

DON'T WAIT FOR AN EMERGENCY TO HAPPEN! Be Prepared! Not Scared!

If Disaster Struck Today, Would Your Family Last 72 Hours?

Be prepared to take care of yourself and your family for a minimum of 72 hours. If a disaster happens in the community it may take emergency workers some time to get to you as they help those in desperate need first.

Know The Risks...Know Your Region; Make an Emergency Plan – YOUR FAMILY MAY NOT BE TOGETHER WHEN DISASTER OCCURS. Plan how to meet or contact one another and discuss what you would do in different situations; and **Prepare a Kit – AN EMERGENCY KIT** helps ensure you and your family is ready to cope on your own for at least the first **72 HOURS** of an emergency. **Protect yourself and your loved ones. It's up to YOU! Is your family prepared?** EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GUIDES are available at the municipal office and other helpful emergency preparedness information is available on the township website at www.carlowmayo.ca and on the Emergency Management Ontario website, www.ontario.ca/beprepared.

This year's theme for Emergency Preparedness Week, May 5 to 11, 2013, is Seniors & Emergencies. We will also continue to promote the importance of emergency preparedness. During Emergency Preparedness Week we recommend all households to practice their emergency plan and participate in Emergency Management Ontario challenges and activities. We encourage everyone to regularly check the Emergency Management Ontario website www.ontario.ca/emo for helpful information.

Evacuation & Shelter-in-Place

An evacuation may be ordered when there is a significant threat to a specific area. Other times, it may be safer to remain inside (shelter-in-place). These orders are typically broadcast through the local media.

Evacuation – Evacuate only when ordered by emergency officials and if safety permits, take your pets and take your family emergency survival kit and head to your family meeting place or to an evacuation centre.

Shelter-in-Place – Close and lock all windows and exterior doors and turn off all fans, heating and air-conditioning systems to avoid drawing air in from the outside.

The two evacuation centres are the Carlow Community Centre, located at 1702 Fort Stewart Road in Fort Stewart and the Mayo Community Centre, located at 66 Mayo Lake Road in McArthurs Mills, and will be available in the event that a state of an emergency is declared. If an emergency is declared notification and/or updates will be provided through the local radio station, Moose FM 97.7

If you would require extra assistance during an emergency please contact the municipal office in order for the appropriate steps to be in place should an emergency situation occur.

EMERGENCY SURVIVAL KIT ITEMS:

1. Flashlight and batteries
2. Radio and batteries or crank radio
3. Spare batteries
4. First-aid kit
5. Candles and matches/lighter
6. Extra car keys and cash
7. Important papers (identification)
8. Food and bottled water
9. Clothing and footwear
10. Blankets or sleeping bags
11. Toilet paper and other personal items
12. Medication
13. Whistle (to attract attention, if needed)
14. Playing cards/games

PETS AND EMERGENCIES

Pets are members of the family. Make sure to include your pets when developing your family emergency plan.

Making arrangements before an emergency will increase your pet's chances for survival and ability to cope.

Assemble a pet emergency survival kit and be ready to take your pet and their kit with you in the event you have to evacuate. Emergency kit supplies vary for different kinds of animals. Please contact your veterinarian or visit www.ontariospca.ca if you have any questions.

PET EMERGENCY SURVIVAL KIT (recommended items for dogs and cats)

1. Food, water, bowls, manual can opener and spoon
2. Up-to-date ID tag
3. Current photo of you and your pet
4. Emergency contact list of pet friendly hotels/motels outside your area, friends, relatives and your veterinarian
5. Copies of medical records/vaccinations
6. Information on feeding schedule, medical and/or behavioural problems
7. Medications and first aid kit
8. Familiar bedding, small toy and brush
9. Leash, collar or harness and muzzle (dogs)
10. Litter/pan and scooper (cats) or poop n- scoop bags (dogs)
11. Carrier large enough to transport and house your pet

BASIC EMERGENCY CAR KIT ITEMS:

1. **Food** – that won't spoil such as energy bars
2. **Water** – in plastic bottles so they won't break if frozen
3. **Blanket**
4. **Extra clothing** and shoes
5. **First aid kit** – with seatbelt cutter
6. **Small shovel, scraper and snowbrush**
7. **Candle** – in a deep can and **matches**
8. **Wind-up flashlight**
9. **Whistle** – in case you need to attract attention
10. **Roadmaps**
11. **Copy of your emergency plan and personal documents**

Safety Tip: Learn about first aid. You could save a life.

ITEMS TO KEEP INSIDE YOUR TRUNK:

1. **Sand, salt or cat litter (non-clumping)**
2. **Antifreeze/windshield washer fluid**
3. **Tow rope**
4. **Jumper cables**
5. **Fire extinguisher**
6. **Warning light or road flares**

TORNADOES

Tornadoes can develop very rapidly, they are rotating columns of high winds and sometimes they move quickly and leave a long, wide path of destruction and at other times the tornado is small, touching down here and there. It is vital that people know what to do in a weather emergency to reduce the risk of personal safety and property.

Warning Signs of a Potential Tornado include:

1. **Severe thunderstorms, with frequent thunder and lightning**
2. **An extremely dark sky, sometimes highlighted by green or yellow clouds**
3. **A rumbling sound or a whistling sound**
4. **A funnel cloud at the rear base of a thundercloud, often behind a curtain of heavy rain or hail.**

Canada's Tornado Warning System

Environment Canada is responsible for warning the public when conditions exist that may produce tornadoes. It does this through radio, television, newspapers, its internet site, as well as through its weather phone lines. It is recommended for the public to listen to their radio during severe thunderstorms and if you hear that a tornado warning has been issued for your area, find shelter and follow the safety tips below.

What to do During a Tornado

1. **If you are in a house go to the basement or take shelter in a small interior ground floor such as a bathroom (if possible sit in the bathtub and place a mattress over top of you), closet, hallway or stairwell. Stay away from windows, outside walls and doors.**
2. **Avoid cars and mobile homes, find shelter elsewhere, preferably in a building with a strong foundation. If no shelter is available, lie flat in a ditch, ravine or other depressed area, protect your head with your arms, away from the car or mobile home however beware of flying debris, flooding from downpours and be prepared to move.**
3. **If you are driving and spot a tornado in the distance go to the nearest solid shelter and if the tornado is close, get out of your car and take cover in a low-lying area, such as a ditch.**
4. **In all cases get as close to the ground as possible, protect your head and watch for flying debris. Do not chase tornadoes they are unpredictable and can change course abruptly. A tornado is deceptive. It may appear to be standing still but is, in fact, moving toward you. Wait for 30 minutes after the storm before returning to an open area.**

For more information on safety during severe weather conditions please visit the Environment Canada's website at www.ec.gc.ca and www.getprepared.gc.ca

FOR CURRENT WARNINGS, WATCHES AND SPECIAL WEATHER STATEMENTS ISSUED BY ENVIRONMENT CANADA REFER TO www.weatheroffice.gc.ca/warnings

Visit the weather network on your television or their website www.theweathernetwork.ca to hear any warnings and watches issued by Environment Canada.