



DISTRICT of HOPE

FOR INFORMATION ONLY—THIS NOTICE IS NOT AN EVACUATION ALERT

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT FLOODING

Flooding is a common, naturally occurring event in B.C.

- ⇒ Unusually high snowpacks naturally raise the risk of future flooding
- ⇒ The rate at which snowpacks melt in the spring may determine flood risk
- ⇒ Rain, coupled with warm weather and snow melt, increases the risk of flooding
- ⇒ Flood risk is determined by a number of factors
- ⇒ 1999 was a record snowpack year with no significant flooding along the Fraser River in the Fraser Valley
- ⇒ However, in 1948 the Lower Fraser Valley flood affected thousands of residents and impacted infrastructure such as bridges and roads in a normal snowpack year
- ⇒ Serious floods have also hit settlements on the upper Fraser, in the northwest and other parts of B.C.
- ⇒ Flooding can impact a neighbourhood, or affect entire river basins, multiple communities and First Nations
- ⇒ The Fraser River has reached flood stage 25 times in the last 100 years.



Is Hope at Risk? –

Historically, the Fraser River rises to high levels at this time of year. Areas prone to annual flooding include Tom Berry Road, Landstrom Road, Wardle Avenue, Water Street and Bristol Island. With the snow pack at record levels, the ingredients are in place for a major flood and if this, once in 200 year event, does occur then more areas of Hope could be at risk. That's why the message is simple. BE PREPARED. Emergency officials in the District continue to monitor the situation and, in consultation with the Provincial Emergency Program, are poised to activate emergency flood plans as needed.



Prepare your family –

- ◆ *Put together an emergency supply kit, including at least a three-day's supply of food and water for each family member. Include a windup or battery-powered radio, flashlight and batteries, prescription medications and important papers*
- ◆ *Ensure each member of your family has warm clothing and waterproof footwear*
- ◆ *Ensure that each family member has identification. Name tags on children's clothing, wallet cards and wristbands are useful in case you are separated*
- ◆ *Remind every member of your household on the location of your family emergency meeting place*
- ◆ *Have an out-of-province contact*
- ◆ *Know what to do if an evacuation is necessary*
- ◆ *Make arrangements for your pets and any livestock*





If you must evacuate:

Always follow the instructions of local emergency officials

- Turn off and unplug all appliances, lock doors and windows
- Know how to safely turn off all utilities at the main switches or valves
- Take your grab-and-go emergency supply kit with you
- Leave a note in your mailbox saying where you've gone and inform an out-of-province contact
- *Special consideration needs to be given to those with special needs:* tell visually impaired people the nature of the emergency and guide them through any dangerous areas; for those with hearing impairment, write out what is happening and tell them the evacuation procedure
- Listen to emergency personnel and follow their directions. Do not take shortcuts, as you may end up in a blocked or dangerous area
- Do not walk through moving water. Water can be deeper than it appears. It only takes 60 cm (2 ft.) to sweep a car away and as little as 15 cm (6 in.) of moving water can cause you to fall
- Register with the local reception centre if you are evacuated, so emergency responders know you are safe and how to reach you

For more information about personal emergency preparedness, go to www.pep.bc.ca



Evacuation Registration

If you evacuate your home, we recommend you register with our reception centre. Once open, the location in Hope will be announced.

Even if you will not be staying at a reception centre and plan to stay with friends or relatives. It is important that your location is accounted for and emergency officials know that you have left the danger area.

Information about what to do and where to go will be provided by means of press releases and continuous information reports to the local media.

Information and Emergency Contacts

District of Hope604-869-5671
 Toll Free.....1-866-226-HOPE
 RCMP (Non-Emergency).....604-869-7750
 Emergency 911

On the web:

- PEP (Provincial Emergency Program)
www.pep.bc.ca
- Public Safety Canada
www.getprepared.ca
- District of Hope
www.hope.ca



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