



RESILIENT RURALS

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WINDSTORMS

High winds and hail can do significant damage in a short time. As the climate across the prairies changes, we should expect and be prepared for more frequent and intense storms.



WINDSTORM RISKS:

flying and falling debris

damage to homes, vehicles, buildings, traffic lights and street lights, signage, overhead power lines, and trees

power outages

hazardous travel

YOUR PROPERTY MAY BE AT GREATER RISK IF...

- It has been previously damaged by hail and wind.
- Vehicles are parked out on the street without protection from a garage or roof.
- There are skylights.
- The roof is old, damaged, made of low-quality roofing materials and/or doesn't have underlayment.
- Windows are old or not impact-resistant.
- There are old trees with weak branches.
- There are loose pieces of equipment, trailers, boats and lawn furniture in your yard that haven't been secured.
- You live in a mobile home.

PREPARING YOUR PROPERTY FOR WINDSTORMS



Reinforce your windows by installing roll or storm shutters, applying a protective film or by covering them with plywood before a storm. When making upgrades, choose windows that are more resistant and pressure-rated.



Repair any damages to your roof and eaves. When making upgrades, consider higher quality and wind-resistant roofing materials.



Reinforce your garage door. When making upgrades, consider a door that is approved for both wind pressure and impact protection. If vehicles currently don't have shelter, consider options for greater protection.



If you have a boat in the water, secure it boat to land. If you have a boat on a trailer, know how to anchor the trailer to the ground or house. Review your boat insurance policy.



Properly prune and maintain trees around your house to reduce the risk of branches falling on people or property. A row of conifers can be planted as a windbreak if placed far enough from structures to limit risk of falling or fire spread.



Anchor outdoor accessories and equipment like patio furniture and barbecues so they cannot be lifted and moved by strong winds.

If you are making home upgrades, replacements or building new construction, consider higher quality and wind-resistant materials for your windows, roof, siding and doors.

If you live in a mobile home make sure your household knows how to secure it for a windstorm. Be prepared for storm recovery by reviewing your mobile home insurance policy. [Learn about securing mobile homes](#)>

WHAT TO DO DURING A WINDSTORM

Stay or get indoors

If there is hail, stay away from windows, skylights and glass doors

If there is lightning, avoid contact with plumbing, electrical equipment and concrete floors and walls

Be prepared for power outages



Environment Canada issues an alert whenever severe weather is expected or happening. Visit their [Public Weather Alerts site](#) for the latest updates.

Instructions about how to stay safe will come from multiple official sources—listen to your community leaders and the radio, watch your local news channels, and follow your local news outlet and/or emergency officials on social media.



PREPAREDNESS TIP: Keep a battery-powered or wind-up radio in your home so you can stay up-to-date in the case of a power outage.

Have a designated area of refuge in your home to shelter in place if there is a strong windstorm or if there is a tornado watch or warning.

The safest choice is a small, windowless room on the lowest floor of the house, preferably the basement.



PREPAREDNESS TIP: Have an established emergency plan and sufficient emergency kit for your household.

Learn more about general emergency preparedness at www.resilientrurals.com