

# KTC Emergency Services Newsletter



## JUNE 2025

### Message from the KTC Emergency Services Coordinators (ESCs)

**Dear Chiefs, Council Members, Directors, Staff of  
Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal Council, and to our partners in the  
Governments of Alberta and Canada and the  
City of Edmonton:**

Thank you for your outstanding leadership and teamwork during the recent wildfires that led to the evacuation of Loon River First Nation and Peerless Trout First Nation. Because of the tireless efforts of KTC's Health, Finance, IT, Emergency Services, Child and Family Services, and Educational Authority departments, approximately 1,500 residents were safely sheltered, cared for, and supported.

We also salute the hard-working firefighters who, day in and day out, risk everything to protect our communities from these devastating fires. Your courage and dedication are the backbone of our collective safety.

To the Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal Council leadership, your decisive coordination and clear communication ensured that medical care, financial relief, technological support, emergency response, family services, and educational continuity were all in place at a moment's notice. To the Governments of Alberta and Canada, your swift financial and logistical backing has been indispensable. And to the City of Edmonton, your generous provision of facilities and supplies has made a real difference for those displaced.

This crisis has reminded us that unity and mutual aid are our greatest strengths. Thank you to every individual, team, and partner whose spirit of service has safeguarded lives and strengthened our community bonds.

With deepest respect and appreciation,  
Thank You.

### Ongoing Events

- Tabletop training exercises with AEMA & Band Leadership.
- Census Data Collection
- Education & Engagement

### Next Month's Events

**July 01, 2025**

- Canada Day

**July 14-18, 2025**

- Treaty Days - PTFN#478

**July 20-21, 2025**

- Treaty Days - WFLFN#459

### This Month's Events

**June 1-present, 2025**

- Loon River and Peerless/Trout First Nation Wildfire Evacuation Presentation

**June 15, 2025**

- Father's Day

**June 20-22, 2025**

- Treaty Days- Woodland Cree FN

**June 21, 2025**

- National Aboriginal Day

### **Did you know?**

Many of northern Alberta's most iconic pine species actually depend on wildfire to reproduce?

Their cones are "serotinous," meaning they stay tightly closed until the intense heat of a blaze melts the resin seal—then thousands of seeds burst out to colonize the freshly cleared forest floor!



**Find ME!**

Scan this QR code with your phone to access the KTC Emergency Services on Facebook!



# WILDFIRE



## Thoughtful Remarks

As we enter another high-risk fire season, it's more important than ever to stay informed about recent wildfire activity in Alberta including within **Treaty 8 and Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal territories.**

**2023 evacs:** During the May 2023 provincial state of emergency, nine First Nations were placed under mandatory evacuation as hundreds of wildfires raged across northern Alberta. Over 43,000 Albertans were displaced that spring, highlighting the need for emergency preparedness in rural and Indigenous communities([windspeaker.com](http://windspeaker.com)).

**Fort McMurray area (MWF017):** Beginning May 10, 2024, a lightning-caused fire 16 km southeast of Fort McMurray triggered evacuation alerts for roughly 6,000 residents from May 10–18 before cooler weather and firefighting gains contained it ([en.wikipedia.org](http://en.wikipedia.org)). Fort McMurray sits within Treaty 8 boundaries, underscoring the ongoing threat to communities across the treaty area.

**Jasper National Park fire:** On July 22, 2024, multiple lightning-ignited blazes merged near Jasper, forcing a mass evacuation of 25,000 residents, visitors, and workers. The order remained in place until August 17; by September 7 the complex was declared under control after burning some 39,000 ha and costing insurers an estimated \$880 million ([en.wikipedia.org](http://en.wikipedia.org)).



## Today 2025

2025 season so far: By the start of June, over 115 fires scorched 345,000 ha in the **Slave Lake Forest Area** alone. On May 29, **Loon River First Nation and Peerless Trout First Nation (Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal territory)** endured evacuation alerts as nearby blazes threatened their communities. ([alberta.ca](http://alberta.ca), [facebook.com](https://facebook.com))

By learning from past fire seasons—including the 2023 evacuation of **Whitefish Lake #459**—and staying proactive in **Treaty 8** and **Kee Tas Kee Now territories**, you'll be better equipped to protect your loved ones and neighbors when wildfire strikes.

