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Alert Information

Emergency preparedness simply means thinking ahead and having a plan so you know what to do to stay safe. It's about being ready, not scared.

What is an "Evacuation Alert"?

Think of an Evacuation Alert as a **"Be Ready"** notice.

It means a wildfire is getting close to your area. You are not in immediate danger and do not have to leave yet, but you must prepare to leave your home quickly if the situation gets worse.

When you hear an Evacuation Alert it's time to act. Treat it as a friendly warning from your community leaders or First Nation to get your things together so you can leave at a moment's notice.

What an Evacuation ALERT means you should do:

1. Get Your "Grab-and-Go Bag" Ready: This is a small bag with the absolute essentials you'd need for a few days away from home. Pack your medications, glasses, important papers (like ID and insurance), a change of clothes, and some food and water.
2. Prepare Your Home: Fill up your car's gas tank. If you have time, help protect your home by moving things like firewood and patio furniture away from the house.
3. Stay Informed: Keep your radio, TV, or local social media channels on to listen for official updates from your local government or First Nation.
4. Check on Neighbours: Give a call or knock on the door of any elderly neighbours or friends who might need a helping hand getting ready. It's the kind thing to do.
5. Make a Plan for Your Animals: If you have pets or livestock, prepare to take them with you. Have their carriers or leashes ready.

What is FireSmart?

FireSmart is a simple way to protect your home from wildfire before it even starts. It means doing a few small chores around the yard to give your house a fighting chance. These are the easiest and most important tasks:

· Clean Your Gutters: Remove all the dry leaves and pine needles. They can easily catch fire from flying embers.
· Cut the Grass: Keep your lawn cut short (shorter than 10 cm) and water it if you can. Dry, long grass burns fast.
· Move Firewood: Stack any firewood or propane tanks at least 10 meters (about 10 big steps) away from your house.
· Trim Trees: Cut the low-hanging branches from your trees so they are at least 2 meters above the ground. This helps stop a ground fire from climbing up the tree to your roof.

**If an Alert turns into an Evacuation ORDER, that means you are in immediate danger and you must leave right away. Do not wait—follow the instructions from officials to keep yourself and your loved ones safe, and to help emergency responders do their job.

I hope this helps you feel more prepared and at ease. Please remember, it is always best to follow the specific directions given by your local officials and First Nation, as they know your area best.