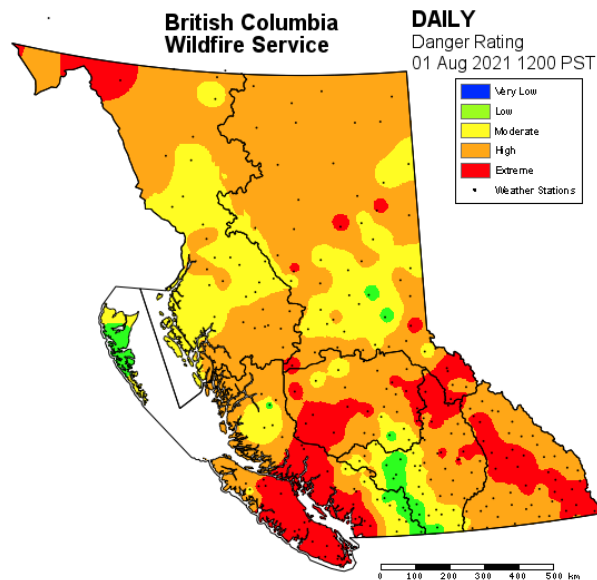


Wildfire Preparedness

The wildfire danger rating (i.e. the risk of a wildfire starting) in BC is high to extreme across most of the province. Although we cannot predict where a wildfire will occur or when, we can be proactive and take steps to prepare ourselves and protect our properties from being damaged by a wildfire.



1. Make an Emergency Plan

Ensure your family knows what to do in an emergency. Use the “Get Prepared” website to create an emergency plan for your family and home. Creating and printing the on-line plan will only take you about 20 minutes. <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/preparedbc/make-your-plan>

2. Emergency Preparedness Kits - “Grab and Go Bags”

In an emergency, it is important to have some supplies in case you need to get by without power or running water. Most emergency organizations recommend that you are prepared to be self-sufficient for at least 72 hours. Make a grab and go bag for your pets.

Basic Emergency Kit Checklist

- Pen and notepad
- Phone charger and battery bank
- Flashlight – wind up or battery powered (and extra batteries)
- Radio – wind up or battery powered (and extra batteries)
- First aid kit
- Personal toiletries and medication
- Seasonal clothing
- Food – non-perishable such as energy bars, dried and canned food; manual can opener

- Water – at least two litres of water per person per day
- Extra keys for car and house
- Cash and change
- Important family documents – identification, insurance, bank records
- Whistle
- Emergency plan and contact information

3. Protect Your Home

FireSmart your home. Download the FireSmart™ Homeowner's Manual and Landscaping Guide <https://firesmartbc.ca/resource-types/guides-manuals/> to decrease the intensity of a wildfire and slow its spread.

4. Know Your Evacuation Stages

- a. Evacuation Alert: Be ready to leave on short notice.
- b. Evacuation Order: You are at risk. Leave immediately. **Make sure you check in at an Emergency Support Services (ESS) reception centre. Contact family and friends to let them know where you are and that you are safe.**
- c. Evacuation Rescind: All is now safe and you can return home.

5. Download PreparedBC's Wildfire Preparedness Guide

The Wildfire Preparedness Guide will help prepare you for what to do before, during and after a wildfire. <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/preparedbc/know-your-hazards/wildfires>

6. Visit the Emergency Evacuee Guidance Website

The Emergency Evacuee Guidance website provides information on what to do if you receive an evacuation order. <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/emergency-response-and-recovery/emergency-evacuees>

Emergency Contacts

Wayne Schnitzler, Interim Executive Director

Email: wschnitzler@fness.bc.ca Cell: 250-318-8278

Dean Colthorp, Fire Services Manager

Email: dcolthorp@fness.bc.ca Cell: 604-838-5711

Bob Mills, Emergency Management Manager

Email: BMills@fness.bc.ca Cell: 250-457-1694

Larry Price, Forest Fuels Management Manager

Email: lprice@fness.bc.ca Cell: 250-320-8580

Communications Contact

Jo-Anne Hales, Communications Officer

Email: jhales@fness.bc.ca Cell: 250-462-1752