

667 Sacajawea Dr
Shelly Bandow

8-6-24

on 7-23-24

I woke at 7:30^v and went down into basement.

Above neighbor had texted me to say your basement may be flooding.

I went down stairs and turned into hall to bathroom and carpet was soaked with water all through, and into bedroom.

I checked bathroom - white tile floor was brown, covered in brown mud water. Laundry room as well. About an inch.

Living room was wet carpet too, soaked in around edges and through out, also in 2nd bedroom at front of house in basement.

Called friend who came to help get water up with wet

Vac. Pulled up bedroom carpet & pulled out all padding. Started fans, rented dehumidifier.

Next day realized all living room & front bedroom was wet so pulled up that carpet and padding, just my daughter (who battles fibromyalgia) and me with torn MCL.

Hauled all carpet & padding upstairs into rented dumpster.

I'm told city water main broke about 1 a.m. back neighbor ~~notie~~ tried to let me know about 3 a.m.

Water ran like steady river for hours, drained whole system into my yard and basement. Brown water all through basement windows & down walls.

To Whom It May Concern,

On 23 July 2024 at approximately 2:00 AM a city water main broke on the 600 block of 32nd Ave NE. The water and debris released from the initial break flowed east down 32nd Ave NE until it reached 7th St NE at which time it began to flow south towards Skyline Dr NE. It then flowed across Skyline DR NE and through my property located at 700 Skyline DR NE. The rocks and mud began to collect in my driveway, yard and garage. Mud in the driveway was approximately 6 inches to some areas over 12 inches deep. The water flowed around both sides of my house and proceeded to the properties located to the south. I believe that the damage to my residents as well as those located to the south of me could have been prevented if the streets drained properly. I have voiced this concern with the city of Great Falls in the past due to excessive water flowing thru my property from heavy rains. 32nd Ave NE should drain east all the way to 9th St NE and not divert south on 7th St NE. This city has attempted to prevent this with a small asphalt bump at the intersection of 7th St NE and 32 AVE NE however it does not work. The slope located at the intersection of 7th St NE and Skyline DR NE is insufficient if not nonexistent and does not divert waterflow to the east but allows it to flow across Skyline DR NE. I constantly have to place sandbags across my driveway during rain storms to prevent the excessive water flow that comes down 7th St NE. I understand that there are certain requirements for storm drainage and I am no expert on the matter however what little research I have done I believe that there is definitely a concern with drainage in my area. I don't believe that the streets in my area drain properly in accordance with the city of Great Falls Storm Drainage Design Manual dated April 2024, specifically Chapter 5.

V/R

Vance Meadows

Ben Forsyth

RECOMMENDED LAWS

Recommended Cannabis Control laws, resolutions, or policies that will in time reduce marijuana harms. These laws, resolutions, or policies would be within the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Montana, all applicable state laws, the code of the City of Great Falls, and the specified recommendations of the majority of voters as expressed in Initiative-190.

RECOMMENDED LAW #1: No recreational marijuana products of any kind may be grown, manufactured, or sold within the city limits of Great Falls, or be distributed therein that contain a greater tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) content of any kind above a tested and proven dry weight of .03 %.

EXPLANATION: The most beneficial marijuana laws that contribute to the best health, safety, and welfare for all citizens, (as required by the U.S. Constitution, the Montana Constitution, several state laws, a Great Falls (GF) City Code, and the specified will of the established majority of Montana voters, will require the reduction of dangerous tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) potency to scientifically proven safer levels. Science has established that the greater the dosage of THC above a safer percent (.03%), the more drastically THC will reduce human brain material density, and is more likely to contribute to proven psychological, cardiovascular, immunity, kidney, and personality harms to human users and non-users who are regularly exposed to what Montana law has defined as dangerous drugs in four existing laws [50-32-101, 50-32-201, 50-32-202, and 50-32-222(4)(t)].

Thousands of highly rated scientific analyses and professional observations have proven that recreational marijuana's greater THC potency will create the harmful, brain-reducing highs that can lead to psychological personality disorders, and will increase the psychological and physical harms resulting from the tolerance affect of all marijuana. Hundreds of scientific studies have proven that less potent, frequent, short-term THC use often lead, to the extended damaging prevalence of these harms caused by longer-term cannabis exposure, dependence, and proven addiction.

Numerous studies have scientifically established that the more any person is exposed to increased THC potency, the greater the threat to their health, safety, and welfare (HSW), their lifestyle and their social function. The psychological and physical damage created by all higher potency uses are contradictory in various ways to Montana Code Annotated laws 16-12-101, 16-12-108, 16-12-301, 45-9-101, 45-9-102, 45-9-103, 45-9-110, 50-32-201, 50-32-202, 50-32-222(4)(t), 76-1-102, and 76-2-304. Those restraining law codes, and regulations are supported by majority vote in Initiative 190 sections 1, 13, 16(j), 18, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, and 46 which stipulates control of marijuana products to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare.

