BFL CANADA

Wildfire Emergency Response BC Evacuation Order Action Steps



If you live in a wildfire prone risk area, the following information is intended to help you understand what to do. Depending on the severity of the situation, an Evacuation Alert or Evacuation Order may be issued in your community. It is important to understand the difference and, to always follow the advice and direction of local authorities.

KNOW THE 4 STAGES OF EVACUATION

Evacuation Alert	Be ready to leave the area on short notice. If not already prepared, use this undetermined period of time to get ready for the possibility of evacuation. Review your emergency plan, stock your grab-and-go bag and monitor local information channels for the latest news.
Evacuation Order	This is an order to evacuate the area. You are at risk. Leave the area immediately. An Emergency Reception & Information Centre will be set up.
Tactical Evacuation	There is sudden threat to life which requires immediate action and there is no time to prepare or issue written warnings. These types of evacuations are often coordinated by the RCMP or local police, with assistance from other agencies.
Evacuation Rescinded	The risk to life and safety has now passed, you may now return to the area.

WHEN YOU RECEIVE AN EVACUATION ORDER

During an Evacuation Order, evacuees should do the following:

- 1. Leave the area immediately. Choosing to remain puts yourself and others in danger.
- 2. Follow instructions provided on where to go.
- 3. Visit Emergency Info BC or follow @EmergencyInfoBC for news and updates.
- 4. Wait for the evacuation to be rescinded before returning home.
- 5. Register online with **Evacuee Registration Assistance (ERA)** to receive emergency support services if told to do so.

RISKS AND DANGERS OF NOT EVACUATING

Receiving an Evacuation Order can be an emotional experience. You may be reluctant to leave your home and community. However, choosing to remain in an area that is under an Evacuation Order puts yourself, your family, and first responders in danger since:

- Evacuation routes can change or become impassible.
- Services, utilities and businesses that you rely on daily may be shut down.
- Help may not be able to reach an evacuated area because of a risk to their own safety or access is blocked.
- In other jurisdictions, fatalities have occurred when people chose to remain behind or waited too long to leave. For reference, a report released by Australia's Bushfire and Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre, 31% of 552 wildfire-related fatalities from 1956 to 2008 were the result of people evacuating too late after an evacuation order was issued. Another 26% of deaths were related to people attempting to defend properties against an advancing wildfire.



FOR THE LATEST ADVISORIES AND EMERGENCY SUPPORT SERVICES INFORMATION

Check for the latest advisories and current evacuation information provided by local authorities at: **EmergencyInfoBC.ca**

WHEN EVACUATING FROM AN IMPACTED AREA

- Stop what you are doing and follow the directions provided.
- Follow all instructions from local officials.
- Contact Emergency Support Services (ESS) or go to the Emergency Reception Centre assigned to your region.
- Do not call 9-1-1 for additional information. Only call 9-1-1 if you are unable to evacuate.

IF EVACUATING WHEN YOU ARE SICK OR HAVE MOBILITY CONCERNS

If you receive an Evacuation Order and are sick or have mobility concerns:

- Tell the person that delivers the evacuation order.
- If possible, evacuate by your own vehicle.
- If you're feeling ill, maintain physical distance wherever possible.
- If you're concerned about COVID-19, speak to a responder at a reception centre. Always follow guidance from your local health authority.

Our team understands the risks faced by Strata Corporations.

CONTACT THE BFL CANADA REALTY INSURANCE SERVICES TEAM

Our team of real estate specialists works collaboratively with you to develop a cohesive, sustainable, long term risk management plan. We are here to guide your annual insurance and risk management solutions to provide you with complete peace of mind.

Our in-house claims team will track your claim from start to finish, providing "front of line" access to preferred restoration firms and adjusters. Their advocacy ensures your claim is well managed.

REPORT A NEW CLAIM

DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS

Toll Free: 1866 669-9602

Email: realestateclaims@bflcanada.ca

24/7 EMERGENCY CLAIMS LINE

Toll Free: 1866 938-5691

