

Make a Plan

Will your whole family think clearly and logically in a crisis? Not many of us can, so do your clear, logical thinking now - when you have time to be thorough.

Prepare NOW.

Your best protection in any emergency is knowing what to do.

Know your enemy.

Find out what natural and technological disasters could happen in Olds, what to expect during each disaster, and plan out what you would do in each situation.

Review your own situation.

- ◆ *Hazard-proof your home* - anticipate what could go wrong in your home and take corrective action. For example, if you live in a flood-prone area, remove all chemical products and irreplaceable/valuable items from the basement and store them on upper floors.
- ◆ *Post Emergency Numbers*. Keep a list of key telephone numbers and addresses near the phone. During a major disaster, use the phone only if it's absolutely necessary. Emergency crews will need all available phone lines. *Choose an out-of-area or out-of-province family contact*. During a disaster, it is often easier to call out of the region as the local phone lines may be tied up. Make sure everyone memorizes this person's name and telephone number and knows to call your family contact if they get separated from the family.
- ◆ *Show and Tell*. Teach members of your family where and how to shut off the water, electricity and gas supply. Place big, easy-to-see labels on the shut-off valves and breaker panel. Designate a meeting place that family members know and can go to if they get separated during an emergency.
- ◆ *Check your Insurance*. Make sure you have adequate insurance coverage for the range of risks in our community.

Prepare an Emergency Survival Kit for the Home.

Aim to have an emergency survival kit that will keep you and your family self-sufficient in your home for at least three days. Keep a smaller survival kit in your car and keep it there year-round. A blanket, extra clothing, matches and a candle in a deep coffee can may save your life.

- 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