



EMERGENCY PLANNING & HOME PREPAREDNESS

Why Do We Have an Emergency Plan?

An Emergency Plan is required so that all staff and residents of the Town of Marathon are aware of their responsibilities in the event of a disaster or catastrophe such as:

- ◆ Floods
- ◆ Transportation accidents
- ◆ Fires (forest & wild land – urban interface)
- ◆ Hydro loss
- ◆ Human health emergencies and epidemics
- ◆ Hazardous materials – transportation incident

Objective of the Plan

Our Emergency Plan also includes an Evacuation Plan, so that all residents can be moved to safety, with minimal delay and confusion. In the event that only a small area of the municipality is affected, reception areas in the safe parts of our community will be used. The Town of Marathon's plan ensures that:

- ◆ Everyone in the affected area is notified
- ◆ Assistance, transportation, food and shelter is provided when possible for the residents involved in the emergency until the situation returns to normal

Operation of the Plan

Residents will be alerted to an emergency by police sirens or by door to door notification conducted under the authority of the Emergency Control Group.

Upon hearing the alert, residents are asked to tune their radios to the following stations and wait for instructions:

CFNO – 93.1 FM dial
CBQ – 1090 AM dial

Preparation

On receiving a warning about an immediate or impending evacuation, each family or individual should have ready:

- ◆ Identification, money, credit cards
- ◆ Bedding items (blanket, sleeping bag, pillow)
- ◆ Ready to eat food for at least 12 hours
- ◆ Thermos bottle with hot beverage
- ◆ Toiletries and prescription drugs
- ◆ Changes of clothing, one piece of luggage per person

Depending on the nature of the emergency, residents may be requested to “shelter in place” in the safety of their homes

You may also be asked to:

- ◆ Keep the phone lines open
- ◆ Tightly close all doors, windows, and exterior openings
- ◆ Turn off forced air heating or ventilation systems
- ◆ Stay in upper portion of building – do not go into the basement

Residents relying on public reception centres for accommodation are reminded that pets are not permitted.

The Town of Marathon's Emergency Control Group will arrange for local stores and gasoline stations to remain open during an emergency, as long as conditions permit.

Emergency Preparedness in Your Home

Prepare an Emergency Survival Kit that will keep you and your family self-sufficient for at least 3 days, and which includes:

- ◆ Water: a minimum of one gallon per person, per day
- ◆ Food: stock non-perishable food and a manually operated can opener
- ◆ First Aid Kit, including prescription medication
- ◆ Tools and supplies: Battery operated radio, flashlight, extra batteries, utility knife, waterproof matches, candles, needles and threads, wind up clock, toiletries
- ◆ Clothing and bedding: sturdy shoes, rain gear and blankets
- ◆ Extra car keys and cash
- ◆ Whistle for attracting attention, playing cards, games

Your emergency plan should also include information about where you can go locally or out of town.

Notification

Remember, your local Emergency Services Department and radio stations will provide information about the staging areas and other evacuation plans. Road blocks may be set up by Emergency Services and your complete co-operation is requested.

Important

- ◆ All residents must be accounted for. Therefore, you will be notified where the registration centres will be set up. Remember to notify your immediate family of your whereabouts.
- ◆ If an emergency is imminent, keep phone lines open for emergency workers.
- ◆ Follow the Marathon Emergency Control Group's instructions. If you are asked to evacuate, do so promptly.
- ◆ Travel only on routes that are recommended.

Hazard Proof Your Home

Anticipate what could go wrong and take corrective action.

- ◆ Know where and how to shut off water, power and gas. Have any tools required on hand.
- ◆ Evaluate what supplies you need to store

During a Power Failure

- ◆ Check to see if your neighbours have power and report your outage to *Emergency Hot Line 24 hours a day at 1-888-664-9376 – go through the press # sequence to access service.*
- ◆ Never leave lit candles unattended. Never use indoors: charcoal, a propane or natural gas BBQ, or camping heating equipment.
- ◆ Unplug sensitive electronic equipment

Your Own Power and Heat Supply

In the event of a prolonged outage, some residents may consider using a portable generator, especially if you are dealing with family members who have critical needs, such as an oxygen machine. Retailers of gasoline-operated generators are listed in the Yellow Pages. A licenced electrician must do the installation if hooked into your home power. Portable generators use either gasoline or diesel fuel and must be operated out of doors. Ensure that back up heat sources, such as stoves and fireplaces are properly installed and that you have extra fuel available.

Other Considerations

You never know when some basic first aid techniques could help. Remember, it is NOT possible to learn all the skills to save a life during an emergency. Call the Canadian Red Cross of St. John Ambulance to find out about first aid or CPR courses.

Does your insurance policy cover all the dangers that you might encounter? If you have doubts, call your insurance agent.

Car Kit for Emergencies

- ◆ Shovel, scraper and snow brush
- ◆ Sand, salt, kitty litter and antifreeze
- ◆ Matches and candles in a metal container
- ◆ Spare clothing, shoes and blanket
- ◆ Tow rope, jumper cables, windshield wiper fluid
- ◆ Warning light or road flares and fire extinguisher
- ◆ First Aid Kit with seat belt cutter
- ◆ Water and emergency food
- ◆ Road maps, whistle and flashlight

***Marathon Municipal Office: 229-1340
Manager On Call: 229-6125***

In an emergency, other emergency numbers may be activated.

Questions concerning this brochure or requests for further information should be directed to the Municipal Office at 229-1340, extension 2227 or emailed to rkerster@town.marathon.on.ca.

Additional Emergency Planning information may be obtained from the following websites:

www.marathon.ca

www.mpss.jus.gov.on.ca

www.safeguard.ca