

Community Emergency Guide

Residents may need to take care of themselves for a minimum of 72 hours in an emergency. To help be more prepared, refer to this Community Emergency Guide with tips and resources tailored to our community.

## Emergency Information

#### **EMERGENCY INFORMATION UPDATES**

In an emergency, the Village will use a number of methods to provide updates to the community. The following are some of the ways you can stay informed about an emergency situation.

- Anmore's social media: Twitter (twitter.com/villageofanmore) and Facebook (facebook.com/Village-of-Anmore)
- Anmore website: anmore.com
- Evacuee briefings and posted notices at the Reception Centre
- Email notices (Sign up for notifications at anmore.com)
- Public meetings

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HELP

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assistance is needed





Natural disasters happen and it's important to be prepared. Anmore faces many risks, including forest fires, major windstorms and earthquakes.

The Village of Anmore has identified a number of community safety considerations due to its location. As an example, the community's close proximity to forests along with areas with dense trees and open brush results in risks of forest fires spreading to homes and other buildings. As well, there are a limited number of routes in and out of the community, which can impede evacuations. The Village is also impacted by day-use populations who travel to and through the Anmore for recreation access to areas such as Buntzen Lake.

This guide is designed to provide residents with the basic information they will need to prepare for and respond to an emergency.

Every household should be prepared to care for themselves for at least **72 hours**, but this could be longer depending on the type of emergency.

By preparing for an emergency, you improve the outcomes for you, your family, and your community.

## Being Prepared for an Emergency

A few simple steps can make a big difference in an emergency. Here are tips to be better prepared:

- O Take a first aid course and keep a first aid kit in your home and car.
- O Ensure that you have a working fire extinguisher in your home.
- O Create an emergency plan with your family:
  - Have a paper list of phone numbers;
  - Pick a meeting place for your family to reunite after an event; and
  - Know how to get information in a disaster.

For more tips, check out the PreparedBC Household Emergency Plan under Emergency Preparedness Resources at anmore.com/community/emergency-preparedness.



If you receive an evacuation notice or alert, use this checklist to help prepare and pack essential items for your family:

#### **1. Emergency Family Meeting Place**

- O Ensure all family members are aware of an emergency meeting place outside of the risk area.
- O Have an out-of-province contact number for use if family members are not able to reach the meeting place – be sure the person has an answering machine/voicemail.

#### 2. Identification and Important Papers

- Be sure every family member carries identification at all times.
  This identification can be a wallet card (printed card, driver's licence, student card), clothing label or metal "dog tag" with name, address and phone number.
- O Pack printed copies of health conditions information: e.g. diabetes or heart condition should be noted, as well as allergies to any medications.
- O Keep all important personal information in a water-proof container.
- O Pack insurance documents: property, life, vehicle.
- O Pack printed copies of important phone numbers.
- O Bring other important identification: birth and marriage certificates, passports, immigration papers and/or visas

#### **3. Financial Information**

O Pack cash, debit/credit cards and other financial information, including property ownership information, banking and investment information.

### Emergency Checklist

### 4. Prepare a Personal Emergency Kit in a backpack as a grab-and-go bag for your family members, including:

- O Food and water for at least 72 hours
- O Flashlights and extra batteries
- O AM/FM radio wind-up or with batteries
- O First aid supplies
- O Cellular phone/tablet/laptop and charger
- O Seasonal clothing and blankets
- O Toiletries such as soap, a toothbrush and sunscreen
- O Extra keys for houses and cars
- O Personal hygiene supplies
- O Cash in small bills
- O Any medications necessary for your family
- 5. Be prepared to care for your pets and animals. Have supplies ready to go, including:
- O Leash, muzzle, harness or a pet carrier
- O Food and water for 72 hours
- O Dishes for food and water
- O Dogs roll of plastic bags
- O Cats small container and litter

#### 6. Personal mementos

O Pack any important personal momentos you would want to save in the event of an emergency.



A wildland urban interface fire occurs when a fire moves through wild, forested areas and into a populated area. Around the Village of Anmore there are several small wildfires every year. Most are readily managed by local resources, such as the Sasamat Volunteer Fire Department, who are experienced at dealing with this risk. However, as recent events in B.C. have shown, large fast-moving fires that start in the wild could impact the Village of Anmore more severely.

#### FIRESMART PROGRAM

FireSmart is a provincial government initiative to help property owners understand the ways in which wildfire might threaten structures and property, and the steps that individuals and communities can take to reduce the risk to buildings and property caused by a fire. This starts with simple actions. When you are doing regular yard maintenance or making large scale changes to your landscaping, you can make choices that will help protect your home and community from wildfire and reduce the risk of fires spreading from or through your property.



## Wildland Urban Interface Fire

#### SIMPLE STEPS

- O Clear flammable plants and vegetation from within 10 metres of structures, especially sheds and outbuildings.
- O Ensure that tree branches and vegetation do not overhang roofs.
- O Prune trees to a height of 2 metres above the ground.
- O Clear away dead and dry brush material within 30 metres of any structure.
- O Plant or replace vegetation with fire resistant species.

