

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN

INFORMATION RELEASE

September 21, 2018 3:30 pm

EOC Update: Level One Activation

The imminent risk from wildfires has diminished and all Evacuation Alerts have been rescinded in the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS). The RDOS Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) is scaling back from emergency response activities. The EOC is currently at level one activation, and minimal staff are present. The RDOS is continuing to address and monitor the effects of the 2018 wildfires and spring freshet, and providing support to impacted residents where possible.

Provincial Funding

The RDOS does not have established services to fund flood mitigation work and has requested provincial funding and ministerial support, for mitigation in areas affected by the spring freshet. During the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) conference in Whistler, RDOS representatives met with the province to request funding and support. The RDOS is working on recovery planning to assist areas impacted by flooding, should provincial and/or federal funding become available.

Prepare your family, home or business

Emergency preparedness begins with property owners who are responsible to assess, prepare, or respond to protect their property during extreme events. All residents within the RDOS are encouraged to create and review personal preparedness plans. Depending on the emergency, you and your family could be on your own for several days while first responders manage the aftermath. Having an emergency plan will help you be more prepared and better able to cope with the stress of emergencies. When disaster hits, there won't be time to collect emergency supplies. Ensure you have emergency kits for your home, workplace and vehicle. They should all contain food, water and supplies for a minimum of 72 hours.

For important links and information, please check the RDOS website www.rdos.bc.ca or visit the office at 101 Martin Street in Penticton.

**Issued by Director of RDOS Emergency Operations Centre
RDOS EOC 250-490-4225**

Flood Preparedness

Wildfire Info 

Prepare Your Personal Flood Plan | Know Who to Contact and How

Floodwaters move fast, so develop a household plan, build your emergency kit, and connect with your neighbours. If you're in an area prone to flooding, reassess your property to determine if permanent 'works' would protect your home. Always seek professional advice and appropriate permission. When building new structures, ensure flood construction levels are followed.

Think about items you can move to safety | Know how to turn off [gas, electricity and water](#)

Check your insurance coverage | Make plans to stay with family or friends



- ➔ Property owners need to take preventative measures to reduce the risk of property damage.
- ➔ Monitor and report significant changes or risks to your property. Sandbags are a last defence.
- ➔ The RDOS does not own or have jurisdiction on roads, right-of-ways, highways or creeks.
- ➔ The RDOS has the ability to undertake emergency measures when a State of Local Emergency (SOLE) is declared.

Prepare Your Emergency Kit with Food, Water and Supplies for 3 - 7 Days

First Aid Kit with Manual + Prescriptions and Medications + Toiletries + AM/FM Radio + Food (ready to eat) Water + Special Requirements for Infants, Elderly, or Disabled + Pet Needs + Seasonal Clothing + Blanket + Solar Cell Phone Charger + Spare Batteries + Pen & Notepad + Combination Pocket Knife + Spare Keys + Whistle + Waterproof Flashlight + Map with Family Meeting Place Identified + Cash/ID/Passport/Credit Card + Copies of Insurance and other Important Documents including Veterinary Records

Don't count on being home when there's an emergency.

In addition to an emergency kit at home, create **grab-and-go bags** for your work and vehicles. You should include important documents, first aid kit and medications.

If Your Home is Under an Evacuation Order (see reverse)

Tips and Resources:

www2.gov.bc.ca/ - Public Safety & Emergency Services | Emergency Preparedness, Response & Recovery

www.emergencyinfobc.gov.bc.ca Interactive Map | Flood Recovery and Returning Home | DriveBC

www.rdos.bc.ca Learn more about emergency response in your area.

RESOURCE MATERIAL AVAILABLE at the RDOS: 101 Martin Street, Penticton, BC, Canada, V2A 5J9

Toll Free: (BC and AB) 1-877-610-3737 | Phone: 250-492-0237 | Email: info@rdos.bc.ca

To Report a Flood Emergency Call EMBC Coordination Centre: 1-800-663-3456

Wildfire Preparedness

Prevention

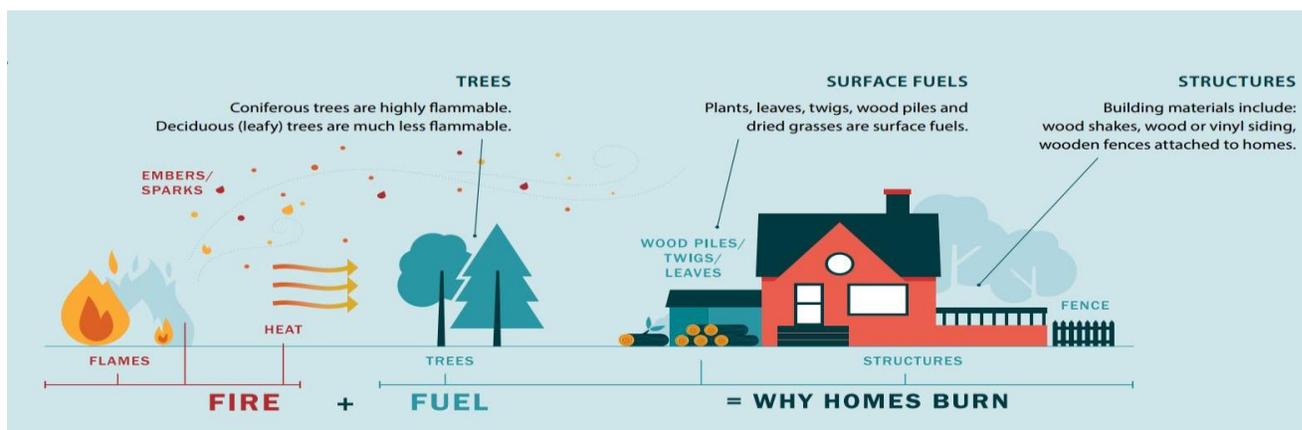
Flood Info



We're in this together. Wildfire prevention can happen at home, in the backcountry, and through larger-scale fire and fuel management planning. Learn what you can do to help. Discarded cigarette butts, campfires, hot exhaust pipes coming into contact with dry grass and vegetation, power tools (such as chainsaws), Tiki torches and even discarded glass can all ignite a wildfire. As homeowners, we can take simple steps to reduce the impact of wildfire on our property and in our communities.

Before You Leave

- Make sure you are safe before assisting others.
- Listen to the radio and TV for information from authorities.
- Shut off your home's **gas, water and electrical appliances (not fridge or freezer)**
- Post easy-to-see signs for water and gas shut-off valves.
- Gather your **grab-and-go bag** with personal items and documents.
- Close doors and windows.
- Remove combustible material, fuel and accelerants around your home and gutters.



If Your Home is Under an Evacuation Order

- Gather your **grab-and-go bag** with personal items and documents.
- Follow instructions from local officials via TV, radio or social media.
- Move to a **safe location** outside the impacted area.
- Return home only when authorities say it is safe to do so.
- Register with Emergency Social Services (ESS) even if you don't go to a reception centre.

Tips and Resources:

www2.gov.bc.ca/ - Wildfire Service | Fire Danger | Wildfires of Note | FireSmart Homeowner's Manual

www.drivebc.ca - Conditions & Events | Map View | Related Links

www.rdos.bc.ca - Learn more about emergency response in your area.

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To Report a Wildfire Call: 1-800-663-5555 or *5555 on your mobile phone

Spring Freshet

Photo: RDOS

Rural Keremeos | May 8, 2018