Because Initiative-190 did not specifically legalize any potency of recreational marijuana, and was approved by a majority of voters in 2020, the THC-caused-brain-material reductions of all exposed citizens and users, creates scientifically proven lower mental awareness of THC's harms to the HSW of users. Initiative-190 did not specify a constitutional and law-abiding THC dosage but did stipulate marijuana product harm control and support for the HSW of the people in ten sections. In two places [Section 1(2)(L) & Section 27(10)], I-190 admits that marijuana has always been harmful

and is currently harmful socially and economically. Those statements are contradictory to the understanding most users have about the product's safety, and I-190's statement [Section 1(2)(e)] that "ensures the safety of marijuana and marijuana infused products". Through all 67 pages and 57 sections, I-190 does not once specify a safe reduced THC potency level to comply with its stated HSW concepts. Yet Initiative-190 emphasizes government regulation and policies to support health, safety, and welfare (Section 1(2)(f) and (j), 16(1)(j), and 13(1)). The will of the voters, as specifically expressed in I-190 does not directly support dangerous levels of THC potency as defined in state laws 50-32-101, 50-32-201, 50-32-202, and 50-32-222(n)(t).

Existing concepts of marijuana possession and distribution legally accepted by the GF City Commission violate directly or indirectly eight parts of our state's constitution, including the Preamble, Sections 1, 3, 4, and 28 of Article II, and Sections 3, 4(1), and Sections 5(1) of Article III.

The question then arises as to which levels of THC potency qualify (per the US Constitution, the Montana Constitution, many State laws, the Great Falls City Code, and the will of a majority of voters) as safe and do not significantly damage health, safety, and welfare of numerous citizens. All known and available marijuana contains THC in some damaging form. Science has established that all THC dosage contributes to the various harms, including what scientific documents call ultra-low THC potency. However, competent science has proven that the lower the THC dosage, the less harm it creates. Thousands of sensible scientific studies have proven that the higher the THC potency, the more and quicker the harms it generates. Science finds that Ultra-low THC potency (.03%) still contributes to marijuana caused harms, but at rates that are very minimal and hard to detect unless THC products are used consistently for very long periods of time.

The federal government has set a safer standard of .03% THC for one agriculture product (Hemp). The Great Falls commissioners' oath of office specifically requires that the Constitution of the United States and the Montana Constitution, must be obeyed by the Great Falls City Commission. A local THC requirement of .03% would follow federal agriculture policies, meet the requirements of the Montana constitution (Article II, section #3 and #4 (among others), abide by existing state zoning laws (76-2-304), comply with local city code (17.4.050), and would still satisfy the specified concepts of the will of a majority of the voters as specifically expressed in Initiative 190. Law's limiting recreational marijuana to a .03% THC potency are the only recognized way the commission can meet all the Montana Constitutional concerns, the legal Montana Code Annotated laws, reduce HSW harms to a legal non-dangerous level, and still meets the specifically expressed will of a majority of the voters.

RECOMMENDED LAW #2: Recreational marijuana can only be purchased once per week. The purchaser must be a legal Montana citizen. The purchase can only be made from a legitimate marijuana dealer approved by the State of Montana Cannabis Control Division. Any product so purchased must not contain more than 1/8th ounce of cannabis that has been tested and proven to

be a dry weight of .03%. The purchased individual recreational cannabis product must contain no more than .03% THC in compliance with Federal agricultural specifications for hemp.

EXPLANATION: It is difficult, if not impossible, to develop any medically recognized recreational cannabis-related illness or harm if ultra-low THC potency (.03%) is used once per week at a purchased quantity level of 1/8th ounce per seven-day period. This law has the only known capability to reduce marijuana to a safer lowered legitimate level of marijuana-related harms and still allow recreational marijuana use as prescribed by Initiative-190. Eventually, this law will lower marijuana-related government harm's expenses by reducing the costs of such problems to education, medical services, economic functions, social services, family relations, law enforcement, and related judiciary efforts as we are currently experiencing.

RECOMMENDED LAW #3: All recreational marijuana sales must require a legal computerized contact with the Cannabis Control Division of the Montana Department of Revenue within ten minutes before the sale is made and legally approved, no matter the time of day or the day of the week that the sale is made.

EXPLANATION: With the legal cooperation of the Montana Department of Revenue and their Cannabis Control Division, this rule would restrict the occurrence of a legal purchase to a less harmful acquisition, not more than once per week at a specified potency, no matter where the sale is made in our city. This law would prevent multiple purchases from different cannabis sales outlets within the city in a harmful pattern within one 24-hour period of time..

RECOMMENDED LAW #4: Any marijuana cultivation, manufacturing, or retail sales outlet of any kind may not exist within 1,000 feet of any established youth activity area such as schools, playgrounds, recreation centers, parks youth activity structure, or domicile involving youth or adults within the city boundaries of Great Falls. This law includes the cultivation, manufacturing, or legal retail sales of all marijuana and marijuana products. Even if the cannabis sales facility has been established before this declaration, this law must be obeyed.

EXPLANATION: Direct use and indirect exposure of marijuana is increasing by underage kids at a proven harmful abnormal rate within the City of Great Falls. Montana state agencies have proven that 22% of marijuana-related emergency room cases involve children of 10 years of age or younger. Such cannabis related activity makes the harmful illegal misuse of cannabis more possible, often extends the effect of those harmful misuses indefinitely, and makes the education of those minds very difficult.