*Stay safe, stay ready!*

The **Edith Lake wildfire (SWF076)** ignited about seven km north of **Swan Hills** on May 25, 2025, prompting a full evacuation of roughly 1,300 residents on May 26 under a provincial state of emergency; by June 4 the blaze had burned an estimated 16,883 ha and was classified as "held," allowing residents to return on June 5 under a four-hour evacuation alert should conditions change.



For real-time alerts and interactive maps, visit the **Alberta Wildfire Status Dashboard**.



The **Alberta Wildfire** app puts live wildfire data in your hands with an interactive map that shows active fire locations, size, status and cause. You can customize alerts for fires in your area and view detailed briefings as incidents evolve. Staying informed about nearby blazes helps you make safer choices and plan ahead.

The **Alberta Fire Bans** app delivers up-to-the-minute fire-restriction statuses across municipalities and public lands. Its colour-coded map clearly shows where campfires, burning barrels or debris fires are banned, restricted or allowed. Checking it before you light up keeps you compliant and helps prevent accidental wildfires.

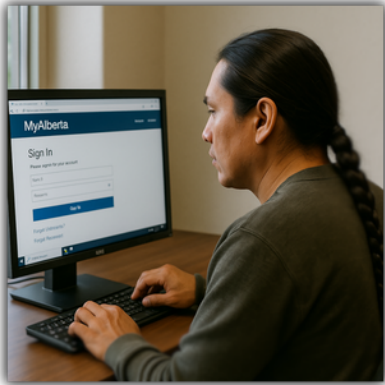
The **Alberta Emergency Alert (AEA)** app sends official warnings—wildfires, floods, severe weather and more—straight to your phone in real time. You'll receive evacuation orders, shelter-in-place directives and recommended routes for any subscribed zones. Keep notifications on so you get vital instructions the moment they're issued.

# PREPAREDNESS



## How to Be Prepared for a Wildfire Evacuation

When wildfire threatens your community, having a clear plan and key resources at your fingertips can make all the difference. Use this guide to assemble your emergency kit, safeguard important documents, and find critical links for registration and real-time updates.



### Real-Time Alerts & Situation Updates

Alberta Emergency Alert (SMS/email):  
<https://www.alberta.ca/emergency-alert.aspx>  
Alberta Wildfire Status Dashboard (live maps & fire perimeters): <https://wildfire.alberta.ca/>  
Alberta 511 Road Conditions (closures due to fire activity):  
<https://511.alberta.ca/>  
Alberta Wildfire Facebook & X (@ABGovFire):  
Follow for photos, videos, and official advisories!

### Evacuee Registration (If Away > 6 Days)

If you're evacuated for more than six days, you can register for provincial supports:

Sign in at MyAlberta:  
<https://www.alberta.ca/myalberta.aspx>  
Navigate to Emergency Programs → Evacuee Registration Complete the online form to access financial and logistical assistance

### Communication & Family Plan

Designate an out-of-town contact to relay messages  
Agree on a meeting point if separated  
Keep all phones charged;  
share portable power banks  
Prepare pet carriers, leashes, food, and vaccination records

### Practice FireSmart at Home

Clear vegetation, leaves, and firewood at least 10 m from structures, trim tree branches so they're 2 m away from your roof and gutters  
Install ember-resistant vents and close all eaves, windows, and doors if smoke approaches



## June Is Peak Wildfire Season What That Means for Your Community

June marks the heart of Alberta's wildfire season, especially across northern regions and forested territories. Warmer temperatures, drier conditions, and increased lightning activity all combine to elevate fire risk throughout the month. For rural and Indigenous communities—many of which are surrounded by boreal forest—the threat can be fast-moving and intense.

