



RURAL RESILIENCE: YOUR GUIDE TO STAYING INFORMED AND PREPARED DURING WILDFIRE SEASON

In recent years, British Columbia has grappled with devastating wildfires that have sparked across the province, posing a significant threat to communities, ecosystems, and public safety. In the face of wildfires, smokey air and potential evacuations, staying informed through official sources such as emergency agencies, government channels, and reliable news outlets and remaining diligent and prepared is your best strategy for ensuring the safety of yourself, your loved ones, and your community.

Staying Informed

[EmergencyInfoBC](#) is the official informational source for BC residents to access up-to-date information on road closures, evacuation alerts and orders, new and growing wildfires and more. You can also follow @EmergencyInfoBc on Twitter/X.

[BC Wildfire Service](#) is the wildfire management agency in BC. Refer to their website or download the BC Wildfire app to access real-time maps, updates and wildfire information.

[BC Government News](#) releases updates on wildfires, evacuation orders, available resources and other information pertaining to current events across BC.

[Emergency Management BC \(EMBC\)](#) is a government agency that coordinates emergency management activities in BC. They offer information on emergency preparedness, response and recovery.

[BC Air Quality](#) website provides real-time air quality information and health directives including the [Air Quality Health Index \(AQHI\) forecast](#) across the province.

The [Wildfire Smoke Forecast](#) is provided by the Government of Canada and provides a wildfire smoke forecast that will assist in anticipating air quality changes.

Visit [DriveBC](#) for information on road closures, conditions and traffic updates related to wildfires, vehicle incidents and other circumstances. @DriveBC also delivers up-to-date information via Twitter/X. Your local highway maintenance contractor will also provide up-to-date information about road conditions and closures in your area via social media.

Many Regional Districts and municipalities use a mass notification system such as [VoyentAlert!](#) or [Alertable](#). Visit your local regional district or municipality's website to learn more and sign up.

Getting Prepared

In many rural and remote parts of the province, emergency preparedness plans and resources are limited, making individual and household emergency preparedness crucial in protecting communities, homes and lives from wildfire and other emergencies.

Stay up to date on government recommendations for how to [prepare for a wildfire and stay safe during an emergency](#). Access the [Government of Canada's Emergency Preparedness Guide](#).

[FireSmart BC](#) is a comprehensive wildfire mitigation program aimed at reducing the risk of wildfire damage to communities and properties in British Columbia through education, prevention, and preparedness measures. Many communities offer FireSmart programs.

[PreparedBC](#) is British Columbia's official emergency preparedness program. It offers a wide range of resources, guides, and tips to help individuals and communities prepare for emergencies. Their resources include specific information tailored for rural residents, such as evacuation planning, a [Wildfire Preparedness Guide](#), a [Home Preparedness Guide](#) and emergency communication strategies.



United Way
British Columbia

Working with communities in BC's
Interior, Lower Mainland, Central
& Northern Vancouver Island



British Columbia Rural Health Network

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