

Residential Checklist

What projects could you undertake as a property owner?

Common Projects: Proactive Projects:

Extreme Temperatures

- Use weather stripping on windows and doors
- Insulate walls and attics
- Maintain your HVAC systems
- Identify local heating and cooling centres in case of emergency

Extreme Heat

- Plant trees for shade
- Install shade structure like awnings, pergolas or canopies
- Use LED lights which produce less heat
- Use energy-efficient appliances

Extreme Cold

- Have extra blankets and sleeping bags
- Insulate pipes in external walls
- Allow faucets to slowly drip to prevent freezing during extreme lows
- Have an alternative power or heating source (generator, wood-burning stove)

Drought

- Check for and repair water leaks
- Install water efficient appliances, faucets, and shower heads
- Avoid watering your lawn, or water deeply, infrequently and between midnight and 10 a.m.
- Use rain barrels for lawn and garden
- Plant deep-rooted native vegetation that can withstand flooding and drought

Strong Wind

- Anchor outdoor furniture and items
- Store lightweight items in a secure location
- Cut down dead trees and prune dead branches
- Check for loose or damaged shingles and make repairs
- Choose roofing materials resistant to high winds like metal roofing
- Install storm shutters

For More Information

Homeowners should contact their local authority to ensure all by-laws and construction codes are adhered to.

Visit GetPrepared.gc.ca to learn how to build an emergency kit, create a household emergency plan, and understand the risks.



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Common Projects: Proactive Projects:

Flooding

- Purchase flood insurance coverage
- Raise and slope land away from home
- Install a backwater valve
- Install and maintain a sump pump
- Use water-resistant building materials for flooring, walls, and insulation in basements
- Identify where your community provides sandbags
- Store sandbags and plastic sheeting for emergencies
- Elevate washers, dryers, and other appliances on platforms
- Elevate water heaters and HVAC
- Relocate electrical panel to main floor
- Plant deep-rooted native vegetation that can withstand flooding and drought
- Create a rain garden for flood water
- Maintain wetlands and marshes which absorb excess water
- Install a ring dike
- Raise or move your home above flood levels

Wildfire

- Ensure chimneys and stovepipes have spark arresters
- Use ember-resistant vents or screens and check for holes or damages
- Have hoses that reach all structures and firepits
- Clear dead plants, leaves, and weeds within 10m of structures
- Choose fire-resistant vegetation or non-flammable materials like rock for landscaping within 10m of structures
- Install roof sprinklers
- In rural or remote regions, have a dedicated water supply for firefighting such as a well or pond

Winter Storms

- Keep snow and ice clearing equipment within your home
- Ensure structure roofs are rated for heavy snow loads
- Plant shelterbelts to decrease blowing snow accumulation around your home

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