RECOMMENDED LAW #5: No cannabis cultivation, manufacturing, or sales of any kind may exist within the boundaries of the City of Great Falls, at a location where it can be seen from outside the marijuana property's boundary by any of the public nearby, or passing by, at any distance.

EXPLANATION: The proven harms of marijuana uses and exposure are suggestively accelerated by such visibility and presence, contributing to numerous scientifically and professionally acknowledged harms to youth, as well as adult citizens.

RECOMMENDED LAW # 6: No marijuana cultivation, processing, or sales of any kind that may produce a cannabis-related odor detectible beyond the marijuana facility's boundaries in any manner, may exist within the City of Great Falls.

EXPLANATION : Of the more than 600 known strains of marijuana, many are proven to create their own odor, that is often harmfully suggestive to many users, is obnoxious to nonusers, and can create harmful exposures to youthful minds unnecessarily.

RECOMMENDED LAW # 7: During the complete transport of any marijuana product within the legal boundaries of Great Falls,, cannabis in any manner, must be carried or transported within a sealed airtight bag or container during the complete transport of any marijuana product, where it cannot be seen or detected by the public.

THE COMPLETE TEXT OF INITIATIVE NO. 190 (I-190)

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Short title -- purpose. (1) [Sections 1 through 36] may be cited as the "Montana Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act."

(2) The purpose of [sections 1 through 36] is to:

(a) provide for legal possession and use of limited amounts of marijuana legal for adults 21 years of age or older;

(b) provide for the licensure and regulation of commercial cultivation, manufacture, production, distribution, and sale of marijuana and marijuana-infused products;

(c) allow for limited cultivation, manufacture, delivery, and possession of marijuana as permitted by [sections 1 through 36];

(d) eliminate the illicit market for marijuana and marijuana-infused products;

(e) prevent the distribution of marijuana sold under [sections 1 through 36] to persons under 21 years of age;

(f) ensure the safety of marijuana and marijuana-infused products;

(g) ensure the security of registered premises and adult-use dispensaries;

(h) establish reporting requirements for adult-use providers and adult-use marijuana-infused products providers;

(i) establish inspection requirements for registered premises, including data collection on energy use, chemical use, water use, and packaging waste to ensure a clean and healthy environment;

(j) provide for the testing of marijuana by licensed testing laboratories;

(k) give local governments a role in establishing standards for the cultivation, manufacture, and sale of marijuana that protect the public health, safety, and welfare of residents within their jurisdictions;

Section 4: Risk Assessment and Vulnerability Analysis

Critical facility exposure and vulnerability would be unlikely to increase as a result of climate change impacts to the severe weather and drought; however, critical facility owners and operators may experience more frequent disruption to the services they provide. For example, extreme heat can decrease the effectiveness of electrical equipment, including power lines, which can lead to blackouts during very hot conditions. An increase in requests for medical assistance during a heat wave may challenge emergency response capabilities. In addition, critical facility operators may need to alter standard management practices and actively manage resources, particularly in water-related service sectors.



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Developing a Municipal Heat Response Plan: A Guide for Medium- sized Municipalities

2017

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August 17, 2017

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Introduction

Climate change is a key factor driving increases in summer temperatures. In British Columbia (BC), increases in summer temperatures are expected to rise faster than the global average. In 2009 an extreme heat event resulted in an estimated 110 premature deaths in the lower mainland¹. However, largely due to the temperate climate of this region, the risk posed by heat in BC has generally been overlooked. To address the public health risks posed by increasing BC temperatures and the capacity of municipal authorities to respond to them, the BC Centre for Disease Control assessed current perceptions of the health risks of heat and levels of preparedness of health authorities (HAs) and municipalities around extreme heat. In the course of our interviews, respondents stressed the need for guidance in developing heat-response plans for small and medium-size municipalities which lack the infrastructure and expertise of larger centres.

Some populations, such as the elderly, those living in social isolation, taking certain drugs, or living in impoverished circumstances, are more at risk of negative health impacts from heat events². Few studies in Canada or abroad have been conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of declared heat action plans. Nonetheless, in Montreal, strategies such as water distribution, hot day visits to socially isolated people, moving care facility patients to air conditioned rooms, and monitoring workers in warm environments, have been effective in lowering the number of heat related deaths on extremely hot days³. This guide is based on information gained through consultations with HAs and municipalities and a review of pertinent literature. It is intended as a tool to help BC municipalities develop extreme heat plans, ideally in a way that these plans are integrated with existing emergency preparedness strategies.

Asset Mapping

Some large municipalities e.g., Vancouver⁴, have resources for comprehensive heat response plans. Other smaller municipalities tend to have less comprehensive or no plans due to a limited perception of risk, lack of information, and/or lack of capital/human resources. While developing an effective municipal heat response plan requires coordination, the assets needed to develop such plans are already available in many communities. Municipalities should begin the process by taking stock of physical resources, non-profit volunteer supports, and what communications strategies are in place or are needed to respond to extreme heat.

