

Saskatchewan
PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCY



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Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency

Fire Safety and Emergency Preparedness
Community Public Education

Overview

- Introduction
- Preparing for an emergency
- Knowing the Risks
- Creating an emergency plan
- Public education in the community

Everything discussed today are items you can take back to your communities

Who am I?



Who are we?

- Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency is responsible for wildfire and emergency management in the province; shared responsibility with local municipalities
- Public education is an important part of the Agency's mandate and vision
- Strong public education programs can contribute to reducing overall risk, property loss, and serious injury or fatalities
- Important for the public to know what to do in case of emergencies

Preparing for an Emergency



Preparing for an Emergency

- 1) Know the risks
- 2) Make a plan
- 3) Get or prepare an emergency kit
- 4) Download SaskAlert to receive alerts of emergencies happening now in your location
- 5) Protect your community
 - For more information on SaskAlert, please visit saskalert.ca

Download SaskAlert

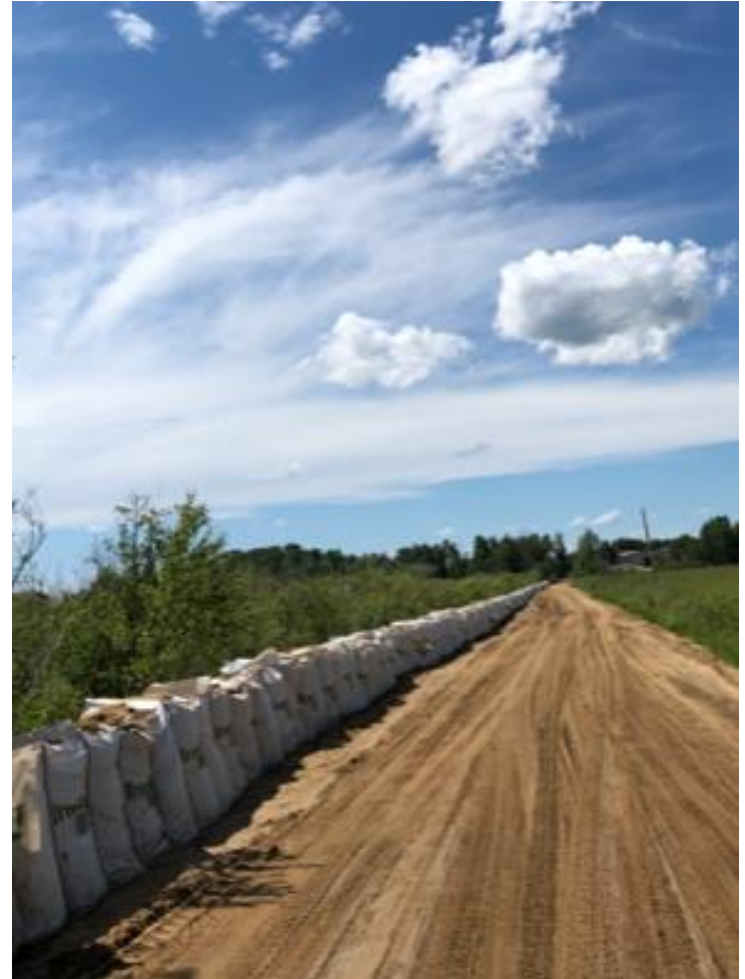


What are risks in Saskatchewan?

- The first step to prevent and prepare is knowing the risks:
 - Floods
 - Wildland fires
 - Structure fires
 - Grass fires
 - Severe weather, winter and summer
 - Water hazards, open and frozen

Prevent flooding:

- Clear neighborhood storm water catch basins
- Shovel or remove snow from around your home
- Check sump pump often
- Check basement often for signs of water
- Keep basement sewer caps on
- More information can be found at saskpublicsafety.ca, under the **At Home** tab