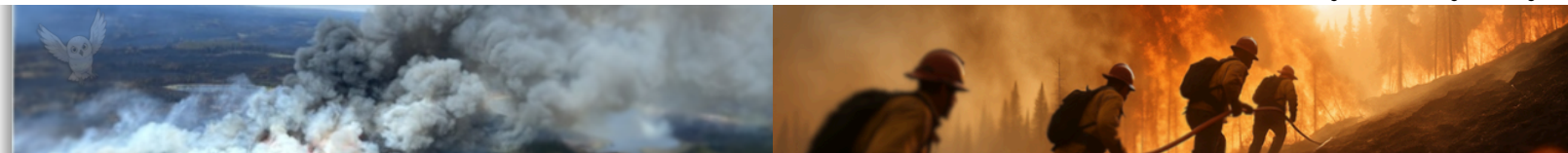
From knowing evacuation routes to practicing how to shelter-in-place if escape isn't possible. Community-wide alerts can come at a moment's notice, and the better prepared you are ahead of time, the safer you and your loved ones will be when the heat rises. Consider organizing a neighborhood safety check, reviewing local hazard maps, or contacting your band council or emergency coordinator for wildfire-specific resources.

### Community Resilience and Wildfire Recovery Resources

Wildfires can cause damage that lasts long after the smoke clears. That's why communities must not only prepare for the fire but also for the recovery. If you've been displaced for six or more days, Alberta's evacuee registration system through **MyAlberta** helps residents access funding, accommodations, and support services.

June is also a time to raise awareness about mental health in the face of climate disasters. Anxiety, stress, and trauma after a wildfire are common, especially in tight-knit or rural communities where traditions and land are deeply tied to personal identity. Community members are encouraged to share stories, offer support, and check in on elders, children, and vulnerable neighbors. Encourage your local leadership to host workshops or healing circles to support mental and emotional recovery during and after the fire season.

*"Stay safe, stay ready!"*



# FIRESMART HOME ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

KTC Emergency Services is beginning an ongoing FireSmart Home Assessment Program (FHA) in all five KTC member nations. Your KTC Emergency Service Coordinators have completed advanced FireSmart training and will come and assess your home and property free of charge.

The FHA is a voluntary educational opportunity for KTC community members who want to better understand and mitigate wildfire risk at their homes, cabins, or businesses. An advanced FireSmart Home Assessment will highlight risk areas and recommend specific actions and upgrades residents can make to increase their property's resilience to wildfire\*\*

For more information or to get your property assessed:  
Call KTC Emergency Services @ (587) 408-9014

**\*\*DISCLAIMER\*\* The KTC FHA is solely an educational program:**

If the assessment indicates that your home would benefit from upgrades, renovations, or repairs, it is **NOT** the responsibility of your local housing department to repair or upgrade it. Additionally, the results of a FHA will **NOT** affect your home insurance rates or premiums.



Completing FireSmart™ measures can significantly reduce the risk of wildfire damaging your home.

# Colour Me



# CHECK LIST



## EMERGENCY EVACUATION – ITEMS TO GATHER

# of Vehicles \_\_\_\_\_ Drivers \_\_\_\_\_ Trailers \_\_\_\_\_ Motorcycles \_\_\_\_\_

### 15-minute warning/Primary Essentials:

- Important Documents:
  - IDs (Passports, driver's license)
  - Insurance papers (home, health, car)
  - Medical records, medication
  - Birth certificate, deeds, etc.
  - Emergency contact list, (hard copy)
- Medication & Medical Essentials:
  - Prescription meds (few days' supply)
  - Inhalers, EpiPens, Glasses/Contacts
- Cash: Small bills and coins
- Payment Cards: Debit/Credit/Gift Cards
- Communication: Cell phone(s), charger(s), Power bank
- Keys: House, car, safe
- Children Essentials: (if applicable)
  - Diapers, Formula, Baby Food, Medication
  - Favorite toy/blanket
- Pet Essentials: (if applicable)
  - Carrier(s), Leash
  - Pet Food, Water Bowl, Medication
  - Favorite toy/blanket
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

### 1-hour warning/Tertiary Essentials:

- 3-day food, special diet items
- Address book, phone list
- Battery radio, extra batteries
- Computer, Monitor, Laptop, USBs/Digital Storage Unit
- Financial, medical data; Wills, Powers of Attorney
- Genealogy records, files
- Gloves, dust mask for smoke
- Ice cooler w/ ice, food, drinks
- Jewelry & most-valuable personal possessions
- Other meds, supplements
- Paper plates, cups, utensils
- Personal property list, photos & appraisals, documentation
- Pet food, dishes, bedding, litter
- Pillows, sleeping bags, blankets
- School items, homework, pen, pencil, books, calculator, paper
- Take or safeguard guns, ammo
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

