

INFORMATION FOR RETURNING

BEFORE YOU GO

Ensure you have:

- » A full tank of gas
- » Proper clothing, a flashlight and clean-up materials
- » Water for the next 7 days
- » Food for 7 days, including any special dietary needs
- » Medications

WHEN YOU GET THERE

- » **Water** - Bottled water is recommended. Chlorinate all wells
- » **Hydro** - If you have questions, or have no service, contact BC Hydro at 1-888-769-3766 (1-888-POWERON) or *49376 on your cell phone
- » **Propane/Natural gas**- If you have questions about your propane, natural gas or oil equipment, please contact your suppliers
- » **Trees** - Charred trees are unstable and may be a hazard
- » **Building** - Fire-damaged buildings may be a hazard

TAKE PRECAUTIONS AND BE SAFE

- » **Use caution and exercise good judgment** when re-entering a burned fire area. Hazards may still exist, including hot spots that can flare up without warning. See "Hazards in Areas Affected by Fire" on the last page for the types of hazards you may experience.
- » **Watch for ash pits and mark them for safety.** Ash pits are holes full of hot ashes, created by burned trees and stumps. You can be seriously burned by falling into ash pits or landing in them with your hands or feet. Warn your family and neighbours to keep clear of the pits.
- » **Inspect the roof and check for smoke and sparks** throughout the home, including the attic. The winds of wildfires can blow burning embers anywhere.
- » **Take precautions while cleaning your property.** You may be exposed to potential health risks from hazardous materials. Debris should be wetted down to minimize health impacts from breathing dust particles. Wear gloves, long-sleeved shirts, long pants and avoid skin contact. If you get ash on your skin, wash it off as soon as possible.
- » **Wear rubber gloves** when working with plumbing fixtures, and sewer piping. They can contain high levels of bacteria. If you suspect a problem with your septic field, contact the Interior Health Authority.

- » **If you have a propane or natural gas system** and smell propane or natural gas upon entering your home, contact a qualified gas fitter, turn off the valve and leave your residence until your system has been inspected. Ventilate your home.
- » **If you have a heating oil tank system**, contact a heating oil supplier to inspect your system before using it. The tank may have shifted or fallen from the stand and fuel lines may have kinked or weakened. Heat from the fire may have caused the tank to warp or bulge. Non-vented tanks are more likely to bulge or show signs of stress. The fire may have loosened or damaged fittings and filters.
- » **Visually check the stability of the trees.** Any tree that has been weakened by fire may be a hazard. Winds are normally responsible for toppling weakened trees. The wind patterns in your area may have changed as a result of the loss of adjacent tree cover.
 - › Look for burns on the tree trunk. If the bark on the trunk has been burned off or scorched by very high temperatures completely around the circumference, the tree will not survive. Where fire has burnt deep into the trunk, the tree should be considered unstable.
 - › Look for burnt roots by probing the ground with a rod around the base of the tree and several feet away from the base. Roots are generally six to eight inches below the surface. If the roots have been burned, you should consider this tree very unstable, and it may be toppled by wind.
 - › A scorched tree is one that has lost part or all its leaves or needles. Healthy deciduous trees are resilient and may produce new branches and leaves as well as sprouts at the base of the tree. Evergreen trees may survive when partially scorched. An evergreen tree that has been damaged by fire is subject to bark beetle attack. Please seek professional assistance from the BC Forest Service concerning measures for protecting evergreens from bark beetle attack.

LANDFILL INFORMATION

The Chaumox Landfill is open Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm. If further information is required, please contact the FVRD Engineering Department at 604-702-5000.

HAZARDS IN AREAS AFFECTED BY FIRES

Obvious Hazards	Less Obvious Hazards
Trip Hazards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Wires » Debris 	Fire May Return <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Winds are unpredictable » Lack of electrical power makes evacuation notice more challenging
Falling Hazards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Uncovered wells » Septic tanks 	Dangerous Trees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Falling branches » Weakened trunks lead to falling trees » Damaged roots and falling trees » Ash pits
Sharps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Nails » Metal edges » Sharp branches 	Toxic Fumes in Debris <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Burning debris may include cyanide, Sulphur dioxide
Spoiled Food <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » In refrigerators » Damaged tin cans 	Hazardous Materials/Wastes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Septic tank material » Contaminated soils » PCBs in transformers on poles and ground, in remnants of fluorescent lights
Spoiled Food <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » In refrigerators » Damaged tin cans 	Inhalation Hazards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Fibreglass fibres » Smoke particulates

USEFUL CONTACTS/RESOURCES

FVRD Emergency Operations Centre	www.fvrd.ca/EOC , 778-704-0400
Fraser Health Authority (septic field information)	604-858-0338 / 1-877-935-5669
Technical Safety BC (Gas/Electrical Inspection)	1-866-566-7233
BC Hydro	1-888-769-3766
Telus	1-888-811-2323
Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure	1-800-667-5122
Front Counter BC	1-877-855-3222
Telus Health community crisis hotline	1-844-751-2133
Fraser Health Crisis Line	604-951-8855 or 1-877-820-7444
Kuus-us Crisis Response Services Line	1-800-588-8717
Metis Crisis Line BC	1-833-638-4722
Kids Help Phone	1-800-668-6868
Emergency Info BC	https://www.emergencyinfobc.gov.bc.ca
BC Wildfire Service	https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status
Current Wildfire Situation	https://wildfiresituation.nrs.gov.bc.ca/map
Kookipi Creek	https://wildfiresituation.nrs.gov.bc.ca/incidents?fireYear=2023&incidentNumber=V11337
DriveBC	https://www.drivebc.ca/

If you have any questions, please contact the Fraser Valley Regional District EOC at 778-704-0400 or visit the FVRD website at www.fvrd.ca