

Resource 1		
Name:	Municipal Wildfire Assistance Program-Alberta Emergency Management Agency	
Address	Alberta Emergency Management Agency 5th Floor, Terrace Building 9515 107 Street NW Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2C1	
Phone Number	Hours: 8:15 am to 4:30 pm (open Monday to Friday, closed statutory holidays) Phone: 1-888-671-1111 Email: drp.info@gov.ab.ca	
Website	https://www.alberta.ca/municipal-wildfire-assistance-program.aspx	

### **Additional Information**

#### Overview

The Municipal Wildfire Assistance Program (MWAP) is a provincewide program designed to provide financial assistance to local authority applicants (Municipalities and Metis Settlements) who incur extraordinary incremental costs in the suppression of wildfires outside Alberta's Forest Protection Area.

The term wildfire includes any unwanted or unplanned natural or human-caused wildland fire that burns in forested, grassland or other vegetative areas outside the Forest Protection Area.

### **Programs**

- 2021 MD of Willow Creek Municipal Wildfire Assistance Program
- 2021 Parkland County Municipal Wildfire Assistance Program
- 2021 Thorhild County Municipal Wildfire Assistance Program
- 2021 Lac La Biche County Municipal Wildfire Assistance Program

For a list of eligible costs and program details, refer to the MWAP guidelines.

Ineligible costs - the program does not cover costs:

- that could have been reasonably prevented or avoided
- that were covered by insurance
- that could likely be recovered through legal action
- that could be recovered through other government programs
- for fires occurring on unoccupied public land
- for the suppression of structural fires
- for damage to property, like structures or landscaping



# **Local authority applicants**

To be considered for eligibility, the applicants' costs to action the wildfire or series of wildfires within the provincial fiscal year (April 1 to March 31) must exceed the \$25 per-capita threshold. Applicants are expected to keep accurate and detailed financial records on the costs associated with wildfires.

The official population figures published by Alberta Municipal Affairs in the preceding fiscal year will be used to determine per capita costs.

# Eligibility

# A local authority is eligible for MWAP assistance if they:

- have advised the Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) of the fire and potential MWAP application as soon as is reasonably possible.
- are unable to recover all of the costs through another government program or legal action.
- have requested assistance from the local Forest Area Manager (if appropriate) at the earliest practicable time.

# Local authorities must demonstrate that they have implemented wildfire prevention initiatives that show they have:

- Mutual Aid Agreements with neighbouring communities, industrial fire departments (where available), and the local Forest Area Manager
- implemented a fire permit program.
- implemented a wildfire awareness program (for example, Fire Smart) which encourages the community and residents to take mitigated steps to protect their homes and property from the threat of wildfire.
- ensured that one or more personnel from their fire department has taken wildfire management courses approved by the local Forest Area Manager
- implemented an infrared scanning program for the detection and subsequent follow-up or action winter holdover burning.

Once a local authority applicant has determined that it has incurred costs in excess of \$25 per capita, they should contact the AEMA.

Complete the application form for Municipal Wildfire Assistance Program.

For more information, contact the AEMA Field Officer in your area or email drp.info@gov.ab.ca.



Resource 2		
Name:	Alberta Emergency Financial Assistance	
Address	Province Wide	
Phone Number	Toll free: 310-0000 (in Alberta)	
Website	https://www.alberta.ca/emergency-financial-assistance.aspx#:~:text=For%20more%20information%20on%20assistance,to%20Friday%2C%20closed%20statutory%20holidays.	

#### Additional Information

# 2024 Spring wildfire update

- <u>Emergency financial assistance</u> through the Emergency Needs Allowance is available to eligible Albertans affected by wildfires.
- <u>Evacuation payments</u> are available for Alberta residents who had to leave their home for 7 days or more because of mandatory wildfire evacuation orders to help with accommodations, food and other necessities.

#### Overview:

If you are facing an unexpected emergency, you can apply for emergency financial assistance through the Emergency Needs Allowance program.

You can get help when:

- a situation is caused by unforeseeable circumstances beyond your control, and
- it presents a severe health risk, and
- you cannot access other resources or wait until your next pay-cheque or Income Support benefit cheque.

#### What's covered:

The Emergency Needs Allowance can cover costs for:

- food
- clothing
- child care\*
- transportation
- damage deposit\*
- temporary shelter
- utility arrears\*
  - o you must repay this money if you need help with utility arrears more than once
- eviction payments\*
  - o you must repay this money if you need help with eviction payments more than once

## Costs that may be covered, but must be repaid include:

- essential home repairs\*
- essential appliance repairs\*

Allowance rates are published on page 2 of the Financial Benefits Summary (PDF, 228 KB).

