



VILLAGE OF BELCARRA

"Between Forest and Sea"

4084 BEDWELL BAY ROAD, BELCARRA, B.C. V3H 4P8

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EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN

INTRODUCTION

Understanding this plan will help you in the following three ways:

1. Prepare for a disaster so your chances of surviving safely are greatly improved.
2. After a disaster (should you need help) to determine the type of help you can expect, and how to summon it.
3. After a disaster (should you be able to help) to determine where to go and how you will be best utilized.

The following pages are a guide to assist in establishing your own family disaster plan. It is designed to identify the three steps to be taken.

BEFORE — DURING — and AFTER, a disaster strikes.

Although this plan is focused on the most probable cause of a disaster, (an earthquake) the essential elements of it can be applied to any event which requires the village residents to be completely self sufficient. This means no outside resources or assistance for a period of up to 72 hours.

The emergency information cards are weather-proofed. Read them and discuss their contents with your family and keep them with your home disaster kit, along with any other important family disaster plan information.

NOTE: If you do not have the weather-proofed emergency information cards, contact the Village Office to obtain a set for your family:

Village of Belcarra
4084 Bedwell Bay Road
Belcarra, BC V3H 4R9
Tel: 604-937-4100
Fax: 604-937-5034
Email: lfloyd@belcarra.ca

WHAT TO DO BEFORE

72 HOUR FAMILY SURVIVAL KIT

1. This information package (keep it with your survival kit)
2. Portable radio (plus extra batteries*)
* To preserve shelf-life — store the batteries in your refrigerator.
3. First Aid Kit (including any family medication)
4. Bottled water (at least 12 litres per person)
5. Canned and dried food (for 3 days)
6. Two (2) flashlights (extra batteries*)
7. Two or three blankets
8. Fire Extinguisher
9. Matches
10. Extra pair of sturdy shoes / boots (for each family member).

Keep items in a box or camp-cooler, and store on the ground floor near an exit, so it is easy to retrieve during evacuation.

FAMILY PLANNING

- Identify danger sites in your house and on your property; i.e. skylights, large windows and trees, etc.
- Identify safety zones and evacuation routes; i.e. basements, strongly framed doorways, etc.
- Plan for recruiting family (you probably will not all be together when a disaster strikes)
- Make sure the whole family is aware of your family emergency plan.
- Be aware of your neighbours emergency plan and of any special problems they may have; i.e. handicapped, medical problems, elderly, etc.
- Be aware of unique hazards around your home; i.e. large rocks or earth banks which may be dislodged in an earthquake.
- Prepare a checklist of things to do immediately after a disaster; i.e. shut-off gas, electricity, water, storage tanks, etc.

WHAT TO DO DURING

1. **REMAIN CALM.**
2. In the event of an Earthquake:
 - a) Stand inside doorways — keep away from large windows, hanging objects, mirrors, etc.
 - b) Get under a table.
 - c) If outside, keep away from trees, power lines, walls.
3. **STAY INSIDE.** A one or two-story wood frame house is more survivable than most other buildings. Staying inside is less dangerous than standing outside near trees or power lines.
4. If you are in a vehicle, pull over and stop. Stay away from trees and power lines, if possible, and stay in your car.
5. Be prepared for aftershocks.

WHAT TO DO AFTER

1. **Check for injuries** — Provide first aid.
2. **Check for safety** — Identify hazards (i.e. fire – glass – gas or oil leaks – dangerous debris) use your checklist.
3. **Wear shoes** (never attempt to move around barefoot).
4. **Check for building damage** — Is your residence or a portion of it still safe?
5. **Identify your immediate basic survival needs** for the next 72 hours (shelter, food, water, clothing, collect the items you may need)
6. **If you need help** — Place the “**HELP**” card in a spot that is easily visible from the road.
7. **If you are “OK”**, then place the “OK” side in the same manner.
NOTE: If the card cannot be seen, emergency teams will assume you may be injured, please do not waste the emergency team’s valuable time by not placing the “OK” sign out when you may not require immediate assistance.
8. **If you are “OK” and can provide assistance**, respond to Village Hall where you will be equipped and placed on an emergency team.
9. **If you are not injured but do require survival assistance** — (i.e. shelter, food, water, etc), place the “**HELP**” sign-out. Emergency teams will attend and assist you.
10. **Turn-on the radio** to CBC 690 kHz AM, and listen for instructions from emergency agencies.
11. **If your telephones are working, do not use them unless it is to summon emergency assistance.** In most emergency situations telephone systems are overloaded initially. If you must use your telephone, do not hang-up if dial tone is not available immediately. You will gain access sooner if you wait up to twenty (20) seconds before hanging-up.

REMEMBER: Your ability to remain self sufficient for the next 72 hours will greatly assist the emergency teams to render assistance to families immediately after a disaster. Emergency team members will be patrolling the entire Village not only to provide assistance but also to provide you with information on the scope of the disaster.