For more tips, check out the FiresSmart Begins at Home manual under Emergency Preparedness Resources at anmore.com/community/emergency-preparedness.





Storms with high winds are becoming more common, more severe and less associated with specific seasons. Historically, the Village of Anmore has experienced one or more extreme weather incidents each year over the past 10 years.

#### SIMPLE STEPS BEFORE A STORM

- O Remove large branches that overhang buildings.
- O Prune trees with large crowns to thin them and make trees more resilient to high winds.
- Remove dead or dying trees before they become a threat in accordance with the Village's Tree Management Bylaw.
- O When a storm is imminent, secure outside items that could become hazards.
- o Have an emergency kit, food and water prepared to shelter in your house.

#### AFTER A STORM

- Stay 10 metres from any downed powerlines never assume they are off.
- Downed trees, branches and utility poles can collapse never try to clear or move large debris.

# Windstorm



#### PERSONAL EMERGENCY KIT

The following items in your Personal Emergency Kit will help you shelter safely in your home:

- O Food and water for at least 72 hours
- O Flashlights and extra batteries
- O AM/FM radio wind-up or with batteries
- O First aid supplies

- O Cellular phone/tablet/laptop and charger
- O Seasonal clothing and blankets
- O Any medications necessary for your family



Coastal B.C. is prone to severe earthquakes, and it is only a matter of time before one strikes. Anmore is likely to be isolated due to fallen trees, damaged roads and downed power lines. As a result, there will likely be delays in receiving medical assistance, supplies of food, water and emergency gear, and clearance of debris from roadways.

#### SIMPLE STEPS BEFORE AN EARTHQUAKE

- O Secure large furniture to walls and evaluate your home for high objects that could fall.
- O Evaluate your food supplies and consider having two weeks of less-perishable food on hand.
- O Water is critical for survival. Learn how to access and use water stored in your hot water tank, toilet tanks, rain barrels or other sources.
- O Know how to make water safe for drinking.

For more tips, check out the How to Make Water Safe for Drinking and Tips for Disinfecting Drinking Water under Emergency Preparedness Resources at **anmore.com/community/emergency-preparedness**.





#### **DURING AN EARTHQUAKE**

- Drop, cover and hold on.
- Wait 60 seconds after the shaking stops before you move.
- Be prepared for aftershocks.

#### AFTER AN EARTHQUAKE

- Make sure everyone is safe. Provide medical treatment to the injured immediately.
- Put out any fires in or around your home.
- Stay away from downed or damaged powerlines.
- Stay in your home if you are able to. Evacuate if it is not safe.
- Listen for instructions on the radio or through social media.
- Inventory your food and water.



For some emergencies, the safest option is to evacuate the community, and it can happen very quickly. Because there are a limited number of routes in and out of Anmore, it's important for residents to know what they should do when they receive an Evacuation Order. Anmore has developed a new Evacuation Plan to provide clear direction on what to do when evacuated.

For more details, check out the Anmore Evacuation Plan under Emergency Preparedness Resources at **anmore.com/community/ emergency-preparedness**.

#### **EVACUATION TIPS**

When an Evacuation Order is issued, it is critical to act quickly and follow the directions provided by the Village or emergency responders like police, who in some situations will go door-to-door to notify residents.

#### Follow these simple steps when you are being evacuated:

- Use your evacuation checklist and bring a Personal Emergency Kit.
- Use identified evacuation routes. If you don't have access to a vehicle for the evacuation or need assistance to evacuate due to a disability post a "HELP" sign in your window (available in this guide, at Village Hall or at anmore.com/community/emergency-preparedness.)
- Register at the Reception Centre even if you have a place to stay. Reception Centres provide assistance to evacuees, ensure officials know you are safely evacuated and help you stay better informed about the emergency status.

## **Evacuation Plan**

#### **EMERGENCY OPERATIONS KEY TERMS**

#### Shelter-in-Place

There may be situations where the safest response is to remain in your home. This is called shelterin-place. When you are advised to shelter-in-place, it's important to stay inside, close doors and windows, and turn off kitchen and bathroom fans. Evaluate your food and water supplies. Be prepared to remain in your home for up to 72 hours.

#### **Evacuation Alert**

An Evacuation Alert indicates that residents should be prepared to leave at a moment's notice. If you receive an alert, it's a good idea to pull together a grab-and-go bag so you are ready to leave with a moment's notice. If people decide to leave at this point, it is called a voluntary evacuation.

#### **Evacuation Order**

An Evacuation Order means you are at risk and need to leave immediately. This can be enforced by the police.

#### **Evacuation Rescind Order**

Once the situation is resolved and residents may return home, the Village will issue an Evacuation Rescind Order to let evacuees know it is safe to return. Do not return to your home until the Evacuation Rescind Order is posted.

### In case of disaster, display this sign in front window of your



### house or vehicle if you DO require assistance.



### In case of disaster, display this sign in front window of your



### house or vehicle if you DO NOT require assistance.



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