



Flood Preparations Update

FOR MACKENZIE COUNTY

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DISASTER SERVICES

Message to Residents

Mackenzie County has been hard at work preparing and planning for future flood response and how to best protect against the threat of flooding caused by the Peace River in the short term.

Key County infrastructure to be protected include the WOP May Airport, Water Treatment Plant, The Old Bay House, and Water Wells near La Crete. Mackenzie County is also investing in resources to help residents and businesses protect their properties against potential future flooding.

We are in the process of reviewing different options for protecting the control building at the airport which will be implemented this coming year. These options include lifting the building above last year's flood levels, moving the infrastructure into existing building at a height above last year's flood levels or making it a disconnect building to move when flood threats are present.

The Water Treatment Plant and the Old Bay House will be protected using Trap Bags. These bags can be deployed quickly from a folded state to an extended 50-foot length of attached pockets that are filled with sand. Each length can be attached to another to surround the buildings with this sand filled barrier and seal flood waters from entering the barrier. The La Crete Wells will be protected in a similar way using barriers and poly.

The County has invested in sandbags and a sandbagging machine which can help fill approximately 2000 sandbags per hour. This will assist residents and businesses in filling sand bags which they can use around their homes and businesses to protect against flood waters. The County's role will be to coordinate and fill the sandbagging machine and can assist with organizing volunteers. Residents and business owners' responsibilities will include filling sandbags, transporting them to their site, and constructing the dikes around their homes or businesses. Information will be shared with residents on how to construct their sandbag dikes to be most effective.

Emergency Preparedness

In the event of an emergency such as a flood, you should be prepared to take care of yourself and your family for a minimum of 72 hours. By following Public Safety Canada's 72-hour emergency preparedness guide you can create your own emergency plan. The guide also includes a checklist to help you build a 72-hour emergency kit. To find out more visit www.alberta.ca/make-an-emergency-plan.aspx.

This Update is provided by the Disaster Recovery Team for Mackenzie County, and distributed on Friday. For more information and discussion, visit Facebook www.facebook.com/MackenzieCounty or our website www.mackenziecounty.com/disaster-recovery