO DO AFTER A DISASTER

Listen to the radio:



Listen to a local radio station on your battery-operated radio for instructions. **Try to avoid use of cellular phones as it ties up the lines for emergency officials.**

Help the injured:



Help anyone who is injured. Get your emergency survival kit (**the first-aid kit should be with it**).

Check your home:

Check for fires, fire hazards, gas leaks, damaged utilities and spilled flammable liquids. Next, confine or secure your pets and check on your neighbours.



BE READY TO EVACUATE

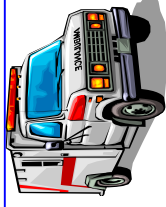
If the emergency is serious enough, you may be asked to leave your home and go to a nearby evacuation centre, such as a gym or community hall. If you have to evacuate:

- ⇒ Have a plan in place on how your family will stay in contact if separated.
- ⇒ Leave immediately.
- ⇒ Take your emergency survival kit with you.
- ⇒ Listen to the radio and follow instructions from local emergency officials.
- ⇒ If you are instructed to do so, shut off the water, gas and electricity.
- ⇒ Wear clothes and shoes appropriate for the conditions.
- ⇒ Lock the house.
- ⇒ Leave a note telling others when you left and where you went. (*tape it to the door or leave it in the mailbox*).
- ⇒ Follow the routes specified by officials. Don't take shortcuts, as they could lead you to a blocked or dangerous route.

Do not assume an evacuation will last only a few hours. Plan to evacuate with enough items to keep you and your family comfortable for at least five days.



Preparing for an Emergency.



Emergency Phone Numbers:

Police: 911 _____

Hospital: _____

Emergency Services: 911 _____

Doctor: _____

Children's School/Daycare: _____

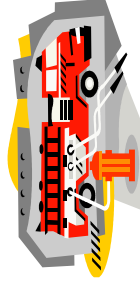
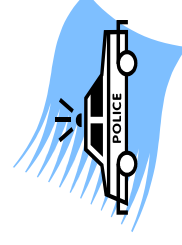
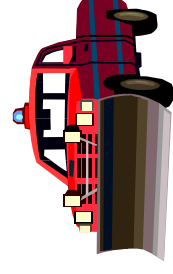
Utility Companies: _____

Neighbours: _____

Other: _____

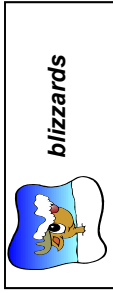
Local Meeting Place: _____

Name, address, and phone number of an out-of-town relative or friend who can act as a point-of-contact: _____



PREPARE BEFORE DISASTER STRIKES

Natural disasters such as



blizzards



fires



tornadoes



floods

Some allow time to prepare; others occur swiftly and with little or no warning.

Communications, transportation, utilities, and other essential services could be disrupted, forcing you to rely initially on your own resources for food, water, first aid, transportation, and shelter.

Emergency Canada guidelines suggest we should always **be prepared to look after our own needs**, as well as the needs of our family, **for at least three days.**

We can lessen the impact of any emergency or disaster **by knowing what to do** before, during and after an emergency **and by having our emergency kits ready.**

Don't be caught off guard. Prepare you and your family to be ready, should an emergency strike, by following these guidelines:

- Develop a household emergency plan.
- Post a list of emergency numbers and addresses by your telephone.
- Prepare an emergency survival kit in an easy-to-carry, waterproof container. (information on what to include is listed on this pamphlet.)
- Keep a small survival kit in your vehicle.



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS CHECKLISTS

Car Kit

Everyone should have a Car Kit with them at all times that includes, but is not limited to, the following items: Be sure to change the drinking water on a regular basis to ensure it is always fresh.

- Shovel
- Sand or salt
- Cloth or roll of paper towels
- Warning light or road flares
- Warm clothing and footwear
- Emergency food pack, including bottled water
- Axe or hatchet
- Booster cables
- Ice scraper and brush
- Matches/lighter and a "survival" candle in a deep can
- Blankets
- Flashlight
- Fire extinguisher
- Gas line antifreeze
- Toolkit
- Multi-function pocket knife

Emergency Survival Kit

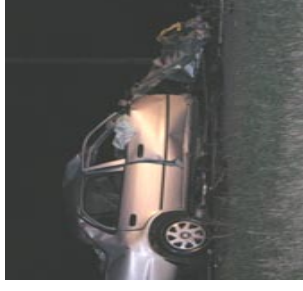
Put the contents of your emergency survival kit in a waterproof container, label it and store it somewhere accessible. Be sure to change the drinking water on a regular basis to ensure it is always fresh.

- Flashlight
- Battery operated radio
- Spare batteries (change every six months)
- First aid kit
- Candle and matches / lighter
- Extra Car Keys and cash (include coins / cards for payphones)
- Important papers (I.D. for everyone, personal documents)
- Food and bottled water
- Warm clothing and footwear for every person
- Blankets or sleeping bags for every person
- Toilet paper and other personal supplies
- Medication
- Whistle

Emergency Food & Water Kit

Be sure to change the drinking water on a regular basis to ensure it is always fresh.

- At least two litres of drinking water per person per day
- Canned food including soup, meat, vegetables, fruit, and hot beverage mixes
- Crackers and biscuits
- Disposable cups, plates and cutlery
- Manual can and bottle opener
- Cook stove, extra fuel and pot(s)
- Waterproof matches / lighter
- Plastic garbage bags



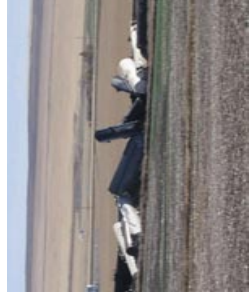
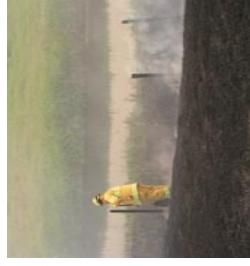
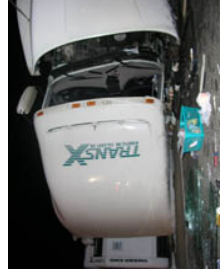
For further information, please call:

Vulcan County
(403) 485-2241 OR
www.vulcancounty.ab.ca

Canadian Red Cross
Lethbridge Office
Phone: (403) 327-7117
Fax: (403) 327-1722

Alberta Municipal Affairs
Emergency Management Alberta
310-0000(toll-free in Alberta)
(780) 422-9000

Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Canada
www.ocipep.gc.ca



Preparing For an Emergency



Box 180
102 Centre St.
Vulcan, AB T0L 2B0
Phone: (403) 485-2241
Fax: (4034) 485-2920