SEASONAL PREPAREDNESS

Spring/Summer 2026

With the warmer months approaching, Community Care Facilities Licensing program would like to share important information and resources with Residential and Child Care facilities to prepare for summer heat, wildfires, and changing air quality.

ARE YOU PREPARED?

- Emergency preparedness plans are current, site-specific, and include procedures for heat events, wildfire, air quality, and evacuation.
- Staff are trained and familiar with their roles and responsibilities during environmental emergencies.
- Adequate measures are in place to maintain safe indoor temperatures and support hydration.
- Indoor air quality is monitored and managed, including strategies to reduce smoke infiltration.
- Communication plans are established to ensure timely updates to staff, families, and relevant authorities.
- Staffing contingency plans are in place to maintain safe care levels during emergencies.



- Monitor local weather forecasts and air quality indices daily.
- Identify and maintain designated cooling areas within the facility.
- Ensure access to fluids and encourage frequent hydration.
- Limit outdoor activities during periods of extreme heat or poor air quality.
- Ensure fans, air-conditioners and HVAC systems are regularly maintained and working.
- Maintain and routinely check emergency supplies (i.e. water, non-perishable food, medications, PPE).
- Review and update specific emergency needs (i.e. mobility, medical supports).
- Test backup systems where applicable (i.e. generators, ventilation systems).

RESOURCES

Click on titles to view links!

EXTREME HEAT

Heat Safety Island Health

Care Facilities Preparation for Extreme Heat:Government of Canada

Extreme Heat Preparedness Guide: Government of BC

WILDFIRES

Wildfire Resources Island Health

BC Wildfire Service

Wildfire and Community Care Facilities:Vancouver Coastal Health and Fraser Health

AIR QUALITY

Air Quality Index

Wildfire Smoke BCCDC

Emergency Management Resources - ChildCareBC

Health Emergency Managements System BC

island health

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