District of Logan Lake

Welcome home to Logan Lake

The Evacuation ORDER for the District of Logan Lake has been rescinded and an Evacuation ALERT is in effect as of August 19, 2021. At 12:00 p.m.

The threat of wildfire still exists in the District of Logan Lake area. You are still in a high-risk area with a very active wildfire.

As we are still on ALERT we ask that the community be prepared in the following ways:

- Have a full tank of gas in your vehicle.
- Have a week’s worth of food.
- Have valuables, documents, medications, and all-important personal effects ready; Be Prepared.

For those residents who know of friends and neighbours that do not have access to internet or social media, please reach out to them and share this document or ask them to stop by the Municipal Office for a copy.

Be Safe

You are returning to an area that was affected by wildfire. Returning home may be stressful and traumatic. This handout will help you know what to do and where to get help.

First responders have worked very hard to protect our communities. We are grateful to them, and to everyone who is working to get our communities up and running again. Some services may be limited at first, but police, and other essential services are already in place.

You should stay out of burned areas – they can be dangerous. Please respect any restricted areas and any directions given to you by first responders or utilities workers. All trails in surrounding area remain closed.

You will notice many trucks and personnel in the area. Please allow them the space to continue to do their work. Please remember they have the right of way.

To show your appreciation; WAVE - HONK – Please don’t STOP.
Things you might see

While you were away, firefighters may have taken some actions around your homes and properties in preparation for possible wildfire in the community.

You may notice:

• propane tanks and BBQs pulled away from its usual spot – they were moved away from your home to make sure they didn’t ignite or explode during the forest fire and endanger your homes
• outdoor furniture on your front lawn – items can catch flying embers and start fires on your decks and in your yards
• coloured tape on your homes, door, trees, or shrubs – these were used to alert officials of potential fire risks around your home

You can move your items back into your yards, but please keep barbecues away from the house or from under trees. You can barbecue as usual.

Please leave the coloured tape on your property for now. In the coming weeks and months, we suggest contacting your local fire department or FireSmart Canada (firesmartcanada.ca) to get advice on steps you can take to better fire proof your home in the future.

Sprinklers and water tanks may still be positioned around town. Please avoid them.

You may notice fire guards and fire breaks have been dug around the community.

First steps when you return home:

• A fire ban and off-highway vehicle restriction remains in effect.
• Do not allow anyone to enter or play in areas damaged by fire.
  o There are many safety risks:
    • Pits filled with ash. They can be deep and hot.
    • Burned trees and branches. They can fall over at any time.
    • Burning roots. They can cause trees to fall.
• If you smell gas, exit your home IMMEDIATELY and call 911.
• Check for electrical hazards such as exposed wires. Avoid contact with damaged or fallen power lines and poles. If there are any hazards, contact BC Hydro at 1-800-224-9376.
• Wildlife may have taken shelter in your home, garage or outbuildings. Leaving a door open will allow the animals to return on their own to their natural surroundings. Call a conservation officer at 1-877-952-7277 for animals that appear injured or unwilling to leave.

When you walk through your door:

• Check your gas, electricity, and water to make sure they are working and contact your utility providers if you need to restore service.

Electricity

• Electricity service has been restored to the community.
• If the electricity in your home is off, please check your main electric panel and breaker.
• Simply move any tripped switches to the ‘on’ position may restore electricity.
• If this doesn’t restore electricity to your home, call BC Hydro 1-800-224-9376
Natural gas

- The natural gas will be on unless you turned it off before you left.
- If off, relight your appliances according to manufacturer’s instructions.
- If you need help relighting your appliances, call Fortis at 1-800-663-9911.
- Ray Hawkins, Highland Valley Plumbing and Heating, has generously offered to help relighting your appliances at no charge. Call 250-318-1443.

Water: Drinking and Household Use

- We have tested the water and it is safe.
- You should run one of your taps for 1-3 minutes to refresh the taste of the water.
- You are able to drink, shower, do laundry and use your water as you normally would.
- Water restrictions are in place for the first week after re-entry. You can still hand-water outside plants and pots, but please conserve water so we won’t put too much pressure on the system.
- A sprinkler ban is in effect until further notice. Water needs to be conserved for firefighting efforts and for household uses. Please don’t water your lawn or wash your vehicles.
- If you are on a septic system – Please check your system upon your return.

