

Some Emergency Preparedness Tips for MNBP

In an emergency, you will need some basic supplies. You may need to get by without power and tap water. Depending on the emergency in your area, it may take emergency works some time to reach you. You should be prepared to take care of yourself and your family for a **minimum of 72 hours**. See **the Personal Emergency Plan Information** on the Municipal website to prepare your own Emergency Survival Kit.

If an emergency occurs, listen to our local radio stations (AM 560, FM 106.5, FM 92.3, FM 93.7, or FM 90.7)

Communications difficulties are the #1 problem in emergencies. Emergency information and updates, including instructions on what you need to do if anything will be broadcast on the above local radio stations. It is very important that phone lines (both cell and land) are not overwhelmed with calls since this could overload the systems to the point that emergency communications cannot get through. Keep a corded phone in your home, as most cordless phones will not work during a power outage.

Plan ahead and prepare now

For example, if an ice storm knocked out power for three days during the winter, where would you shelter?

- Properly wired back-up power (i.e. a generator) will allow your home to function in a power outage. If you don't have back-up power, perhaps you could make arrangements to stay with a neighbour does. Or you or a neighbour may have a shop or garage with wood or another type of convection heat that would function as temporary living quarters if necessary. Work with your neighbours to identify people who may need extra help during an emergency.
- Identify a water source you could access if electric well pumps cannot run. Best to a large container of bottled water on hand and fill any spare pails for bathroom use.
- Have a food supply on hand and a means to cook it -- but, remember, if you use a barbeque, use it outdoors only.
- Camping lanterns or candles could be used as a light source.
- If you have special needs (i.e. medical apparatus, no back-up heat, or limited mobility) and you will require assistance during an emergency, you could make arrangements with a relative or friend to assist you. Do not wait until an event occurs to do this since phone lines could be down at that time.

- Transportation would be an issue if roads are **closed**. While sheltering in place is your best bet and normal travel would not be recommended, think about how you would deal with this. Many residents have snow machines that could be used to check on and assist neighbours. If the roads are closed, please don't try to travel on them, as it could result in a ticket and puts rescue personnel in danger in the event of blizzard or white out conditions.

Emergency personnel and Municipal staff continually monitor the weather conditions throughout the Municipality during prolonged severe weather conditions and wide spread power outages. Depending on conditions, Municipal warming centres may have to be activated. Again, this continues to be reviewed as circumstances and information becomes available.

In the event the Municipal office is closed and you feel you are in an emergency situation, please contact 911. If it is an emergency situation that involves water, sewer, or road hazard conditions, please contact, the Municipal office and the answering service will contact the applicable department after hours or during office closures.