

# WHAT IS A PERSONAL DISASTER?

Personal disasters typically affect one household. House fires are the most common example and those happen without notice.

The Canadian Red Cross wants you and your family to be prepared.

## ACROSS SASKATCHEWAN

Personal disasters often don't make the headlines and they happen in Canadian communities each and every day.

400

people in Saskatchewan receive personal disaster assistance from us each year.

100%

of Red Cross assistance is provided free of charge to those that need it.

## IN THE HOME

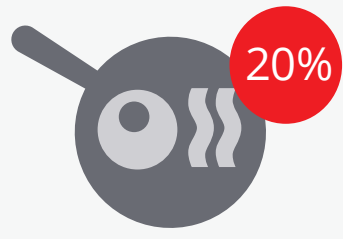
One of the most common emergencies that Canadians experience is a house fire.

In Saskatchewan, there are about  
**1,000**  
house fires each year.



2 out of 3

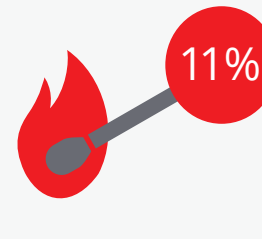
Canadians say they have not taken steps to prepare in the event of a disaster.



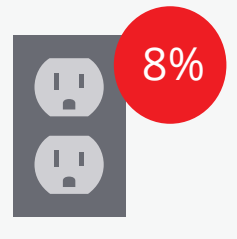
Cooking



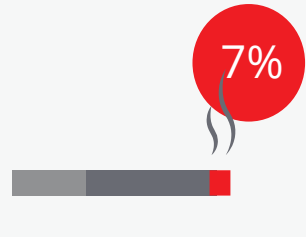
Heating equipment related fires



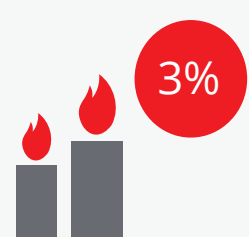
Arson/set fires



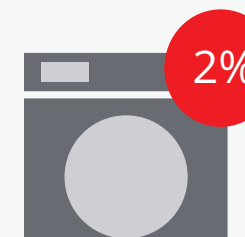
Electrical



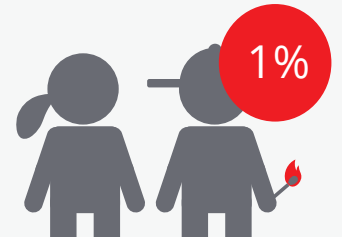
Smoking



Candles



Clothes dryer, lighting and other equipment (combined)



Child fireplay

## PROTECTING YOU AND YOUR FAMILY



### KNOW THE RISKS:

1. Keep flammable items away from heat sources
2. Never leave candles or stoves unattended
3. Talk to your children about the dangers of fire

[Download the 72 Hour Guide to Emergency Preparedness >](#)



### MAKE AN EVACUATION PLAN:

1. Make sure everyone can locate your emergency kit and water supply
2. Establish a safe place for everyone to meet
3. Include a plan for evacuating your pets
4. Practice the evacuation plan frequently

[Get more planning advice >](#)



### GET A DISASTER PREPAREDNESS KIT:

1. This kit contains basic items your household may need in an emergency situation.
2. It should be able to sustain you and your family for 72 hours.
3. Key items: water, non-perishable food, first aid kit, cash, keys and important family documents.

[See the full kit list we suggest >](#)

## THE RED CROSS RESPONDS TO THOSE IN NEED



We build relationships with local government and make sure we have supplies nearby.



Our Canada-wide network of trained volunteers is ready to respond 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



The Canadian Red Cross provides services including emergency lodging, food and clothing.\*



The Canadian Red Cross created an easy-to-follow **Fire Recovery Guide** to give advice to anyone who needs it.

If you have been affected by a personal disaster, like a house fire, call the Red Cross for assistance at  
**1-888-800-6493**

To help the Red Cross comfort every family affected by disasters in Saskatchewan please visit  
**[redcross.ca/ComfortEveryFamily](http://redcross.ca/ComfortEveryFamily)**

\*The Red Cross has an agreement with the Province of Saskatchewan to provide emergency social services in the event of an evacuation.

Sources: Council of Canadian Fire Marshals and Fire Commissioners 2007 Fire Losses in Canada Report | Canadian Red Cross