Fridges and Freezers

- During the evacuation, Logan Lake’s power supply was disrupted for about 7 hours. Some food might have spoiled in refrigerators and freezers. Some frozen food may be okay.
- Throw out food that is not in sealed packages or cans.
- Should you have unmanageable amounts of waste as a result of freezer disruption, 3 large bins are setup in the Upper East Parking lot beside the Recreation centre. It will be picked up early afternoon on Friday August 20, 2021. Please do not leave garbage outside of bins as there are bears in the area.
- Spoiled food products may have impacted your refrigerator or freezer. Clean, sanitize, and deodorize your refrigerator and freezer once you have discarded the spoiled food. To do this:
  - First unplug the refrigerator and freezer.
  - Rinse or blow out the coils and compressors on the refrigerator and freezer.
  - To clean the inside, use soap and water and then rinse with clean water.
  - Sanitize the inside with a bleach/water mixture made by mixing 1 teaspoon of ordinary household bleach for every 4 cups of water. Pre-mixed sanitizers can also be purchased locally.
  - Leave the doors of the refrigerator and freezer open to help them dry out.
  - Once the appliance is dry, reconnect the power.
  - Wait until the inside temperature of your refrigerator has reached 4ºC before restocking it with food.
  - Wait until your freezer temperature is at -18ºC before restocking it with food.
- If you are considering discarding your fridge or freezer, please contact your insurance representative to discuss your coverage.
Garbage

- Regular pickup will resume operation on your normally scheduled day beginning the week of August 22, 2021.
- Please don't put general waste in your usual garbage containers right now.
- If you have any questions about garbage, call 250-523-6225.
- If you see a problem with wild animals and bears, call a Conservation Officer at 1-877-952-7277
- The TNRD Eco Depot will be in operation upon your return.

Inside cleaning

- Do not start cleaning or throwing anything away until you contact your insurance company.
- Wash interior walls and hard surfaces with a steam cleaner or white vinegar.
- Wash or dry clean clothing, linens and bedding.
- Wash all movable items with a steam cleaner or microfibre cloth. **This includes children’s indoor toys.**
- Disinfect and deodorize upholstery and fabric window treatments with spray deodorizing products available at most supermarkets. Do not use odour-masking sprays since they just cover up the problem and don’t fix it.
- You can also steam items including carpets, window coverings, upholstered furniture and mattresses. Steam neutralizes the odour and carbon film left by forest fires.
- Consider having heating, ventilating and air conditioning units and all ductwork professionally cleaned to remove soot, ash and smoke residue. You can change filters when you first return home and then continue to replace them frequently.
- Remember to keep all receipts for cleaning and other expenses to provide to your insurance company for possible reimbursement.

Outside cleaning

- Pressure wash or scrub all exterior surfaces including walls, walks, drives, decks, windows and screens.
- **Wash all children’s outside toys, play structures and recreational equipment to remove any residual** smoke and ash. Replace the sand in sandboxes with clean sand.
- Cut down and remove any trees around your property that have been damaged by fire.
- **Do not** water your lawn immediately upon return to reduce pressure on the water system.
- Wash your hands if they come in contact with ash.
- If you notice the residue of fire retardants on your property (red stains) use water or biodegradable household cleaners. Never use bleach to clean areas where fire retardants have been used.
Air quality

People with breathing difficulties may want to delay returning home until the air quality improves. Residents should continue to review the air quality statements issued by Environment Canada at https://weather.gc.ca/airquality/pages/provincial_summary/ab_e.html.

Insurance information

If you are insured:

Take the following steps:

- Assess and document the damage. Taking photos can be helpful.
- Call your insurance representative and/or company.
- List all damaged or destroyed items.
- If possible, assemble proofs of purchase, photos, receipts, and warranties. Take photos of the damage and keep the damaged items unless they pose a health hazard.

- Keep all of the receipts related to cleanup, and if you’ve been ordered to leave your home, keep the receipts for your living expenses.

- Ask your insurance representative what living expenses you’re entitled to be reimbursed for and for what period of time.

Insurance Bureau of Canada

If you can’t remember who your provider is, or can’t reach your insurance provider, contact the Insurance Bureau of Canada to help understand fire insurance coverage.

- Phone: 1-844-227-5422 (toll-free)
- Email: askibcwest@ibc.ca

If you are not insured:

- For information on available assistance, check with:
  - Emergency Management BC
  - Canadian Red Cross 1-800-565-4483 or www.redcross.ca

Health and Mental Health

- For health advice or information on health services, including mental health services, call Health Link at 811 or 1-866-408-LINK (5465).
- If you are having a medical emergency, call 911 right away.
- For those impacted by the Logan Lake wildfire please contact Interior Health

Emergencies

If you have an emergency, call 911.
Handy Phone Numbers and Contacts:

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<td><strong>District of Logan Lake</strong></td>
<td>250-523-6225</td>
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<td><strong>Emergency Info Province of BC</strong></td>
<td><a href="https://www.emergencyinfobc.gov.bc.ca/?utm_campaign=20210803_GCPE_VIZ_WILDFIRE__ADW_BCGOV_EN_BC__TEXT">https://www.emergencyinfobc.gov.bc.ca/?utm_campaign=20210803_GCPE_VIZ_WILDFIRE__ADW_BCGOV_EN_BC__TEXT</a></td>
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<td><strong>Interior Health Authority</strong></td>
<td><a href="https://www.interiorhealth.ca/">https://www.interiorhealth.ca/</a></td>
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<td><strong>TNRD</strong></td>
<td>1-877-377-8673</td>
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<td><strong>Logan Lake WHY</strong></td>
<td>250-523-6229 (office)</td>
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