saskpublicsafety.ca

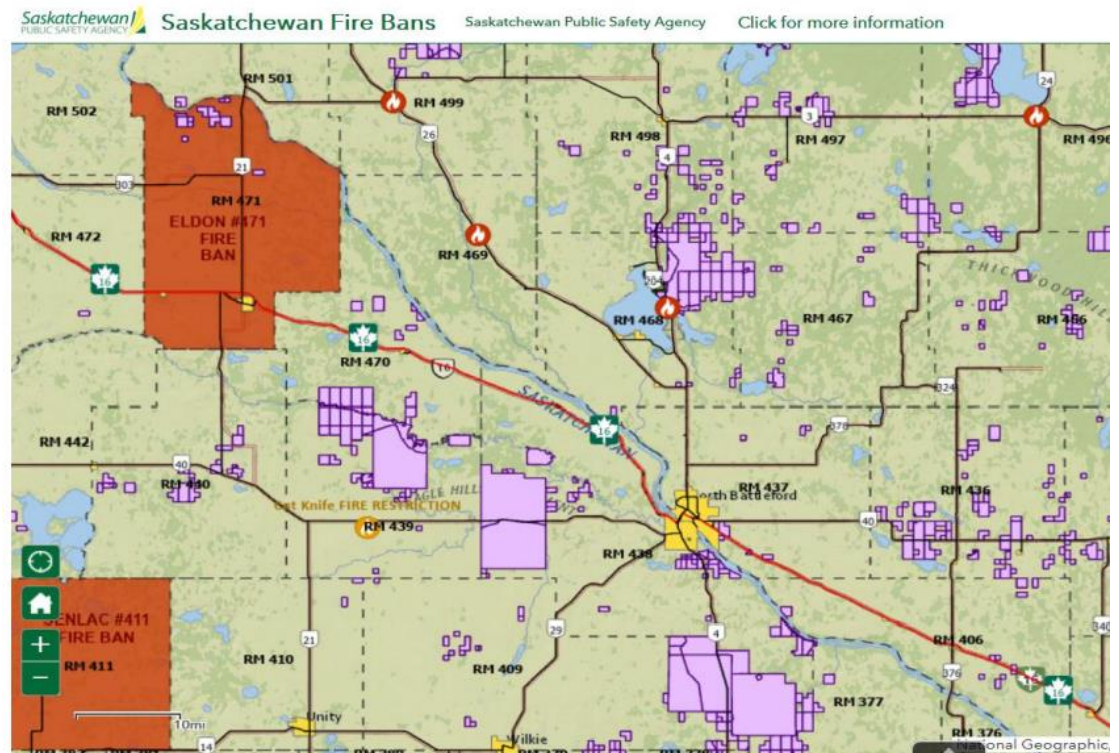
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Preparing for Wildland Fires

- FireSmart – program that helps you to prevent and prepare for wildfires
- Fire Ban
- Controlled Burn Line – 1-866-404-4911
- Burn Notification
 - If you planning to burn inside or within 4.5 km during wildfire season (April 1 to October 31)

Fire Bans

- Shows RM names
- Shows highways, municipalities and parks
- Works on any mobile, laptop or tablet device





GUTTERS AND EAVES

The gutters on your home provide a place for combustible debris to accumulate and open eaves create an entry point for sparks and embers.

Consider these guidelines when designing and maintaining your home.

DESIGN

Select a boxed-in or soffited-eave design for your home. Exposed or open eaves create an entry point for sparks and embers.

Install a drip edge at the roof edge above the gutters to protect any exposed roof sheathing or fascia.



Gutter Guard



No Gutter Protection



With Gutter Guard

Wildfire Preparedness Tips



Protect your home and community

- Disposing of cigarettes properly
- Making fire breaks that can slow a fire's progress
- Keeping your lawn cut and leaves raked up
- Not parking on dry grass
- Not burning trash or leaves unless they are in a damp or grass-free area
- Teaching children to not play with fire or matches

FireSmart

- Remove combustibles from under your deck
- Clean gutters and roofs
- Keep grass and weeds trimmed
- Plant wildfire resistant vegetation
- Add non-combustible screens to vents
- Prune trees and keep firewood away from home
- <https://firesmartcanada.ca/>



Community and household emergency planning

- 1) Family communications plan
- 2) Evacuation plan and muster point
- 3) Emergency numbers
- 4) Fire and other safety
- 5) Important documents

Family communications plan

Remind community members to:

- Have out of town contacts
- Remember that texts may get through when the phone lines are down
- Make sure everyone in your household knows the emergency contacts

Evacuation plan and route



- Create and practice primary and secondary escape plans
- Consider your living situation
- Don't forget to include your pets in your evacuation plan!
- Once outside, DO NOT go back inside to retrieve a pet

Emergency Numbers

- Teach children when and how to dial 911
- Keep a list of emergency contacts handy
- Ensure all family members know where this list is located
- 911
- Police
- Fire department
- Family doctor
- Family and friends who can support in a crisis

Civic Address Registry (CAR)

- Used by municipalities, regional/provincial parks and First Nations communities
- Aids in emergency response planning and dispatch
- For support contact the Provincial Helpdesk:
1-844-407-0077 support@saskaddress.ca



Fire and other safety

- Follow general rules for smoke alarms, carbon monoxide detectors and fire extinguishers
- The SPSA receives reports of all fires that occur in the province. These numbers are included in the 2020-21 annual report
 - Between 2016 and 2021, the five-year average of civilian fatalities caused by fires (excluding wildfires) is just over 10 deaths a year



Pet essentials

- Food and water
- Current photos of you and your pet
- Medications and medical record
- Pet first aid kit
- Crate or other pet carrier
- Sanitation
 - i.e. litter, litter box, plastic bags, container of household bleach to provide for pet sanitation

Finalized plan

- Keep plan in an easily accessible location
- Ensure everyone knows where it is
- Discuss your plan with family
- Practice your plan
- Remember to Update!

