

Emergency Preparedness Week runs May 5 to 11

Emergency Preparedness Week is a Canada-wide initiative to increase awareness about individual and family preparedness, and it will be marked in Caledon from May 5 to 11.

Emergencies can strike at any time. In an emergency, response agencies focus their efforts first where the need is greatest. That is why individual emergency preparedness is so important. While most people recognize the importance of being prepared, the Town reported that surveys have shown less than half take the steps needed to be prepared.

The goal of Emergency Preparedness Week is to bridge this gap between knowing and doing. It provides an opportunity to engage with people, showing them how to prepare and explaining how doing so can reduce the risks and consequences of an emergency.

The focus of Ontario's campaign this year is ensuring seniors and older adults are getting the message on being prepared.

An emergency like a blackout, a flood or a severe storm, can happen anytime, anywhere.

The Town is stressing that knowing the risks specific to the community can help people to better prepare. It's also important to practise a plan where the family would reunite if an emergency strikes. The Town also recommends preparing a home and vehicle kit to help people cope on their own for a period of time.

Visit www.getprepared.ca for more information.

Caledon Fire and Emergency Services invites the community to join them to learn more about emergency preparedness. Resources are also available at local libraries and the Town of Caledon.

There will be an open house this Saturday (May 4) at Mono Mills Fire Hall from 9 a.m. until noon. As well, there will be displays set up at Bramalea City Centre Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., and at the Walmart store in Bolton next Thursday and Friday (May 9 and 10) from 5 until 9 p.m.