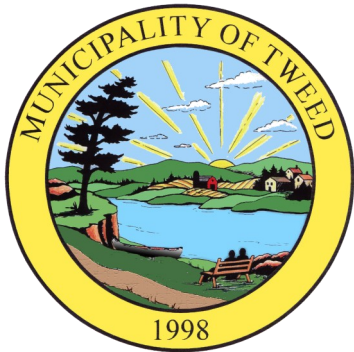


# Emergency Management



For more emergency information, visit the following websites:

[www.tweed.ca](http://www.tweed.ca)

[www.hastingscounty.com](http://www.hastingscounty.com)

[www.getprepared.ca](http://www.getprepared.ca)

[www.ontario.ca/emo](http://www.ontario.ca/emo)

[www.theweathernetwork.com](http://www.theweathernetwork.com)

[www.redcross.ca](http://www.redcross.ca)

[www.weatheroffice.gc.ca](http://www.weatheroffice.gc.ca)

[www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/traveller/trip/](http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/traveller/trip/)

[www.hpechu.on.ca/applications/web\\_cms/index.php?pageid=790&menuid=3447](http://www.hpechu.on.ca/applications/web_cms/index.php?pageid=790&menuid=3447)



## Are You Ready For An Emergency?

The best way to ensure your family is ready for an emergency is to be prepared and make sure everyone knows what to do before, during and after an emergency.

1. Family members should make a plan which identifies the hazards in your home. It is also important to keep a list of emergency phone numbers handy. Make sure your family designates another family member who lives a distance away to be your contact in case of an emergency.

2. Creating a 'ready to go kit' will help ensure that your family is ready to evacuate without delay. Items to consider including in your kit are: a change of clothes, copies of ID, toiletries, cash, essential medications, phone numbers, first aid kit and

flashlights with spare batteries.

3. Staying informed about what is going on around you and the surrounding area during an emergency is also vitally important. You can subscribe to email alerts on the Emergency Management Ontario website, or stay

up-to-date with radio news alerts during an emergency. Keep a battery-operated or crank radio in your 'ready to go kit'.

You can access the **Hastings County Emergency Preparedness Guide** on our website: [tweed.ca](http://www.tweed.ca) or pick up a copy at the Municipal Office.



## Tornadoes

Tornadoes are rotating columns of high winds which, though rare in our area, are not an impossibility and have struck the Municipality of Tweed in the past in the form of twisters. Damage to property can be a horrendous hazard with downed power lines and broken glass.

In the case of a tornado you will want to get as close to the ground as possible, preferably in a basement or shelter in a small interior ground floor room such as a bathroom, closet or hallway. It is a good idea to stay away from windows and outside walls.

If you find yourself in a vehicle during a tornado you should find shelter elsewhere in a building with a strong foundation. If shelter is not available, crouch down in a ditch well away from the vehicle. Be prepared to move from any flooding which may occur due to heavy downpours.

#### Plan For Emergencies:

1. Be Prepared!
2. Make A Plan
3. Prepare Your Kits
4. Know Your Hazards

The 72-Hour Survival Kit includes the following items:

#### Food and Water:

3-5 gallons of water  
Canned or freeze-dried foods  
Manual can opener  
Instant drinks & juices  
Water purifying tablets

#### Warmth and Shelter:

Tent / trailer or other shelter  
Wool blend blankets or sleeping bags  
Emergency reflective blanket  
Lightweight stove & fuel  
Hand & body warm packs  
Rain poncho

#### Tools and Equipment:

Pocket knife  
Flashlight, lantern, candles  
Windproof/waterproof matches  
Shovel, hatchet, axe  
Sewing kit  
Nylon rope & duct tape  
Cooking utensils  
Radio & batteries / crank radio  
First aid kit  
Pen/pencil & writing pad  
Whistle  
Hand sanitizer  
Water resistant duffel or tote

#### Special Items:

Essential medications  
Passports  
Health cards  
Drivers' licences  
Birth certificates  
Bank account & credit card numbers  
Small amount of cash  
Family photos  
Games & toys for children  
Extra house / car keys  
Cell phone, battery charger & car adaptor

You can also be prepared with a Car Survival Kit and a Pet Emergency Survival Kit. For more information on the contents for these kits visit [tweed.ca](http://tweed.ca) to download a copy of the Hastings County Emergency Preparedness Guide or pick up a copy at the Municipal Office.

## Floods

Floods are the most frequent natural hazard in Canada and this past year has been especially harsh. Floods are typically caused by seasonal melting in the early spring, coupled with heavy rain storms.

During a flood it is important to not walk through moving water that is more than six inches deep. Keep children away from any flood water, and be aware yourself that flash flooding can occur.

The best option is to seek higher ground.

In order to prepare your home for possible flooding you can put weather protection sealant around basement windows and the base of ground-level doors. You should also consider installing drainage which ensures that water moves away from your building. Never keep valuables in your basement, and ensure your family has a plan if flooding occurs.

Flooding in rural areas can



affect the safety of drinking water from wells. Water should be tested on a regular basis, however, it should also be tested immediately following a flood and after a drought situation which is followed by heavy rains.

## Emergency Evacuation Centre



The Municipality's Emergency Plan identifies the Municipal Building as the primary operations centre during an emergency, with the Tweed Firehall as the secondary centre.

The new Tweed Public School will serve as the Municipality's emergency evacuation centre once it is completed next month. T.H. Senior School has been the emergency evacuation centre for the

past several years.

The municipality purchased a portable generator with funding from the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program to ensure a safe location during emergencies.

The portable generator will supply a source of power to the school while it is being used as an emergency evacuation centre.

## Stay Connected

You can stay up to date on emergencies as they are happening by following **@ontariowarnings** on Twitter or by 'liking' **Emergency Management Ontario** on Facebook.

By utilizing a data plan on your smart phone you will be able to access important

information, even if the power at your home is out. You may also wish to follow **@tweedontario** on Twitter.

Information on all aspects of the Municipality of Tweed are posted on our Twitter page daily and on our website: [www.tweed.ca](http://www.tweed.ca)

