

May 23, 2019

## EOC Update: Environment Canada Special Weather Statement

Environment Canada has issued a weather alert for the Okanagan Valley. An extended period of rain showers with a risk of localized flash floods is expected beginning tonight (May 23).

### **Special weather statement in effect for:**

- Central Okanagan - including Kelowna
- North Okanagan - including Vernon
- South Okanagan - including Penticton

A low pressure system will develop over the southwest interior tonight resulting in widespread showers with embedded thunderstorms. Rainfall amounts will be variable across the region, with 10 to 20 mm expected through Friday afternoon (May 24). Any areas affected by thunderstorms could see locally higher amounts in excess of 30 mm. These higher rainfall amounts, particularly if concentrated over the same area or over unstable slopes, may generate localized **flash floods** or **landslides**.

Rain showers will continue into Saturday, with additional rainfall amounts. Rain showers will become scattered late on Saturday as the low weakens. Please continue to monitor alerts and forecasts issued by Environment Canada: [https://weather.gc.ca/warnings/index\\_e.html?prov=bc](https://weather.gc.ca/warnings/index_e.html?prov=bc)  
To report severe weather, send an email to [BCstorm@canada.ca](mailto:BCstorm@canada.ca) or tweet reports using **#BCStorm**.

### **Flooding**

Flooding on private property will typically occur as a result of high stream flow, pooling or slow rising water from a body of water. Property owners living in areas that flood need to be prepared. Please take the necessary steps to prepare now for potential thunderstorms or flash floods.

### **Landslides**

Get to know your terrain and waterways. The best way to prepare is to be aware of changes that could signal a landslide. Learn how to recognize landslide danger signs. Visit **PreparedBC** online: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-recovery/preparedbc/know-your-hazards/landslides>

### **Wildfires**

The Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS) is reminding residents and visitors to remain vigilant when it comes to wildfires, especially in the backcountry. FireSmart is a shared responsibility. Take the necessary steps to protect your family, property, and community from wildfire. Learn what you can do to help: <https://firesmartbc.ca/>

## Are You Prepared?

Visit the RDOS Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) website for resources and information updates: <https://emergency.rdos.bc.ca/>

**RDOS EOC Sandbagging Video:** <https://youtu.be/thZwVWyXjMQ>

## Resource Material

You can find resource material including tips on making your own emergency kit by visiting the RDOS office (101 Martin Street, Penticton) and municipalities throughout the region.

**Sign up** for **CivicReady** and receive information notification messages and updates: <https://emergency.rdos.bc.ca/civic-ready/>



For more information visit the RDOS EOC website <https://emergency.rdos.bc.ca>

Issued by Director of RDOS Emergency Operations Centre

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