

# KNOW YOUR RISKS



Across Canada there are many hazards that vary depending on where you are and when. Being aware of the various hazards will help you be better prepared.

Severe storms or extreme temperatures effect all areas in Canada. They may occur suddenly, at any time of year and could last for multiple days

- Stay inside or seek shelter during lighting or hail
- Visibility can be zero during a blizzard; Do not go outside without a guide to follow.
- Be aware of the wind chill and dress appropriately
- Avoid exposure of any part of the body to the cold
- Watch for signs of frostbite and hypothermia
- Be prepared for power outages

- Create a vehicle emergency kit 
- Keep the gas tank and windshield washer full
- Check local weather conditions before getting on the road



During a power outage, keep the fridge or freezer closed as much as possible. A full freezer will keep food frozen for 24 to 36 hours



## STORMS

### High Risk Period

MAR  
to  
OCT



Flash flooding can be caused by hurricanes, violent storms or dams breaking.

Warning time is extremely limited!

Floods are the most common hazard in Canada. In coastal areas and near large lakes, Storm Surges can cause flooding at any time

- Store important documents/valuables in waterproof containers, above potential water levels.
- Follow the routes specified by officials. Shortcuts could lead to blocked or dangerous areas.
- Never cross a flooded area; Water may be deeper or faster moving than it looks.



## FLOOD



High Risk Regions

### High Risk Period

MAY  
to  
SEPT



High Risk Regions



## FOREST FIRE

Forest fires can occur due to natural or manmade causes, primarily in areas covered by boreal forests.

- Keep all doors and windows closed in your home.
- Remove flammable window coverings
- Keep lights on to aid visibility in case smoke fills the house
- If sufficient water is available, turn sprinklers on to wet the roof and any water-proof valuables

Be prepared to evacuate at any time.

### High Risk Period

JUN  
to  
AUG



High Risk Regions

### DANGER SIGNS

- ! Dark, often greenish or orange-grey skies
- ! Large, dark, low-lying, rotating or funnel-shaped clouds
- ! Large hail
- ! Roaring noise

Tornados can leave a path of destruction, uprooting trees and demolishing houses.

- Get as close to the ground or underground, if possible
- Protect your head and watch for flying debris
- Roofs may collapse; take cover under a sturdy structure such as a table or desk.
- If no shelter is available, lie flat in a ditch away from vehicles
- Beware of flooding from downpours and be prepared to move



## TORNADO

Hurricanes, cyclones, and typhoons the same weather phenomenon; tropical cyclones. The term used depends on their intensity and where they originate.

- Secure anything on your property that can be blown around or torn loose
- Close windows, doors and hurricane shutters. If you do not have hurricane shutters, board up all windows and doors with plywood.
- Stay in a safe place on the main floor; the basement may become flooded
- If lightning is present, you can use a cellular phone, but it's not safe to use a land-line telephone

Once the eye has passed, the winds will return from the opposite direction

### High Risk Period

JUN  
to  
NOV



High Risk Regions



## HURRICANE



High Risk Regions

Earthquakes cannot be predicted. There are approximately 4,000 earthquakes across Canada each year but most are relatively small.

### Indoors

- **DROP** under heavy furniture such as a table, desk, bed or any solid furniture.
- **COVER** your head and torso to prevent being hit by falling objects.
- **HOLD** onto the object that you are under so that you remain covered.

### Outdoors

- Go to an open area away from buildings

### In a vehicle

- Pull over to a safe place
- Keep roads clear for rescue and emergency vehicles
- Avoid anything that could collapse



## EARTHQUAKE



A Magnitude Scale is used to express the energy release during an earthquake.

The Modified Mercalli scale is used to describe the effects of an earthquake, at a given place, on natural features, on industrial installations and on human beings.

**FERNO**

ferno.ca | 800.543.3766

Sources:

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