### 30-Minute warning/Secondary Essentials:

- (all the above, plus)
- Basic clothing & Personal Items:
    - 3+ Changes of clothing, Underwear, Socks
    - Weather-appropriate items (Jacket, hat, rain gear, shoes/boots)
  - Hygiene Supplies:
    - Toothbrush/Toothpaste
    - Toilet paper, hand wipes, hand sanitizer, soap
    - Feminine hygiene products (pads, tampons)
  - Food & Water:
    - Snacks (non-perishable: Protein bars, nuts)
    - Water Bottles/ Gal. jugs of drinking water
  - Emergency Tools:
    - Flashlight (with Batteries)
    - Multi-tool/pocketknife
    - Whistle
    - First aid kit/ medical items
  - Sentimental/irreplaceable items: Family photos, heirlooms (if small & easy to carry)
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_

### 2-hour+ warning/Quaternary Essentials:

- Albums, photos, home videos
- Camping equipment, tent
- Family photos on display
- Heirlooms, art, collections
- Historical/Military decorations, records, mementoes, plaques
- Journals, diaries, letters
- Luggage (packed)
- Primary cosmetics
- Secondary Vehicles, RV
- Valuable items, cameras
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

### MISCELLANEOUS:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

# IMPORTANT NUMBERS



**Alberta 211 – 24/7 support**

**Call: 2-1-1**  
**Text: 'info' to 211**  
**visit: [ab.211.ca](http://ab.211.ca)**



**GoA Active Emergency Updates**

**Call centre: 310-4455**  
**(available in 200+ languages)**

**Monday to Friday**  
**8:15 am to 4:30 pm**

**Visit:**  
**[alberta.ca/emergency](http://alberta.ca/emergency)**



**Alberta Supports**

**Contact Centre:**  
**1-877-644-9992**

**Visit:**  
**<https://myalbertasupports.alberta.ca/>**

**Hope for Wellness Helpline**

**Hope for Wellness 24/7 Hotline**

**Call: 1-855-242-3310**  
**Visit:**  
**[www.hopeforwellness.ca](http://www.hopeforwellness.ca)**



**Alberta Health Services**

**24-hour Mental Health**

**Help Line: 1-877-303-2642**

**<https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/amh/amh.aspx>**



**24-hour Emergency income support**

**Call: 1-866-644-5135**  
**(outside Edmonton area)**  
**780-644-5135 (Edmonton)**

**Visit:**  
**[alberta.ca/emergency-financial-assistance](http://alberta.ca/emergency-financial-assistance)**



**24-hour Health Link**

**Call: 8-1-1**  
**Text: "Heat"/ "Wildfire" to 88111**

**Visit:**  
**[MyHealth.Alberta.ca/811](http://MyHealth.Alberta.ca/811)**



**Alberta Indigenous Virtual Care Clinic (AIVCC)**

**Alberta Indigenous Virtual Care Clinic**

**Call: 1-888-342-4822**  
**Visit: [aivcc.ca/](http://aivcc.ca/)**



**Government of Canada**

**Gouvernement du Canada**

**Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB)**

**Call: 1-800-232-7301**  
**Visit: [canada.ca/nihb](http://canada.ca/nihb)**

# Thank You for Your Support!!



## KTC EMERGENCY SERVICES: 2025 ONLINE CENSUS

### EVACUATION PRE-REGISTRY

USE YOUR CELL CAMERA TO SCAN THE QR CODE FOR DIRECT ACCESS!\*

\* If the camera is unable to read the QR Code, Please download a QR scanning app.



**"15 MINUTES TODAY, PREPARED FOR TOMORROW!"**

## Contact us

**KTC Emergency Services**

TOLL- FREE NUMBER:  
(587) 415-1818, ext 301

DIRECT LINE:  
(587) 408-9014

## Proudly Serving our Nations!

