



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

## PUBLIC ADVISORY REGARDING EVACUATION ALERT

AUGUST 15, 2023

### The City just issued an Evacuation Alert, what does that mean?

- An Evacuation Alert means that there is an increased risk to Yellowknife due to wildfire nearing the community. Residents should be prepared.
- There would be an Evacuation Order given if the risk escalates. The situation may change.
- It is time to prepare yourself and your family to evacuate your premises or property should it be necessary.
- Residents will be given as much advanced notice as possible prior to Evacuation Order. You may receive limited notice due to changing conditions.
- The City can advise residents that if an evacuation is determined to be necessary, residents will be notified of the location of evacuation centres and the safest route to take to those centres.

### Ensure that you're getting your information from trusted sources.

- Monitor the [City's website](#), the [Government of the Northwest Territories' websites](#), and [NWT Fire's Facebook page](#).

### What should you do?

- Make a plan. Talk to those in your household and create a designated meeting area outside the evacuation area. Plan a place to meet in case an Evacuation Order is called when separated.
  - o Have an evacuation plan in place and communicate that plan with people living in the residence and neighbours.
- Pack essential items such as government-issued ID, medications, eyeglasses, valuable papers (e.g., insurance, credit, and mortgage information), immediate care needs for dependents and, if time and space permits, keepsakes for quick departure.
- Ensure you have an emergency kit. More information can be found here: <https://www.getprepared.gc.ca/index-en.aspx>.
- Residents should arrange accommodations with family or friends before an Evacuation Order, if possible.
- Hook up all recreational vehicles and trailers.
- Check on neighbours and work together.
- Arrange transportation for all your household members. Ensure all personal vehicles are fully fueled.
- Pre-register on the NWT's Evacuee Registration Form here: <https://www.gov.nt.ca/en/form/evac>.

**Communications:**

The City understands that residents are concerned with the situation in the area and in the rest of the territory. Residents will be notified of any updated levels of risk via the emergency alert functions on cell phones.

The City has been assured by NorthwestTel that if the fiber optic line was to be compromised, cell phones and cellular data will still be accessible for residents. Emergency information on the internet will be available to residents via the City's website and social media. If in the unlikely event that communications are affected, the City will put out paper updates at City Hall and the Multiplex for residents to access.

We have been asked for a more specific plan and what will happen in the event of an evacuation. The situation is dynamic. Actions will depend on the conditions and risks of a specific situation. The City can advise residents that if an evacuation is determined to be necessary, residents will be notified of the location of evacuation centres and the safest route to take to those centres.



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### CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE: BE PREPARED CHECKLIST

The City of Yellowknife is advising residents of Yellowknife regarding the ongoing threat of Behchoko/Yellowknife Fire (ZF015).

To ensure good preparedness we are advising residents to:

1. Review your household emergency plan and discuss it with all involved.
2. Ensure you have an emergency kit.
  - For help with developing a household emergency plan and kit please visit: <https://www.maca.gov.nt.ca/en/services/be-ready-emergencies/be-ready-make-emergency-plan-and-kit> and [getprepared.gc.ca](http://getprepared.gc.ca) or <https://www.getprepared.gc.ca/index-en.aspx>.
3. Pre-register on the Government of the Northwest Territories' Evacuee Registration Portal here: <https://www.gov.nt.ca/en/form/evac>.
  - Having residents pre-registered will help the City with planning activities to provide better support during an evacuation. It will allow you to let your community government know if you have support needs in the event of an evacuation such as:
    - (i) Do you need to stay at an evacuation centre?
    - The goal of emergency management is to provide for the initial basic needs of those affected by an emergency or disaster event when residents do not have the necessary resources. It is recommended residents pre-identify places they can stay in the event of an evacuation, such as with family, friends, or other arrangements. This ensures the least amount of disruption in terms of care and comfort.

Evacuation centres may be set up for those evacuees who do not have other arrangements. These are often group lodging facilities such as school gymnasiums and recreation centres. Individuals who make their own arrangements for evacuation and hosting throughout an emergency or disaster event do so at their own cost.

- (ii) Do you require transportation?
- (iii) Will you be bringing a service animal?
- (iv) Do you have any additional support needs?  
For example, if you have mobility issues or a health condition that will require medical attention, please select this option.

If you need help completing your pre-registration form please contact the Yellowknife Public Library at 867-920- 5642 and a member of our Staff will arrange a time to assist you.

4. Monitor the [City's website](#), the [Government of the Northwest Territories' websites](#), and [NWT Fire's Facebook page](#). Ensure that you're getting your information from trusted sources.