



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

For Immediate Release

Peace River Regional District Advising Residents to Stay at Home Due to Flooded Roads

June 25, 2011 – The Peace River Regional District is advising residents that due to the severe rain event many roads and bridges throughout the region have been impacted. Creeks and rivers are running at higher than normal levels causing many ditches and culverts to overflow. The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and their contractors are working hard to repair roads and highways.

Residents are advised to remain at home or move to high ground on their properties and to only travel on local roads and highways if absolutely necessary. If travelling please use extreme caution at all times and reduce speed when encountering road repair crews.

The Province of BC is advising that, “With the heavy rains, we are asking everyone to use extreme caution and to keep children and pets away from waterways,” said Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General Shirley Bond. “People working out in the backcountry should also use extra caution about where they set up work camps and when travelling on resource roads. We are also asking recreationalists and boaters to stay off the rivers. In addition to high water flow, there is a lot of debris so it’s best to stay off the water until river levels decline.”

Care should also be given when standing or walking along river banks that may be unnoticeably eroded and can become unstable and give way. Watch for warning signs: increased height and intensity of water flows, mudslides, debris in creeks, colour changes in water, and/or leaning trees.

Residents in affected areas should take preventative measures by:

- Organizing individual and family emergency kits that contain important documents, prescription medication, a first aid kit and other personal essentials.
- Crafting an evacuation plan which ensures safe exit and notification to emergency contacts, arrangements for pets and important safety measures like unplugging appliances and shutting off electrical power and natural gas sources.
- Planning for the potential relocation needs of livestock in low-lying areas.
- Checking on neighbors and family members in their area that may need additional assistance.
- Checking perimeter drains around the property, ensuring they are clear of debris, as well as moving any chemicals or contaminants from basements or sheds that could spill or seep.

Rural residents in need of assistance can call the Peace River Regional District Emergency Operations Centre at 250 784-3200 24hrs a day.

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For more information please contact:

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PLEASE REPLY TO:

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