

## EAST KOOTENAY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

If a major emergency (such as a forest fire, flood, hazardous materials spill) occurs, the RDEK's East Kootenay Emergency Management Program (EKEMP) kicks into gear and, in a large-scale event, an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) will be activated.

The most important thing to understand about the Emergency Management Program is that it **supports** the agencies, local authorities, municipalities and First Nations that are responding to an emergency.

For example, in a forest fire situation, the BC Wildfire Service responds to the fire. The EKEMP provides additional support to the BC Wildfire Service. In addition, we coordinate evacuation alerts, orders or rescinds; provide Emergency Social Services; and, provide information to the public and evacuees.



### STAY INFORMED IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY

#### LOCAL MEDIA

**RDEK FACEBOOK** [www.facebook.com/eastkootenay](http://www.facebook.com/eastkootenay)

**RDEK EMAIL GROUP** to join, visit: [www.rdek.bc.ca](http://www.rdek.bc.ca)

**RDEK WEBSITE** [www.rdek.bc.ca](http://www.rdek.bc.ca)

# 3

# steps to GET PREPARED

## in an emergency

### EAST KOOTENAY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM PARTNERS:



know the  
risks



make a  
plan



get a  
kit

## ARE YOU PREPARED TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF AND YOUR LOVED ONES FOR UPTO 72 HOURS?

If an emergency should happen in your community, it could take emergency workers some time to get to you. By simply planning ahead, you will be better prepared to face a range of emergencies whenever and wherever they may arise.

### 1 KNOW THE RISKS.

It is vital to know and understand the risks that are present in our region. In the East Kootenay our top three risks are wildfire, flood and hazardous materials incidents such as industrial or transportation accidents. We also have other natural events like landslides, wind storms and ice storms.

### 2 MAKE A PLAN.

It is imperative for every household to have a unique emergency plan that helps each member of the home know what to do in case of an emergency. Make sure to discuss what steps you would take in different situations, as you may not all be together when an emergency occurs.

#### TO CREATE AN EMERGENCY PLAN KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN MIND:

- Safe exits from home and neighbourhood
- Meeting places to reunite with members of your household
- Designated person to pick up children should you be unavailable
- Risks in your area
- Contact persons close-by and out-of-town
- Special health needs
- Plans for taking care of pets
- Location of your fire extinguisher, water valve, electrical box, gas valve, and floor drain

*Keep this document in a place you will not forget (e.g. your emergency kit). Keep a copy of your plan in your vehicle and at your workplace.*

**important numbers:**

**FOREST or WILDLAND FIRES** cell \*5555 or 1-800-663-5555  
**FLOODING** 1-800-663-3456  
**OTHER** 1-800-663-3456  
 (spills, airplane crashes, landslides, avalanche)

### 3 GET A KIT.

There are some basic supplies that you will need in order to be self-sufficient through 72 hours. It is important that your kit is easy to carry and its location is known by all members of the household. Keep the kit in a backpack, duffel bag or roller suitcase stored in an easy to reach location near one of your home's exits.

#### BASIC EMERGENCY KIT ITEMS:

- **WATER** – a minimum of two litres per person per day, store in small/easy to carry bottles
- **FOOD** – healthy, shelf stable food (make sure to replace annually)
- **CAN OPENER**
- **FLASHLIGHT** – wind-up or battery-powered (extra batteries)
- **RADIO** – wind-up or battery-powered (extra batteries)
- **FIRST AID KIT**
- **EXTRA KEYS** – for house, car, etc.
- **CASH** – small bills and change
- **EMERGENCY PLAN**
- **CONTACT INFO** – for people close-by and out-of-town
- **SPECIAL ITEMS** – medication, infant formula, medical equipment, food for pets, etc.

#### PERSONALIZE YOUR KIT ACCORDING TO YOUR NEEDS

#### ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

- **WATER** – an additional two litres per person per day for cooking/cleaning
- **CANDLES** – along with matches or a quality lighter
- **CLOTHING** – change of clothing and footwear for each person
- **TOILETRIES**
- **HAND SANITIZER**
- **EATING UTENSILS**
- **TOILET PAPER**
- **A WHISTLE**
- **SLEEPING BAG/BLANKET** – for each person
- **WATER PURIFICATION** – water filter or purification tabs
- **BASIC TOOLS** – hammer, pliers, wrench, screwdriver, gloves, dust mask, knife, etc.
- **CAMP STOVE** – along with a supply of the proper fuel
- **GARBAGE BAGS**
- **DUCT TAPE**
- **CHARGERS/BATTERY PACKS**



#### CHECK YOUR KIT ANNUALLY.

*Make sure contents are up to date and still functional. RE-STOCK AS NEEDED.*