
NEWS RELEASE

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Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

BE SAFE OUTDOORS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

VICTORIA – As many British Columbians prepare to head outdoors to participate in winter recreational activities this holiday season, Solicitor General John Les is reminding them to make safety their top priority.

“British Columbia is the best place on earth to have fun in the great outdoors but, every year, search and rescue volunteers respond to about 1,000 incidents – often because people aren’t properly prepared,” Les said.

Les added that no matter what your outdoor pursuit, you should always have a trip plan and take essential items like a flashlight, extra food and water and a first-aid kit. Even a short trip on the road or hiking in a park can turn into an emergency if the weather suddenly changes or you get lost. As well, the recent storms and power outages have clearly demonstrated the need for emergency kits at home and in the car.

Home emergency kits should contain enough water and food so that you and your family can survive on your own for at least 72 hours. Kits should also include blankets, extra clothing, flashlights, extra batteries and a wind-up or battery powered radio. For more information on emergency preparedness and emergency kits, visit www.pep.bc.ca.

Make sure your vehicle is properly equipped for winter driving conditions. Emergency kits for vehicles should include water and non-perishable food, flares, a blanket, a first-aid kit and a flashlight. Other items to keep in your car for winter driving are jumper cables, a shovel, an ice-scraper and snow chains or traction pads.

For more information on how to prepare for emergencies, visit www.adventuresmart.ca or www.pep.bc.ca.

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