Smaller municipalities may not have data on heat-mortality relationships specific to their populations. However, they may be able to obtain and infer these relationships using records from nearby, larger municipalities or regional health authorities. Similarly, while smaller municipalities often do not have the resources for extensive mapping of vulnerable populations – census data or local partners (detailed below) can help to identify areas to focus their efforts e.g., places comprised largely of heat-retaining concrete structures, buildings that lack air conditioning or cooling, or areas where people have reduced mobility or social supports.

Before the heat season, municipalities should assemble potential partner groups, including community planners, environmental/sustainability officers, emergency management officials, and public health officials to discuss a common vision for protecting vulnerable populations.

INFRASTRUCTURE/ RESOURCES

Municipalities can create an index of resources available for protection against extreme heat conditions.

¹ <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5226699/>

² <http://www.ncceh.ca/content/vulnerable-populations>

³ <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/27203433>

⁴ <http://vancouver.ca/files/cov/Vancouver-Climate-Change-Adaptation-Strategy-2012-11-07.pdf>

- Municipalities should keep a list of public air-conditioned buildings, including community centres, libraries, and swimming pools to use as cooling centres, as well as alerting staff/volunteers that these may be opened beyond regular hours during extreme heat events. For populations without transportation to shelters, some cities partner with community groups (detailed below) to transport vulnerable people to cooling shelters; for example the city of Ottawa works with the Salvation Army.
- Cooling facilities can also be used as places for residents to access water. Some municipalities have portable water stations. For municipalities in Metro Vancouver which do not have access to portable water stations, Metro Vancouver has several water wagons that can be used. Publicly accessible water fountains in Metro Vancouver can be found at [TapMap](#)⁵. In jurisdictions where these resources are unavailable, non-profit groups may be able to provide bottled water for at-risk and homeless populations.
- Municipalities may be able to provide temporary air conditioning to some buildings or mandate that apartment buildings have at least one communal air conditioned room.

PARTNERS

If resources for mapping vulnerable populations are not available, information from community partner organizations can be used to identify where vulnerable populations reside including seniors, new Canadians with language barriers, low income families with young children, people living in low-income housing, socially isolated, homeless, and mentally ill citizens. Volunteers can provide outreach services to the vulnerable, distribute water, and/or be trained to help in cooling shelters.

- Some of the most common community partners in extreme heat planning are public health officials, fire officials, the Canadian Red Cross, Meals on Wheels, home support staff, staff at seniors' residences, and staff working with the homeless⁶. Some cities may have general emergency preparedness volunteers.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Communication material should be prepared with the aid of public health authorities and distributed before and during extreme heat events. Municipal websites may be updated with heat health messaging⁷, including "look out for each other," and which medications might put people at greater risk of heat related complications⁸. Paper materials could also be distributed to senior and community centres, schools, low-income housing areas, pharmacies and medical centres, as well as outdoor events. Where possible, it is helpful to have pictorial, multilingual materials.
- These materials should inform citizens of the location of cooling centres and public water fountains, and information about transport to get there.
- During a heat emergency, notifications, including compounding factors such as power outages, water shortages or boil water advisories, or air quality alerts, should also be sent out to media outlets and internal staff.
- Outdoor municipal workers should be alerted that they may be at higher risk for heat illness and be trained to monitor outdoor spaces for people experiencing heat-related illnesses.

How DOES this Fit with Other Emergency Response Plans?

⁵ <https://apps.metrovancouver.org/tapmap>

⁶ <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/pubs/climat/adapt/index-eng.php>

⁷ <https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/healthlinkbc-files/heat-related-illness>

⁸ <http://www2.gnb.ca/content/dam/gnb/Departments/h-s/pdf/en/HealthyEnvironments/Medicationsandtheheat%20.pdf>

Most municipalities already have all-hazard or emergency response plans in place, which can be adapted for extreme heat.

PRESEASON

- From weather to earthquakes, impacts can be minimized when neighbours are looking after each other and vulnerable members of their family/community. Throughout the year, neighbourhoods should be encouraged to work together to improve social capital and resiliency, as outlined in the *In it Together: Neighbourhood Preparedness Guide*⁹ by Prepared BC.
- Assemble the emergency planning committee and community groups linked to vulnerable populations. Necessary positions for effective planning include a Risk Management Officer, Liaison Officer, and Information/Communications Officer¹⁰. Clarify roles and ensure lists of vulnerable citizens are up to date.
- A link can be set up on the municipality website where people can sign up to be contacted in the event of an emergency.
- Most municipalities have a list of facilities that can be used as shelters, for extreme cold or air pollution events, which can also be adapted as cooling centres.
- Information about extreme heat preparedness and heat-illness symptoms can be hosted on the municipality website under emergency responses^{11,12}.

IMPLEMENTATION

Once a HA advises a municipality to call a heat emergency, reconfirm that the Chief Administrative Officer or Emergency Officer is leading the response. An emergency contact tree can then be used to communicate with stakeholders and mobilize response.

