



Whitehorse Emergency Preparedness Guide



Make a plan

Get together with your household and develop your emergency plan. Make sure everyone understands what to do if an emergency happens.

Everyone in your household should have access to your plan in case you get separated. Remember that cell phones and the internet might not work during an emergency.



Visit
getprepared.ca
and click on ***make an***
emergency plan for
a detailed emergency
plan template.

Emergencies can happen anytime, anywhere.

It is important to be prepared in the event of an emergency. The City of Whitehorse has plans in place for various types of emergencies. You can also take steps to ensure your household is prepared for an emergency.

Use this guide to prepare your emergency plan and emergency kit.

In an emergency, it's easy to become confused or panicked. Preparing your emergency plan and emergency kit in advance will help you stay focused so you can act quickly.

Keep this guide in your emergency kit or in a place where it can be found easily by everyone in your household.

Stay informed

During an emergency, check official sources for information and instructions. This includes government websites and social media.

City of Whitehorse

whitehorse.ca/emergency

 @cityofwhitehorse

 @cityofwhitehorseyt

Government of Yukon

yukon.ca/emergencies

wildfires.service.yukon.ca

floods.service.yukon.ca

 @YukonProtectiveServices



Local radio stations that may share official messages:

CBC 94.5 FM

CKRW 96.1 FM

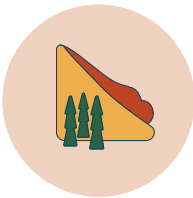
CHON 98.1 FM

CJUC 92.5 FM

Know the risks

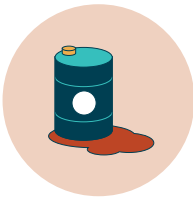
It's important to know what kinds of hazards we face in Whitehorse. Understanding the risks can help you prepare effectively ahead of potential emergencies.

Potential hazards in the Whitehorse area include:



Landslides

A landslide is the sudden movement of soil, rock or debris down a slope, often during the spring snowmelt when the ground is saturated.



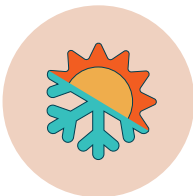
Hazardous materials event

A hazardous materials event is the spill or release of dangerous substances into the community.



Wildfires

Wildfires are common in the Yukon from May to September, especially during hot, dry and windy conditions. They can threaten homes, infrastructure, air quality, transportation routes, and public safety.



Extreme weather events

These events include heatwaves and cold snaps and can affect power, transportation, communications, water systems and more.



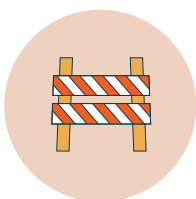
Earthquakes

Earthquakes can cause serious damage and dangerous conditions affecting buildings and infrastructure during and after the event.



Floods

Floods can occur in the spring and summer due to rapid snowmelt and ice jams, affecting homes, roads, infrastructure, and essential services.



Road closures

Road closures may occur due to wildfires, landslides, flooding, or other events, disrupting travel, emergency response and access to goods and services.



Telecommunications outages

Telecommunications outages can occur during emergencies or as standalone events, disrupting internet and phone services.



Structural fires or explosions

Large-scale structural fires or explosions may force temporary evacuations, disrupt services, and restrict access to roads or facilities.

Make your emergency kit

Put together an emergency kit and keep it somewhere easy to find. Keep your kit in a backpack, suitcase, or tub that is light enough to carry. Make sure to always keep your vehicle's fuel tank at least half full.

Items to put in your emergency kit

- ☐ 2 litres of water per person per day, for a minimum of 3 days
- ☐ A copy of your emergency plan, including emergency contact numbers
- ☐ Prescription record from your pharmacist
- ☐ Minimum 3-day supply of non-perishable food per person (replace yearly)
- ☐ Change of clothing, including extra warm clothing (hat, mittens, socks)
- ☐ Extra set of keys for your vehicle
- ☐ First aid kit
- ☐ Flashlights for each family member
- ☐ Battery-powered radio and extra batteries, or wind-up radio
- ☐ Copies of important documents (birth certificates, passports, insurance and bank records)
- ☐ Pet food and water, leash, collar, a kennel or crate, and medicine if necessary
- ☐ Cash in small bills



Items to remember

- ☐ Wallet (identification, cash and credit or debit cards)
- ☐ Cell phone and charger
- ☐ Prescription glasses or contacts
- ☐ Medications
- ☐ Keys for your vehicle

Additional supplies to consider

- ☐ Candles and matches or lighters
- ☐ Toiletries and personal hygiene items
- ☐ Hand sanitizer, toilet paper and garbage bags
- ☐ Books or toys for children
- ☐ Basic tools and duct tape
- ☐ Camping supplies such as a tent and a camp stove with fuel
- ☐ Blankets or sleeping bags
- ☐ Extra warm clothes (pants, sweaters, jackets)
- ☐ Small battery bank
- ☐ Laptop and charger

Emergency notifications

You will be informed of a local emergency as early as possible through official government channels and local media. Depending on the emergency, (e.g., in the event of a telecommunications outage) you may be informed through physical signs or direct contact.

Listen to information from official sources, stay informed as the situation evolves and share important messages with your neighbours. Follow instructions from local authorities.

Types of Emergency Notifications

There are 3 types of notifications that you may receive.



Shelter-in-place

Shelter in place means staying inside or finding a safe indoor location during an emergency. This action helps protect you from outdoor hazards until the situation is resolved.



Evacuation Alert

An evacuation alert means you must be ready to leave on short notice. Leaving during this stage is considered a voluntary evacuation.



Evacuation Order

An evacuation order means you are at immediate risk and must leave the area right away. Local authorities or the RCMP enforce this mandatory evacuation, which may be issued without an alert if there is not enough time to warn residents.

Who may be impacted

Each type of notification can affect different groups depending on the location, severity and extent of the hazard. Who may be impacted could change depending on how the situation progresses.



Single home

Only one home receives the notification.

Residents in that home are affected and must follow directions.



Single street

Only one street receives the notification.

Residents on that street are affected and must follow directions.



Single subdivision

One subdivision receives the notification.

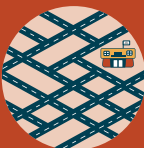
Residents in that subdivision are affected and must follow directions.



Multi-subdivision

Multiple subdivisions receive the notification.

Residents in all affected subdivisions must follow directions.



Full city

The entire city is impacted.

All residents must follow directions.

How to evacuate

If you've received an **Evacuation Order**, follow these steps before leaving your home:

1.

Gather your household members, review your emergency plan and grab your emergency kit.

2.

If you have a vehicle and can offer a ride to a neighbour, please do so.

3.

Follow travel instructions included in the evacuation order. Guidance will be provided for those with access to a vehicle and for those requiring transportation assistance.



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For more information, visit
whitehorse.ca/emergency

Questions? Email us at
emergencymanagement@whitehorse.ca

Additional resources

GetPrepared.ca

Government of Canada's emergency preparedness site

Yukon.ca/emergencies

Information about emergencies in the Yukon

Wildfires.service.yukon.ca

Current wildfire status

Floods.service.yukon.ca

Flood advisories

511yukon.ca

Highway conditions and alerts