

# What to Do if Asked to Evacuate

If the emergency is serious enough, you may be asked to leave your home and go to a nearby Evacuation Centre, like a school gym or community hall.

Listen to local (Olds) radio station 96.5 FM or (Red Deer) radio stations (e.g. 1170 AM, 95.5 FM, 105.5 FM, 98.9 FM), for information, and follow any instructions that may be broadcast, either through the Alberta Emergency Public Warning System, [www.municipalaffairs.gov.ab.ca/ema\\_epws.htm](http://www.municipalaffairs.gov.ab.ca/ema_epws.htm) or from local Disaster Services officials. Messages broadcast using the Emergency Public Warning System override all programming on radio and television stations. These messages may be broadcast by Disaster Services officials from any municipality in the province.

## If you have to evacuate ...

- Leave immediately when requested to do so. Your cooperation frees up emergency personnel for other duties.
- Take your Emergency Survival Kit with you.
- If you are instructed to do so, shut off water, gas and electricity.
- If you have pets, bring them and their food with you, or make arrangements for their care.
- Wear clothes and shoes appropriate to conditions.
- Lock your house and any outbuildings.
- Follow evacuation routes specified by Disaster Services officials. Don't take shortcuts, as they could take you to blocked or dangerous areas.
- Leave a note on your door telling others when you left and where you went. This is particularly important for family members who were absent during the emergency and/or call for evacuation.
- Sign up at the registration centre to which you are evacuated, so you can be contacted by or reunited with your family and loved ones.

If you have to evacuate your home for a prolonged period during a winter power failure, drain the water from the plumbing system. Starting at the top of the house, open all taps and flush toilets several times, and open the drain valve in the basement. Drain your hot water tank by attaching a hose to the tank drain valve and running it to the basement floor drain. If you drain a gas-fired hot water tank, turn off the pilot-light first - your local gas supplier can relight it for you later. Unhook and drain washing machine hoses.

## Home Emergency Survival Kit, suitable for Evacuation ...

- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Battery-powered Radio and extra batteries
- First-aid kit
- Candles and matches/lighter
- Extra car/house keys and cash (including coins/cards for public telephones)
- Important papers (identification for everyone, personal documents)
- Food and bottled water (see above)
- Clothing and footwear (one change of clothes per person)
- Blankets and sleeping bags (one blanket or sleeping bag per person)
- Toilet paper and other personal supplies
- Medication
- Backpack/duffel bag (or something else to carry the emergency survival kit, in case you have to evacuate)
- Whistle (in case you need to attract someone's attention)
- Playing cards, games