Build a Kit

- 72-hour kit
 - Non-perishable food
 - Bottled water
 - Medication(s)
 - Flashlight
 - Batteries
 - First aid kit
 - Candles/lighter
 - Extra car keys and cash
 - Garbage bags
 - Blanket or sleeping bag
 - Activities for children
 - Items for babies or small children – diapers, formula, bottles, baby food

Public Education in the Community

Fire won't wait.

Plan your escape.™



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK™



The diagram shows a floor plan of a house with various rooms. Red dashed arrows indicate escape routes from each room. A stick figure is shown in a room with a red '1' next to it, and another red '2' is shown in a hallway. A tree outside is marked with an 'X' and labeled 'Meeting Place'.



Regional Fire Risks

Rural areas

- Larger distances for emergency personnel to travel
- Fire death rates in rural areas are very high
- Common Fire Problems
 - Heating is common cause of residential structure fires
 - Fixed heaters, including wood stoves
 - Damaged electrical equipment
 - Lack of smoke alarms

Urban areas

- Changing demographics
- Intentional fire rates and arson fire rates are highest in large cities

Top fire causes - 2015-2019

- **Candles**

- Candles caused 2% of reported home fires, 3% of home fire deaths, 6% of home fire injuries and 4% of the direct property damage in home fires
- 37% of home fire candles started in bedrooms

- **Cooking**

- Cooking caused 49% of reported home fires, 20% of reported home fire deaths, and 42% of home fire injuries
- Frying dominates the cooking fire problem
- Clothing ignitions caused 8% of home cooking fire deaths (source: nfpa.org/Public-Education)

Top fire causes

- **Electrical**

- Wiring and related equipment account for 11% of all home fire deaths



- **Heating**

- Most home fire deaths, 81%, involved stationary or portable space heaters

- **Smoking**

- The risk of dying in a home structure fire caused by smoking materials rises with age (Source: nfpa.org/Public-Education)
- Over the last year in Saskatchewan, 11% of determined residential fires have been caused by cigarettes or smoking materials

Planning for vulnerable people

- Older adults
 - In Canada, adults aged 65 and older make up about 12 percent of the population
 - Adults aged 65 and older are twice as likely to be killed or injured in a fire

Planning for vulnerable people

- Safety Tips:
 - Keep it low
 - Sound the alarm
 - Do the drill
 - Open up
 - Stay connected

Planning for vulnerable people

- If you or anyone in your family has special needs, be sure your plan reflects them
- Five General Categories of Disabilities
 - Mobility
 - Blind or low vision
 - Deaf or hard of hearing
 - Speech
 - Cognitive
- For more information go to nfpa.org/public-education

Planning for vulnerable people

- Four elements of evacuation information that people need
 - Notification (What is the emergency?)
 - Way finding (Where is the way out?)
 - Use of the way (Can I get out by myself, or do I need help?)
 - Self, self with device, self with assistance
 - Assistance (What kind of assistance might I need?)
 - Who, What, Where, When, How

Seasonal Fire Causes



Keep everyone safe this Thanksgiving.
Stay in the kitchen and focus on the food
when you are cooking on the stovetop.

[Download](#)



Thanksgiving may be different this year, but remember to:
set a timer for the oven;
stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.

[Download](#)

Behavioral Risks

- **Hoarding**

- Fire hazard
- Many occupants die in fires in these homes
- Blocked exits prevent escape from the home
- Responding firefighters can be put at risk due to obstructed exits and falling objects



Learn Not To Burn

For preschool and kindergarten students



LNTB Preschool Program

This program integrates literacy, movement, music, and dramatic play to provide a developmentally appropriate learning experience for children ages 3-5.

Free! Download this program in English and Spanish.



LNTB Kindergarten Program

This program presents six fire-safety messages that can be taught as a stand-alone unit or integrated in language arts core curriculum lessons.

Free! Download this program.



For Grade 1 and Grade 2 students



LNTB Grade 1

This program presents six fire-safety messages using classroom lessons, activities and home connections.

Free! Download this program.



LNTB Grade 2

This program presents six fire-safety messages using classroom lessons, activities and home connections.

Free! Download this program.

Fire Won't Wait. Plan Your Escape.





Sparky the Fire Dog and Smokey Bear

- Available for appearances or parades
- SPSA can provide the suit, you provide a handler and someone to wear it
- Pick up in Regina or Saskatoon
- Contact Jamie (me) for more information



Questions?

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Thank you and have a safe drive home!



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