<sup>\*</sup>If you require these emergency benefits, please call the Alberta Supports Contact Centre at <u>1-877-644-9992</u> for more information on how to apply.



## You must provide proof of need, such as:

- an arrears statement or eviction notice
- a utility bill or statement for utility arrears
- proof from a reliable source that the item is essential, like an unsafe wiring notice from the fire department.

## **Eligibility:**

You can apply for the Emergency Needs Allowance if:

- you are a current Income Support client, or
- you are an Albertan earning an income, but you do not have enough money to cover this one-time, short-term emergency that will last no longer than a month, and
- you meet the Income Support program eligibility requirements.

## How to apply:

## **Support during wildfires**

Alberta Supports Centres are open extended hours to help those evacuated due to wildfires. <u>Learn more</u>. During regular business hours

**If you are currently receiving Income Support or AISH benefits,** contact your caseworker. If you do not know how to reach your caseworker, contact your local <u>Alberta Supports Centre</u>, otherwise, call the Income Support Contact Centre at 1-866-644-5135 to request an assessment.

Note: The Income Support Contact Centre can only issue select emergency benefits including food, medication, temporary shelter, transportation and emergency basic dental services. To apply for assistance with emergency eviction or utility disconnection, apply online at <a href="Income Support">Income Support</a> or at <a href="How to apply">How to apply</a>.

For more information on assistance on how to apply for other emergency assistance, call the Alberta Supports Contact Centre at <u>1-877-644-9992</u>, 7:30 am to 8 pm, Monday to Friday, closed statutory holidays. Email: <u>css.ascc@gov.ab.ca</u>.

### **Outside of regular business hours**

If you are facing an emergent need for food, medication, temporary shelter or emergency basic dental services, call the Income Support Contact Centre (available 24/7) toll free at <u>1-866-644-5135</u> for an assessment.

Email: <a href="mailto:css.iscc@gov.ab.ca">css.iscc@gov.ab.ca</a> (responses may take 1 to 3 business days)

You can now apply online to the Income Support Contact Centre to receive emergency food benefits via Interac e-Transfer.

Apply at MyAlberta Emergency Benefits to start the online application process.

Once you have completed your application, you will be asked to call the Income Support Contact Centre to confirm your eligibility.



Resource 3		
Name:	Wildfire Emergency Updates	
Address	PROVINCE WIDE	
Phone Number	Important numbers 24-hour Alberta government call centre: 310-4455 (available in 200+ languages) Alberta Supports Contact Centre: 1-877-644-9992 24-hour Health Link: 811 24-hour Mental Health Help Line: 1-877-303-2642 24-hour Emergency income support: 1-866-644-5135 (outside Edmonton area) 780-644-5135 (Edmonton)	
Website	https://www.alberta.ca/emergency.aspx#:~:text=The%20AlSH%20program%20provides%20emergency,%2C%207%20days%20a%20week).	

## Additional Information

# **Key information**

- <u>Emergency evacuation payments</u> are available to those who have been out of their homes due to an evacuation order for 7 days or more.
- <u>Telephone town halls</u> are held for evacuees to get updates and answers from government and partner organizations.
- <u>Check wildfire status</u> for updates on active wildfires and wildfires of note.
- Follow Alberta Emergency Alerts, local media and municipalities for updates and advisories.
- Fire bans and OHV restrictions are changing in some areas effective May 26 at 10 am.
- Special air quality statement is in effect for parts of Alberta due to fire smoke.
- <u>Some provincial parks are closed</u> and Albertans are strongly encouraged to postpone plans to visit public lands.

## **Evacuation and financial supports**

- Telephone town halls
- Evacuation payments how to apply
- Evacuation payments eligible communities
- Emergency financial assistance
- Insurance information

# Communities under evacuation order or alert

**Evacuation Order:** Evacuate now, the situation is dangerous.

**Evacuation Alert:** Be prepared to evacuate quickly if situation worsens.

Evacuees should <u>register online</u> or at your local reception centre.

Current Evacuations: Alberta Emergency Alert | Alberta.ca

### **Re-entry info**

Determining when it's safe to return home after an evacuation order depends on several factors, including hazard conditions in your area and the guidance of local authorities.