- Organize press conferences to get messages out to the public.
- Alert partner organizations and volunteers to check on vulnerable populations.
- Closely monitor heat-related morbidity and mortality, in concert with the regional HA.
- Activate heat plans for identified cooling facilities (e.g., public libraries, community centres, facilities already catering to heat-vulnerable people, such as seniors' centres).
- Extend hours of air-conditioned facilities where people are likely to seek heat relief (e.g., swimming pools).
- Open cooling shelters with overnight capability.
- Provide portable water stations and/or distribute drinking water to homeless shelters.
- Provide maps with locations and hours of operation of cooling facilities and drinking water stations.
- Reduce the cost of swimming at community pools or make it free.
- Provide transportation support to and from cooling facilities (where possible, work with community groups).
- Provide financial assistance for utility bills or ask your utility to halt service cancellations/charges during extreme heat events, so that citizens are not cautious in using their air conditioning.
- Check on citizens who have pre-registered to be alerted during emergencies.
- Provide advice to the public through healthlink.ca or directing them to call 811.
- Modify or cancel scheduled sports and outdoor events at daycares, summer camps, etc.

Establish a heat alert activation/deactivation protocol

⁹ https://www.newwestcity.ca/database/files/library/in_it_together_neighbourhood_preparedness_guide_web_final_2015.pdf

¹⁰ <http://www.portmoody.ca/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=6601> (pages 69-75)

¹¹ <http://vancouver.ca/people-programs/hot-weather.aspx>

¹² <http://nsem.info/know-risks/extreme-weather>

Environment Canada data is used in BC to determine humidex and/or temperature triggers with sufficient response time for action. Vancouver Coastal Health and Fraser Health Authorities use specific trigger algorithms to set municipal emergency plans in motion when the average of the current day's 14:00h temperature and tomorrow's forecasted high is $\geq 34\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ at Abbotsford Airport or $\geq 29\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ at Vancouver Airport, an extreme heat warning is issued and municipalities are advised to call a heat emergency. A deactivation protocol should also be determined, informed by Environment Canada, when cooler weather is predicted for an extended time. For jurisdictions outside of the lower mainland, BC CDC is currently establishing heat response triggers.

Debrief

After an extreme heat event it is recommended to convene with partners to evaluate how well the response was carried out and to gather suggestions for future improvements. It may be useful for municipalities to practice their heat plans through table top exercises, both before and after events.

Long-term Heat Mitigation Strategies

In preparation for extreme heat due to climate change, best practices identified for the heat island effect and for assuring that residents have the means to best protect their health in the heat include:

- Preserving and expanding tree canopies and improving connectivity of greenspaces.
- Building shade structures in heat vulnerable areas where trees are not feasible¹³.
- Providing incentive programs to help fund green roof projects and cool roofs (high albedo and high emissivity materials) on residential, industrial, commercial, and institutional buildings across the municipality, especially in areas with large expanses of concrete¹⁴.
- Improving building codes to decrease the need for air-conditioning; however, in the case of vulnerable populations in substandard housing, provide air conditioning where possible. Vancouver is considering mandating cooling rooms in nonmarket housing for vulnerable populations¹⁵.
- Increasing water access with public drinking fountains.
- For rural jurisdictions, having a strategy in place to assure that residents who are not on municipal systems have access to water.

Additional Resources

- [Heat Alert and Response Systems to Protect Health: Best Practices Guidebook](#) (Health Canada, 2012)
- [Excessive Heat Events Guidebook](#) (US Environmental Protection Agency, 2016)
- [Climate and Health Intervention Assessment](#) (US Centre for Disease Control, 2017)
- [Guide for the Evaluation of a Warning System for People Vulnerable to Heat and Smog](#) (Institute national de Sante Publique du Quebec, 2013)
- [Cities Adapt to Extreme Heat: Celebrating Local Leadership](#) (Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction, 2016)
- [Developing Heat Alert and Response Systems in Urban and Rural Communities](#) (Health Canada, 2014)
- [Heat Alert and Response Systems in Urban and Rural Communities in Canada](#) (Berry et al. 2014)

¹³ [http://www.citywindsor.ca/residents/environment/environmental-master-plan/documents/urban%20heat%20island%20report%20\(2012\).pdf](http://www.citywindsor.ca/residents/environment/environmental-master-plan/documents/urban%20heat%20island%20report%20(2012).pdf)

¹⁴ [https://www1.toronto.ca/City%20of%20Toronto/Environment%20and%20Energy/Climate%20and%20Energy%20Goals/Transform%20TO/PDFs/23-09-2015%20TransformTO%20Workbook%20Results%20Summary%20\(AODA%20Compliant\).pdf](https://www1.toronto.ca/City%20of%20Toronto/Environment%20and%20Energy/Climate%20and%20Energy%20Goals/Transform%20TO/PDFs/23-09-2015%20TransformTO%20Workbook%20Results%20Summary%20(AODA%20Compliant).pdf)

¹⁵ <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4306883/>



2021 District of Columbia Heat Emergency Plan

★ ★ ★ GOVERNMENT OF THE
WE ARE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON
DC MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Purpose and Scope

The District of Columbia (“the District”) Government implements the District Heat Emergency Plan when the National Weather Service (NWS) forecasts a temperature or heat index of 95 degrees or above. The purpose of the Heat Emergency Plan is to offer resources to DC residents, including those experiencing homelessness, and visitors to the District. The Heat Emergency Plan provides operational status of the District Government’s services and facilities when the. The Department of Human Services (DHS), the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA), and the Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH) coordinated to develop guidance in this document and on the District’s extreme heat webpage at heat.dc.gov.

