

2012 Emergency Preparedness Week - May 6-12

Parksville, BC – Emergency Preparedness Week (EP Week) is an annual event held across Canada during the first full week of May. Emergency Preparedness Week serves as a call to action and emphasizes the importance of taking steps to improve preparedness levels. EP week from May 6 to May 12 will be recognized in Oceanside with a regional approach to a number of activities which include emergency operations and communications demonstrations.

The City of Parksville's EP Week goal is to raise awareness to the importance of taking steps to improve preparedness levels. If you are unprepared for an emergency situation, it can significantly impact your life. Emergencies and disasters can happen with little or no warning. Being prepared could save your life or the lives of others and significantly improve your quality of living in the aftermath.

Emergency preparedness is a shared responsibility and learning what to do before, during and after an emergency situation is important. Three simple steps can help us prepare for all types of emergencies - having an emergency kit, making an emergency plan and identifying risks where we live. Residents must ensure that they can take care of themselves for at least the first 72 hours of an emergency when first responders are helping those in urgent need.

During EP Week, we will provide information to teach you how to prepare before, during and after an emergency, what to include in an emergency kit, why a family emergency plan is important and what can be expected after a disaster. We encourage residents to drop by the Atrium in the Parksville Civic and Technology Centre. The City's website has information and links to provincial and federal emergency preparedness websites <http://www.parksville.ca/cms.asp?wplD=62>

May 8 to May 10, from 9 am to 3 pm

Parksville Civic and Technology Centre, 100 Jensen Avenue East

- Displays and general preparedness information
- Learn about volunteer opportunities from our current volunteers
- Chat about emergency preparedness

Along with encouraging the public to be prepared, the City must also continuously look within to ensure that we are prepared in order to lessen the impact of an emergency or disaster on the City and its residents. We have an immediate need for volunteers to prepare and look after the Emergency Social Services and Emergency Communications Team functions of the City. These functions are overseen by the local government but run by volunteers.

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For more information:

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