



## Are your family and home safe?

*While we are responding to COVID-19, it is important to also be mindful that we could face supplemental hazards (i.e., earthquakes, floods, etc.). This is an opportunity to better prepare and protect yourselves and your families during an emergency.*

### TAKE SIMPLE PREVENTION MEASURES TO REDUCE YOUR LOSS!

- [Know the risks in your city, make a Family Emergency Plan](#) and keep an [Emergency Kit \(Resources](#) can be downloaded from the [FOCUS Canada website](#)).
- Talk to your family and neighbours about what you would do during an emergency.
- Stock emergency supplies at home (i.e., extra food and water).
- Prepare for possible power outages (i.e., battery-powered flashlights and extra batteries).
- Buy portable chargers to use during an extended power outage to keep your mobile phones charged.
- Sign up for your city's emergency warning system. Learn about your city's emergency plans, warning signals, evacuation routes, and locations of emergency shelters.
- Check all outdoor lighting fixtures to make sure they are working properly. This can safeguard you against neighbourhood crime.
- Download smartphone apps to stay informed (i.e., [Be Ready App by the Canadian Red Cross](#)).
- Review your property insurance and other critical documents.
- Always keep your vehicle's gasoline tank 75% full.

### HOME FIRE SAFETY

- Check all safety devices in your house (i.e., smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors) and make sure the batteries are changed. Replace used or expired fire extinguishers.
- Test your smoke alarms every month by pressing the test button until you hear a sound. If your alarm has no button, it is outdated and needs to be replaced.
- Learn and practice how to [STOP, DROP, and ROLL](#) – a simple fire safety technique to minimize injury.
- Learn more about how to protect your home and property – visit [FireSmart Canada](#).
- Develop a fire escape plan. Identify a safe place for your family to gather, and two (2) escape routes from your neighbourhood. Practice your evacuation plan frequently.

### EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS

- Secure heavy items in your home like bookcases, refrigerators, televisions, and objects that hang on walls. Store heavy and breakable objects on low shelves.
- Install an automatic valve that shuts off the gas when shaking happens during an earthquake.
- Own a home? Hire a foundation specialist or structural engineer to see if anything needs to be done to ensure your property is safe.
- Practice "[DROP, COVER, and HOLD ON](#)" – *it is a simple and effective response that will save lives!*