The site heat.dc.gov contains guidance and resources including the most up-to-date cooling center map, heat safety information, and a link to the most updated version of this document.

2.0 Policies

The District Heat Emergency Plan is intended to be flexible to incorporate any changes in District policy guidance.

2.1 Activation

When the temperature or heat index in the District reaches 95 degrees or above, District Government, through the Department of Human Services (DHS), supported by the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA), will implement the Heat Emergency Plan and operate cooling centers for residents and visitors to seek relief. Residents and visitors should take extra steps to beat the heat by staying in the shade or air-conditioning, drinking plenty of water, and visiting a cooling center. Periods of high heat and humidity can cause medical problems such as heat exhaustion and stroke.

Please visit ready.dc.gov/extremeheat for tips to stay safe and cool during extreme heat events. Facilities continue to take into consideration COVID-19 guidance. For updated COVID-19 guidance from Mayor Muriel Bowser and DC Health, visit coronavirus.dc.gov/phasetwo.

2.2 Illegal Use of Fire Hydrants

The Executive Office of the Mayor strictly prohibits the activation or opening of fire hydrants anywhere in the District for the purpose of street showering. Unauthorized use of a fire hydrant can interfere with firefighting capabilities or cause personal injury. DC Water and DC Fire and Emergency Medical Services (FEMS) officials remind the public that unauthorized use of fire hydrants is unlawful and can cause damage to the underground pipelines in the water distribution system.

3.0 Communication

3.1 Alert and Notification

Upon activation of a Heat Emergency, the HSEMA Joint All-Hazards Operation Center (JAHOC) issues an alert via AlertDC. Outreach and service providers across the city are instructed to sign up for citywide Heat Emergencies, so that providers can spread information to District visitors and individuals experiencing homelessness. All individuals interested in receiving Heat Emergency notices via text or email can sign up for free alerts through AlertDC at alertdc.dc.gov.

When a Heat Emergency is activated, the United Planning Organization (UPO) command center will notify shelters staff of the Alert, so they can prepare the shelters for consumers.

Additionally, we will notify the public if cooling centers are non-operational if, for instance, facilities require repair work to air conditioning or ventilation systems.

HopeOneSource is a text messaging application that allows District agencies and service providers to send text messages to registered users. HopeOneSource, through partnering providers, can also help individuals experiencing homelessness register for a free phone with free, unlimited text messages. Through the HopeOneSource app, District partners send out updates to alert consumers to weather conditions, shelter availability, new programs and services, and how to access help they may need. To sign up for HopeOneSource text messages or to learn more, visit <https://www.hopeonesource.org/dc>. District agencies are currently working to integrate HopeOneSource alerting with AlertDC messaging coming from the JAHOC to reach the widest number of individuals in the District.

3.2 Public Messaging

Following the notification of a Heat Emergency, HSEMA, DHS, the Mayor's Office on Communication (EOM Comms), ICH, and other partner stakeholders disseminate information through alerts, social media, and other communication outlets.

4.0 Cooling Centers

Cooling centers are locations across the city where individuals can go to gain respite from the heat. In addition to providing a cool place to rest, cooling centers may provide additional services to individuals experiencing homelessness but are not required to do so. While some cooling centers will open specifically when a Heat Emergency is activated, many of the District's cooling centers will only be available during their regular business hours (see section 5.2). When using a cooling center, individuals must obey all rules and regulations as permitted by each site.

5.0 Guidance for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness

The resources in this section are provided within the context of the broader systems work which is underway in the District to move from a shelter-based system to one focused on rapid stabilization and connection back to permanent housing. However, the strategies outlined in Homeward DC (single adults and families) and Solid Foundations DC (unaccompanied youth) will take time to implement, and as such, the District is committed to ensuring we have effective strategies in place to protect residents experiencing homelessness. For more information on the broader systems change happening in the District, visit the ICH website at <http://ich.dc.gov/>.

Individuals experiencing homelessness and homeless service providers should be aware that some facilities, including DC Public Libraries (DCPL), may have bag limits. DCPL, for example, has a two-bag limit and individuals should plan accordingly. If individuals need help navigating these policies, they are encouraged to talk to an outreach provider or shelter case manager for assistance.

5.1 District Low Barrier Shelters

Table 1 lists shelters that are open 24 hours a day to all individuals staying in the facility.

