

# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

## PREPARING FOR EVACUATION

*Disasters such as floods, forest fires, and major power outages are being intensified by the interactions between climate change and Alberta's diverse landscapes. If a disaster poses an imminent threat to your safety, local authorities may ask you to evacuate.*

### What is the difference between evacuation alerts and evacuation orders?

**Evacuation alerts** warn communities that they must prepare to evacuate. If you receive an evacuation alert, ensure that every person and pet is indoors, fill your gas tank, grab your emergency kits and household emergency planner, and monitor trusted sources for updates.

**An evacuation order** means you must evacuate immediately. Secure your home and leave with your household members, pets, emergency kits, and household emergency plan. Always follow instructions issued by local authorities to ensure your safety. They will direct you to a safe evacuation route and indicate where you can go to register and access supports.

You may receive an evacuation order from the Alberta Emergency Management Agency through one or more of the following channels:

- ∞ Phone
- ∞ Radio
- ∞ Television
- ∞ Social media
- ∞ Websites
- ∞ Alberta Emergency Alert app

To check active alerts, visit [alberta.ca/alberta-emergency-alert.aspx](https://alberta.ca/alberta-emergency-alert.aspx)

If you have any questions,  
please contact  
[wildfires@metis.org](mailto:wildfires@metis.org)



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## How can I prepare ahead of an evacuation alert?

Preparing ahead of time is the best way to keep you and your household safe during an evacuation.

A good first step is to create a household emergency plan and household, vehicle, and pet emergency kits. These will help you respond quickly if an evacuation order is issued. Make sure that each kit has enough supplies to support each person and pet for three to seven days.

Download the Emergency Kit Checklist at [albertametis.com/household-emergency-kit-checklist](https://albertametis.com/household-emergency-kit-checklist) and Household Emergency Planner at [albertametis.com/household-emergency-plan](https://albertametis.com/household-emergency-plan) or scan the QR codes.



Scan to  
download the  
Emergency Kit  
Checklist



Scan to  
download the  
Household  
Emergency  
Planner

Store the household emergency plan, emergency kits, and essential documents above ground in a safe and accessible location so that you can locate these easily during an emergency.

Finally, connect with your community proactively so that you can support each other and share resources during an emergency.

For household, vehicle, and pet emergency kits, and DIY air filter tutorial videos, look for [@ABMetis](#) on Facebook or [@albertametis](#) on Instagram or TikTok.



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## What should I do after an evacuation order is issued?

After an evacuation order has been issued for your community, prioritize your and your household's safety. Ensure every person and pet gets into the car, and load your household, pet, and vehicle emergency kits, and your household emergency plan into the car as well.

If it is safe to do so, check if vulnerable neighbours are able to evacuate. Share information about the emergency, such as the affected area, response plan, and evacuation route with your neighbours, friends, and other family members. Finally, tell authorities about anyone who's away from home during the evacuation and where they are.

Prepare your home for your absence. Close and lock all windows and doors, turn off the lights and unplug all electronics, and turn off the utilities specified by local authorities.

Drive safely as you travel down the designated evacuation route. Only follow the route that was recommended by authorities unless an official source advises you to detour. Listen to the radio or ask someone in your household to monitor official websites or social channels for additional updates.

## What should I do when it's time to return to my community?

Only return home after authorities have confirmed that it's safe to do so. Your safety and your community's well-being are the priority.

The re-entry process varies depending on the nature and severity of the disaster. Prior to returning to your community, connect with emergency personnel or local officials to get re-entry information that's specific to your community.



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MyHealth Alberta's Protecting Yourself and Your Family page [myhealth.alberta.ca/Alberta/Pages/wildfire-protecting-yourself-and-your-family.aspx](https://myhealth.alberta.ca/Alberta/Pages/wildfire-protecting-yourself-and-your-family.aspx) provides thorough information on how to stay safe when returning home after a wildfire. The topics it covers include:

- ∞ Indoor and outdoor hazards
- ∞ Personal protective equipment
- ∞ Yard safety
- ∞ Indoor safety
- ∞ Safety around smoke, soot, ash, and fire retardants
- ∞ Pet safety
- ∞ Restoration and support services



Scan to view  
MyHealth Alber-  
ta's Protecting  
yourself and Your  
Family page

Emergencies that require evacuation can affect your physical, mental, and emotional health. To help you take care of yourself and your family during and after an evacuation, we've compiled a list of financial, housing, and mental health resources under the Accessing Assistance section at [albertametis.com/emergency-preparedness](https://albertametis.com/emergency-preparedness)



Scan to view  
our Emergency  
Preparedness  
page

For more information about post-evacuation supports, reach out to [wildfires@metis.org](mailto:wildfires@metis.org)



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