# Expand all

- Communities eligible for re-entry
- Step 1. Await official clearance
- Step 2. Follow designated re-entry instructions
- Step 3. Conduct safety assessments
- Step 4. Be cautious and alert
- Step 5. Check utilities and services
- Step 6. Assess property damage
- Step 7. Contact authorities if needed



Resource 4		
Name:	Alberta Health Services-Alberta Health Services	
Address	Alberta Health Services Corporate Office Seventh Street Plaza 14th Floor, North Tower 10030 – 107 Street NW Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3E4	
Website	https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/about/Page12639.aspx	
Additional Information		

Wildfire Resources: Information for Albertans

# For non-emergency health advice, including information on your healthcare options, call Health Link at 811.

We know that wildfires are a very challenging situation for everyone, and we want people to know that we are here to help and support them. The following information and tools can help you stay safe, plan ahead and remain healthy during the difficult time of wildfire season. The below resources include mental health resources, air quality guidance and health information, and emergency planning kits.

Information for Albertans

For non-emergency health advice, including information on your healthcare options, call Health Link at 811.

**Latest Updates:** Get situation updates and recovery information on major active emergencies that require a coordinated provincial response.

Emergency Alerts | Alberta Wildfire Status Dashboard

# **General Information**

Phone Numbers & Contacts:

Health Link 811

Poison & Drug Information Service <u>1-800-332-1414</u>

Alberta Supports Contact Centre <u>1-877-644-9992</u>

Mental Health Helpline <u>1-877-303-2642</u>

Canadian Red Cross: 1-888-350-6070

Cancer Care Transition Team: 1-888-432-8865



# **Resources & Tools**

Alberta 511 (road closures)

**Alberta Emergency Alerts** 

Alberta Wildfire App | Alberta Wildfire Status Dashboard

FireSmoke Canada (air quality)

Public Health: Coping with Emergencies

Support For Albertans Affected By Wildfire

# **Emergency Planning & Alerts**

72 Hour Emergency Kit

Alberta Government Wildfire Page

## **Your Health**

**Air Quality Advisories** 

Air Quality Health Index (AQHI)

**Breathing Smoke or Fumes** 

## <u>Infants</u>

**Infant Feeding During Emergencies** 

Safe Feeding Equipment

Video: How to Reduce the Effects of Smoke-related Illness

Wildfire Smoke & Your Health

## **Your Home**

Aerial Fire Retardants & Returning to Your Home

Returning Home After a Wildfire

Returning Home After a Wildfire (pdf)

How to Clean & Disinfect a Cistern

**Restore Your Home** 



Shock Chlorinating a Well

**Use Water Safely** 

# **Your Business / Community**

Reopening Buildings, Homes, & Businesses After a Wildfire

What To Do In Your Food Facility If There Is A Power Outage

### **Mental Health Resources**

We are here to help. You are not alone.

There are resources and services available to help you and your loved ones cope with health care needs and stress in this difficult time.

Remember, it is okay to ask for help. Everyone deals with stress differently and a traumatic event can have a big impact.

# Been evacuated? If you need immediate assistance, phone 911.

Experiencing an evacuation can be stressful and overwhelming.

If you need to talk, call the Mental Health Help Line at 1-877-303-2642 or Health Link at 811.

Help in Tough Times - Resources for people affected by wildfire

**Mental Health Resources** 

Mental Health Support & Resources for Albertans

Mental Health Tip Cards

Wildfire Smoke & Your Mental Health - Public

Wildfire Smoke & your Mental Health - Health Professionals

# Preparing:

Preparing Emotionally for Disasters or Emergencies

# Responding:

Responding to a Disaster or Emergency

Helping Your Child or Teen Respond to a Disaster or Emergency



Disaster Response for Mental Health Care Providers

Substance Use & Disasters or Emergencies

### Recovery:

Recovery after a Disaster or Emergency

Helping You Recover & Stay Well After a Disaster or Emergency

Helping Children / Teens Recover from Disaster

Your Business / Community

Reopening Buildings, Homes, & Businesses After a Wildfire

What To Do In Your Food Facility If There Is A Power Outage

# **Cancer Care**

If you are a patient who is expected for assessment or treatment for a cancer diagnosis in an evacuated area, please call the Cancer Centre Transition Team toll-free at 1-888-432-8865. Our Team will work with you to ensure your assessment or treatment remains as uninterrupted as possible during this difficult time.

## **Alberta Kidney Care**

Should services be disrupted in Alberta, information will be made available for you. Visit <u>Emergency Plan</u>, Alberta Kidney Care.

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