Location	Ward	Open to	Phone
Patricia Handy Legacy 810 5th Street, NW	2	Men	202-399-7093
Patricia Handy Place for Women Extension 1009 11th Street, NW	2	Women	202-399-7093
Adams Place Shelter 2210 Adams Place, NE	5	Men	202-399-7093
New York Avenue Shelter 1355-57 New York Avenue, NE	5	Men	202-399-7093
Community for Creative Non-Violence (CCNV) 425 Second Street, NW	6	All	202-399-7093
DC General Building 9 Harriet Tubman 1900 Massachusetts Avenue, SE	7	Women	202-399-7093
801 East Shelter 2700 Martin Luther King Jr Ave, SE	8	Men	202-399-7093

Table 1: District Low Barrier Shelters Activated During a Heat Emergency

5.2 Cooling Centers Available During Regular Business Hours

Table 2 lists facilities that allow individuals to gain respite from the heat during regular business hours.

Location	Ward	Hours (Open to All Unless Specified)	Phone
Columbia Heights Recreation Center 1480 Girard Street, NW	1	Monday - Friday 8:00AM to 6:00PM Saturday 9:00AM to 5:00PM	202-671-0373
Mt. Pleasant Library 3160 16th Street, NW	1	Monday - Saturday 10:00AM to 6:00PM	202-671-3121
Downtown Day Services Center 1313 New York Ave, NW	2	Regular hours: Mon-Fri 9AM to 5PM Weekend hours*: Sat- Sun 10AM to 3PM <i>*only open weekends during heat emergencies</i>	202-383-8810
Volta Park Recreation Center 1555 34 th Street, NW	2	Monday - Friday 8:00AM to 6:00PM Saturday 9:00AM to 5:00PM	202-645-5668
Georgetown Library 3260 R Street, NW	2	Monday - Saturday 10:00AM to 6:00PM	202-727-0232
Marion Barry Building 441 4 th Street, NW	2	Monday - Friday 7:30AM - 5:30PM	202-253-1746
West End Library 2301 L Street, NW	2	Monday - Saturday 10:00AM to 6:00PM	202-724-8707

Location	Ward	Hours (Open to All Unless Specified)	Phone
Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library 901 G Street, NW	2	Monday - Saturday 10:00AM to 6:00PM	202-727-0321
Chevy Chase Library 5625 Connecticut Avenue, NW	3	Monday - Saturday 10:00AM to 6:00PM	202-282-0021
Cleveland Park Library 3310 Connecticut Avenue, NW	3	Monday - Saturday 10:00AM to 6:00PM	202-282-3080
Palisades Recreation Center 5200 Sherrier Place, NW	3	Monday - Friday 8:00AM to 6:00PM Saturday 9:00AM to 5:00PM	202-545-7201
Palisades Library 4901 V Street, NW	3	Monday - Saturday 10:00AM to 6:00PM	202-282-3139
Tenley-Friendship Library 4450 Wisconsin Avenue, NW	3	Monday - Saturday 10:00AM to 6:00PM	202-727-1488
Petworth Library 4200 Kansas Avenue, NW	4	Monday - Saturday 10:00AM to 6:00PM	202-243-1188
Shepherd Park (Juanita E. Thornton) Library 7420 Georgia Avenue, NW	4	Monday - Saturday 10:00AM to 6:00PM	202-541-6100
Takoma Park Library 416 Cedar Street NW	4	Closed until further notice	202-576-7252
Emery Recreation Center 5701 Georgia Ave., NW	4	Monday - Friday 8:00AM to 6:00PM Saturday 9:00AM to 5:00PM	202-576-3211
Adams Place Day Center 2210 Adams Place, NE	5	24 hours daily	202-832-8317
Lamond-Riggs Interim Library 395 Ingraham Street, NE	5	Monday - Saturday 10:00AM to 6:00PM	202-541-6255
Woodridge Library 1801 Hamlin Street, NE	5	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-541-6226
Turkey Thicket 1100 Michigan Ave., NE	5	Monday - Friday 8:00AM to 6:00PM Saturday 9:00AM to 5:00PM	202-567-9237
Northeast Library 330 7th Street, NE	6	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-698-0058
Northwest One Library 155 L Street, NW	6	Closed until further notice	202-939-5946
Rosedale Recreation Center 1701 Gales Street, NE	6	Monday - Friday 8:00AM to 6:00PM Saturday 9:00AM to 5:00PM	202-727-2591
Rosedale Library 1701 Gales Street, NE	6	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-727-5012
Shaw (Watha T. Daniel) Library 1630 7th Street, NW	6	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-727-1288

Location	Ward	Hours (Open to All Unless Specified)	Phone
Southeast Library 403 7th Street, SE	6	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-698-3377
Southwest Library 900 Wesley Place, SW	6	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-724-4752
Benning (Dorothy I. Height) Library 3935 Benning Road, NE	7	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-281-2583
Capitol View Library 5001 Central Avenue, SE	7	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-645-0755
Deanwood Recreation Center 1350 49th Street, NE	7	Monday - Friday 8:00AM to 6:00PM Saturday 9:00AM to 5:00PM	202-671-3077
Deanwood Library 1350 49th Street, NE	7	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-698-1175
Francis A. Gregory Library 3660 Alabama Avenue, SE	7	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-698-6373
Anacostia Library 1800 Good Hope Road, SE	8	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-715-7707, 202-715-7708
Barry Farm Recreation Center 1200 Sumner Road SE	8	Monday - Friday 8:00AM to 6:00PM Saturday 9:00AM to 5:00PM	202-442-5420
Bellevue Library 115 Atlantic Street, SW	8	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM	202-281-2583
Parklands-Turner Library 1547 Alabama Avenue, SE	8	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-645-4532

Table 2: Cooling Center that are Available during their Regular Business Hours

5.3 Transportation

The Shelter Hotline at (202) 399-7093 or 311 can be called for on demand transportation to shelters.

