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RIISING TEMPERATURES MEANS RISING WATER

With warmer temperatures forecasted for this week, the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George is reminding residents to be prepared for an increased risk of flooding and high water related to the spring melt.

“Temperatures are on the rise and that means rivers, streams and groundwater will be too,” says Anita de Dreu, Emergency Services Coordinator with the Regional District. “Take time now to prepare your property, home and family in the event of flooding.”

It’s important to understand the risks and be prepared for any emergency. People living near a river or stream can take some precautions to reduce the risk associated with a flood.

- Prepare personal emergency supply kits for your home, car and work (plan for at least a three-day supply of food and water for each family member)
- Have a grab-and-go kit ready if you have to leave your home quickly
- Keep important papers in watertight containers and have a record of your valuables in a safe place
- If flooding is likely in your area, pay attention to the local media for information
- Watch for warning signs: increase in height and intensity of water flows, mudslides, debris in creeks, colour changes in water or leaning trees
- Know that banks of rivers and streams may be unstable and dangerous
- Keep a safe distance away from fast flowing water, especially children
- Teach your children about flood safety
- Consider arrangements for your pets and any livestock

Resources are available on the Regional District website to help you learn more about preparing an emergency plan and what’s included in a 72 hour emergency kit as well as information and advice on sandbagging.

For more information visit the Regional District’s emergency information page <https://bit.ly/2JtjE2n>

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