



# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

## EACH DAY, EVERY DAY

**DISTRICT INCIDENT HISTORY:** **March - June 2004** – SARS outbreak in Ontario. The Health Care system was severely taxed and emergency services suffered from shortages of workers. In the Parry Sound area, SARS had a direct impact with several cases diagnosed at Parry Sound Hospital and several schools closed and families in suspected contact were quarantined. **November 2005** – West Parry Sound Region was hit with a large scale severe wind storm that brought down many trees and power lines. Power outages were wide spread and lasted for 100 hours in some localized areas. **January 2006** – West Parry Sound was hit with a freezing rain storm which knocked out power for 24 hours and made driving treacherous. At one point during the freezing rain, Every area Fire Department was responding to emergency calls in their response areas. **August 2006** – 5 vehicle crash in Nobel, closed Highway 69 for 9 hours and brought area traffic to a standstill. It was almost impossible to move around Parry Sound and areas to the north. (JUST THINK OF THE DISRUPTION A MAJOR ROAD OR RAIL TRANSPORTATION EMERGENCY COULD CAUSE) **February 2007** – NEAR MISS EVENT, CN single car derailment in Waubamik that resulted in only a minor disruption and no property damage; IT COULD HAVE BEEN A DISASTER.

**HIGH RISK HAZARDS FOR POTENTIAL DISASTERS / TIPS TO PROTECT YOUR FAMILY:** Our assessed highest priorities are:

**Storms and Power Outages (wind, snow, ice):** Loss of life; Damage of homes, roads, and other property; Road closures/transportation disruptions; Disruption of electric power and fuel supply; Electrocution hazards; Breakage of water pipes causing home damage and potential fires, Interruption of emergency communication systems; Prolonged power outages may cause spoilage of refrigerated foods, so be vigilant.

**Protect Yourself and Family by:** Prepare an emergency plan and 3 day emergency kit; Be self-sufficient for at least 72 hours as a minimum; Install a generator for backup power and keep a fuel supply; Tune to local radio and TV stations and internet for emergency information updates; Do not use barbecues or other fuel burning devices indoors, they are a serious fire hazard and Carbon Monoxide killer. For severe weather during school hours, refer to your schools emergency plan to determine how your school will deal with weather events and bus cancellations. For more information, visit [www.getprepared.ca](http://www.getprepared.ca)

**Pandemic Planning:** The possibility of a Pandemic occurring is very real. A pandemic may occur if a NEW Influenza A virus begins to transmit human to human. There will be little warning when this actually occurs because world wide travel is so quick and prevalent that infected people could travel anywhere on the planet within hours.

**Protect Yourself and Family by:** Learn how to wash your hands properly. Learn how to disinfect properly. Keep a supply of proper fitting N95 masks and medical gloves. Be prepared to shelter in place if Pandemic happens. Avoid public areas. Store a good supply of dry food stuffs.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Contact your Community Emergency Management Coordinator for Municipality of McDougall – Brian Leduc, Fire Chief, 705-342-5252, [chief@mcdougalltownship.on.ca](mailto:chief@mcdougalltownship.on.ca) Visit Emergency Management Displays at local events throughout the year. Other Websites: [www.emergencypreparednessweek.ca](http://www.emergencypreparednessweek.ca) or [www.psepc.gc.ca](http://www.psepc.gc.ca) **REMEMBER, DURING AN EMERGENCY, FIRE, EMS, POLICE / PUBLIC WORKS, ARE ALREADY OCCUPIED, DO NOT ADD TO THEIR WORKLOAD BY DOING SOMETHING FOOLISH. (TURN OVER)**

# PREPARE NOW LEARN HOW PREPARE NOW LEARN HOW