



**Kahnawà:ke Emergency
Preparedness & Planning**
Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke
P.O. Box 720
Kahnawà:ke, Quebec, J0L1B0

450-632-0635
450-635-1834 (Fax)



Hazards and risks associated with winter weather include:

- Car accidents due to slippery roadways
- Slips and falls on slippery walkways
- Falls from heights (eg: cleaning the gutters or roof)
- Hypothermia and frostbite due to exposure
- Being struck by falling objects such as tree branches
- Risks due to downed power lines or downed objects in contact with power lines
- Roof collapse or property damage under weight of snow or falling trees
- Exhaustion, exposure or dehydration
- Isolation and lack of basic supplies including prescription medications
- Stranded motorists
- Injuries while shovelling snow
- Melting snow or storm surges causing flooding
- Home fire safety risk

Being prepared at Home

- Be aware of weather conditions
- Check furnace fuel level occasionally
- Get ready for snow, ice or rain on walks and driveways with:
 - Snow shovel
 - De-icing compound
- Household emergency supplies should include enough food, water and supplies to last 72 hours without power or help
- Show brochure available <http://www.getprepared.gc.ca/fl/pub/svr-strms-w-t-d-eng.pdf>
- Family Communication Plan

On the Road

Don't travel unless necessary but if you have to travel make sure the automobiles contain the following emergency supplies:

- Bag of sand, road salt or non-clumping cat litter. The bag's extra weight means better traction, and the contents can be spread under slipping tires.
- Ice scraper
- Jumper cables

- Small shovel (to dig snow away from wheels, or scatter sand on roadway)
- Tire chains (every driver should practice putting them on)
- Flares or reflective triangle to warn other motorists if you break down
- Blanket
- Flashlight and batteries
- First aid kit

During Power Outages

Caution: Carbon Monoxide Kills

- Never use a generator, grill, camp stove or other gasoline, propane, natural gas or charcoal- burning devices inside a home, garage, basement, crawlspace or any partially enclosed area. Locate unit away from doors, windows and vents that could allow carbon monoxide to come indoors.
- The primary hazards to avoid when using alternate sources for electricity, heating or cooking are carbon monoxide poisoning, electric shock and fire.
- Install carbon monoxide alarms in central locations on every level of your home and outside sleeping areas to provide early warning of accumulating carbon monoxide.
- If the carbon monoxide alarm sounds, move quickly to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window or door.
- Call for help from the fresh air location and remain there until emergency personnel arrive to assist you.

During Winter Storms Extreme Cold

- Stay indoors.
- Walk carefully on snowy, icy, walkways.
- Avoid overexertion when shoveling snow. Overexertion can bring on a heart attack—a major cause of death in the winter. If you must shovel snow, stretch before going outside.
- Keep dry. Change wet clothing frequently to prevent a loss of body heat. Wet clothing loses all of its insulating value and transmits heat rapidly.
- Watch for signs of frostbite. These include loss of feeling and white or pale appearance in extremities such as fingers, toes, ear lobes, and the tip of the nose. If symptoms are detected, get medical help immediately.
- Watch for signs of hypothermia. These include uncontrollable shivering, memory loss, disorientation, incoherence,

- slurred speech, drowsiness, and apparent exhaustion. If symptoms of hypothermia are detected, get the victim to a warm location, remove wet clothing, warm the center of the body first and give warm, non-alcoholic beverages if the victim is conscious. Get medical help as soon as possible.
- Drive only if it is absolutely necessary. If you must drive: travel in the day; don't travel alone; keep others informed of your schedule; stay on main roads and avoid back road shortcuts.
 - Let someone know your destination, your route, and when you expect to arrive. If your car gets stuck along the way, help can be sent along your predetermined route.
 - If the pipes freeze, remove any insulation or layers of newspapers and wrap pipes in rags. Completely open all faucets and pour hot water over the pipes, starting where they were most exposed to the cold (or where the cold was most likely to penetrate).
 - Maintain ventilation when using kerosene heaters to avoid build-up of toxic fumes. Refuel kerosene heaters outside and keep them at least three feet from flammable objects.
 - Conserve fuel, if necessary, by keeping your residence cooler than normal. Temporarily close off heat to some rooms.