

WHAT IS A PERSONAL DISASTER

Personal disasters typically affect one household. House fires are one of the most common examples. The Canadian Red Cross wants you and your family to be prepared.

2 out of 3

Canadians say they have not taken steps to prepare in the event of a disaster.

Red Cross in Alberta responds to an average of

300

calls per year.



Major causes of house fires in Canada are:



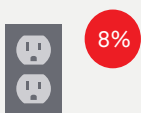
Cooking



Heating equipment related fires



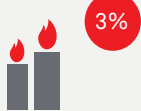
Arson/set fires



Electrical



Smoking



Candles



Clothes dryer, lighting and other equipment (combined)



Child fireplay

KEEP YOUR FAMILY SAFE

Some basic steps you may want to take

If you cannot stay in your home due to fire or flood damage, you will need temporary housing for your family and any pet.

- Contact your insurance company and let them know what has happened.
- If you are a tenant, contact the owner/landlord and/or their insurance company.
- You may be eligible for Red Cross 72 hour personal disaster assistance. Call our 24/7 disaster assistance line at 1-888-800-6493 for help.
- Contact your local authorities for more information related to available assistance programs.
- Consider the clean up requirements.



For more information about preparing for emergencies visit:

redcross.ca/guidetofirerecovery
redcross.ca/guidetofloodrecovery

THE CANADIAN RED CROSS IS HERE TO HELP

If you've been affected by a personal disaster, like a house fire, please call our Alberta emergency line:

1-888-800-6493



The Canadian Red Cross provides services including emergency lodging, food and clothing.



All Canadian Red Cross assistance is provided free of charge to anyone who needs it.



Our Canada-wide network of trained volunteers is ready to respond 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



We build relationships with local government and make sure we have supplies nearby.



The Canadian Red Cross created an easy-to-follow Fire Recovery Guide to give advice to anyone who needs it.

“ MY ENTIRE FAMILY WAS ON THE STREET WHILE WE WATCHED OUR OWN HOUSE BURN IN FRONT OF US. RED CROSS PROVIDED US WITH CLOTHES, A HOTEL ROOM, FOOD AND MOST OF ALL – EMOTIONAL SUPPORT. I CAN’T THANK THE RED CROSS ENOUGH!”



PERSONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE

HOW WE HELP IN A PERSONAL DISASTER:

The Red Cross Personal Disaster Assistance Team may provide emergency food, clothing, accommodation and personal services for up to 72 hours to individuals and families following an assessment, who have been affected by local, small-scale disasters such as house fires or sewage backup.

Volunteer With Us:

You can help ensure no family faces disaster alone! Be part of the largest humanitarian organization in the world! Our highly trained volunteers respond to an average of 300 responses in Alberta every year. Join our disaster management team today. We provide training and support so that you are prepared to offer help during a disaster.

Learn more about our next Disaster Management Information Session in your community:

Contact us at:
[**wzabvolunteer@redcross.ca**](mailto:wzabvolunteer@redcross.ca)

THE RED CROSS IS HERE TO HELP IF YOU HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY A PERSONAL DISASTER.

