

Emergency Preparedness Week May 2 - 8, 2022

Emergency Preparedness Week is a nationwide event that encourages Canadians to take concrete actions to better prepare and protect themselves and their families during emergencies. The theme this year is Emergency Preparedness: It's Everyone's Responsibility. We should all be ready to take care of ourselves for a minimum of 72 hours. Having a plan helps us be prepared and self-sufficient and allows emergency responders to prioritize assistance where it is most needed. The Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) invites residents to learn more about emergency preparedness in our region.

As the dry season approaches, now is a great time to clean up yards and do a FireSmart assessment of your home and surrounding property. Take the free FireSmart 101 online course to learn about the Wildland Urban Interface, why FireSmart is needed now more than ever, the seven FireSmart principles and more. Visit firesmartbc.ca to register for the FireSmart 101 course and to learn how you can prepare for the upcoming wildfire season.

During Emergency Preparedness Week, the RDN is offering a series of informative webinars via Zoom to help residents be as prepared as possible. Plus, there will be some great, emergency-related prizes webinar participants will be eligible to win! To register for the free webinars, visit getinvolved.rdn.ca/nepp or phone the RDN at 250-390-6759 with your name and session you want to attend.

26 Weeks to Emergency Preparedness

May 2 at 10 a.m. and May 4 at 6:30 p.m.

Learn how to help your family prepare for emergencies one week at a time! Start your 26 Weeks to Emergency Preparedness journey with us!

What is Neighbourhood Emergency Preparedness?

May 2 at 6:30 p.m. and May 5 at 10 a.m.

Do you know your neighbours? In a large-scale emergency, your neighbours will likely be your first support. Find out what you can do to connect with your neighbours and build a resilient Neighbourhood Emergency Preparedness Plan.

Emergency Communications in Your Neighbourhood

May 3 at 10 a.m. and May 5 at 6:30 p.m.

How do you find out if there's an emergency in your area? How do I contact my family and friends? This webinar will answer some of these questions and discuss how emergency information is distributed to the public. We'll also show you how to sign up for Voyent-Alert, our mass emergency alert system. The Coast Emergency Communication Association will talk about their role in emergency communications and help you use your emergency radio devices!

Get Involved RDN!

Grab and Go Essentials – Getting Ready for Evacuations

May 3 at 6:30 p.m.

Join us to talk about Emergency Evacuations, and what you can do to make sure you're ready to go when there's an emergency. We'll talk about how you'll be told there's an evacuation alert or order in your area, where to find more information about evacuations, and how to build an effective Grab-And-Go kit for you and your family!

Introduction to FireSmart – Wildfire Preparedness with Willow Bloomquist, FireSmart Coordinator for Dashwood Volunteer Fire Department

May 4 at 10 a.m. and May 6 at 6:30 p.m.

Did you know that simply sweeping your front steps clear of leaves and debris helps keep your home FireSmart? Join us to talk about how FireSmart principles can help make your home, neighbourhood and community more resilient in the face of wildfire. Joining us, is Willow Bloomquist, FireSmart Coordinator for the Dashwood Volunteer Fire Department, to tell us about her experiences encouraging communities to become FireSmart.

Another important aspect of emergency preparedness is staying informed. The RDN encourages residents to sign up for Voyent-Alert, a free emergency notification service that enables subscribers to receive critical event messages through an app, text message, voice call or email. To receive critical emergency alerts, sign up at rdn.bc.ca/voyent-alert. Subscribers can also opt in or out of RDN non-emergency alerts on topics such as recreation, parks, water services and more.

The RDN also has several online resources to help residents better prepare for emergencies including downloadable workbooks, handbooks, checklists and links to other emergency preparedness websites. For resources and to learn more about all RDN Emergency Services, visit getinvolved.rdn.ca/nepp and rdn.bc.ca/emergency-services.

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For more information, please contact:

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Get Involved RDN!