

Mayor Marolyn Morrison ? Participate in Earth Hour the evening of March 29



Many remember the blackout during the summer of 2004 and used that as a lesson in emergency preparedness. This past winter's ice storm was another reminder for people that with our growing dependency on electricity, it is important to be ready for the power to go out.

According to the federal government, your basic emergency kit should include the following items:

? Water ? at least two litres of water per person per day; include small bottles that can be carried easily in case of an evacuation order;

? Food that won't spoil, such as canned food, energy bars and dried foods (replace food and water once a year);

? Manual can-opener;

? Crank or battery-powered flashlight (and extra batteries). Replace batteries once a year;

? Crank, battery-powered radio (and extra batteries);

? First aid kit;

? Extra keys to your car and house;

? Some cash in smaller bills, such as \$10 bills and change for payphones;

? A copy of your emergency plan and contact information;

? If applicable, other items such as prescription medication, infant formula, equipment for people with disabilities, or food, water and medication for your pets or service animal (personalize according to your needs).

They also recommend the following additional items:

? Two additional litres of water per person per day for cooking and cleaning;

? Candles and matches or lighter (place candles in deep, sturdy containers and do not burn unattended);

? Change of clothing and footwear for each household member;

? Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each household member;

? Toiletries;

? Hand sanitizer;

? Utensils;

? Garbage bags;

? Toilet paper;

? Water purifying tablets;

? Basic tools (hammer, pliers, wrench, screwdrivers, work gloves, dust mask, pocket knife);

? A whistle (in case you need to attract attention);

? Duct tape (to tape up windows, doors, air vents, etc.).

Since 2008, Caledon families and businesses have been participating in Earth Hour by turning off their lights for an hour. This is a reminder for many families to be prepared in case of an emergency. The real reason we participate in Earth Hour is to join forces with others around the globe to take action on climate change.

I ask that you join your fellow Caledon residents March 29, from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. and power down. Help Caledon surpass our last year's efforts!