Note the following limitations:

- Accessible transportation for persons with disabilities is provided upon request; and
- Unscheduled (on-demand) transportation is limited, subject to traffic conditions, and weather.

5.4 Outreach

The District government contracts with a number of agencies to provide homeless outreach services throughout all four seasons. The ICH facilitates a work group comprised of these District-funded outreach providers, privately funded outreach teams, and the outreach specialists at DHS, DBH and DMHHS, to ensure that community resources are strategically deployed and effectively coordinated.

The outreach agencies provide a vital function in our homeless services system, working to engage vulnerable individuals and to connect them to shelter and housing resources. Through this engagement process, the teams provide an array of services, including routine safety checks and the provision of essential survival items (e.g., food, water, and clothing) for clients. Outreach teams across the city will continue their outreach schedules, will check in on individuals' health and safety, and provide information about resources to help individuals remain safe in the extreme heat.

6.0 General Cooling Facilities

6.1 Public Housing Cooling Centers for Senior Citizens

Seniors without air conditioning are encouraged to go to one of the Senior Centers or any public facility that is air conditioned. Cooling centers will be activated to serve senior citizens at the locations listed in Table 3.

Name	Address	Ward
Carroll Apartments	410 M Street, SE	6
Fort Lincoln	2855 Bladensburg Road, NE	5
Garfield Terrace	2301 11th Street, NW	1
Horizon House	1150 12th Street, NW	2
James Apartments	1425 N Street, NW	2
Knox Hill	2700 Jasper Street, SE	8
LeDroit	2125 4th Street, NW	1
Sibley Plaza	1140 North Capitol Street, NW	6
Regency House	5201 Connecticut Avenue, NW	3

Table 3 Public Housing for Senior Citizens

For more information on available Senior Center locations, seniors are advised to call the District Department of Aging and Community Living (DAAL) at 202-724-5626 during regular business hours and the District's Call Center at 311 after hours.

6.2 Indoor Pools

The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) provides indoor pools, outdoor pools, and spray parks across DC. For the most up-to-date information about DPR pools and spray parks, please visit

<https://dpr.dc.gov/service/find-pool>.

Table 4 includes a listing of aquatic centers that will be open during their normal business hours.

Address	Ward(s)	Hours
Barry Farm Aquatic Center 1230 Sumner Road, SE	8	Mon-Fri: 6AM - 12PM and 3PM - 9PM Closed: 1PM - 3PM Sat: 10AM - 4PM
Deanwood Aquatic Center 1350 49th Street, NE	7	Closed until further notice.
Dunbar Aquatic Center 101 N Street, NW	5	Closed until further notice.
H.D. Woodson Aquatic Center 540 55th Street, NE	7	Closed until further notice.
Marie Reed Aquatic Center 2200 Champlain St, NW	2	Mon-Fri: 6AM - 12PM and 3PM - 9PM Closed: 1PM - 3PM Sat: 10AM - 4PM
William H. Rumsey Aquatic Center Capitol East Natatorium 635 North Carolina Avenue, SE	2 and 6	Mon-Fri: 6AM - 12PM and 3PM - 9PM Closed: 1PM - 3PM Sat: 10AM - 4PM
Wilson Aquatic Center 4551 Ft. Drive, NW	3 and 4	Mon-Fri: 6AM - 12PM and 3PM - 9PM Closed: 1PM - 3PM Sat: 10AM - 4PM
Takoma Aquatic Center 300 Van Buren Street, NW	3 and 4	Mon-Fri: 6AM - 12PM and 3PM - 9PM Closed: 1PM - 3PM Sat: 10AM - 4PM
Turkey Thicket 1100 Michigan Avenue, NE	5	Mon-Fri: 6AM - 12PM and 3PM - 9PM Closed: 1PM - 3PM Sat: 10AM - 4PM
Therapeutic Recreation Center 3030 G Street, SE	7 and 8	Closed until further notice.
Ferebee-Hope Aquatic Center 3999 8 th Street, SE	8	Closed until further notice.

Table 4: Indoor Pools

6.3 Outdoor Pools

Table 5 provides a listing of outdoor pools that will be open during their normal business hours. Please note that outdoor pools are not open year-round. For the most up-to-date information about outdoor pools please visit <https://dpr.dc.gov/service/find-pool>.

Address	Ward	Hours
Anacostia Pool 1800 Anacostia Drive, SE	8	Closed Mondays Tue - Fri: 10AM - 6PM Sat - Sun: 10AM - 6PM
Banneker Pool 2500 Georgia Avenue, NW	1	Closed Thursdays Mon - Wed: 10AM - 6PM Sat - Sun: 10AM - 6 PM
Benning Park Pool 5100 Southern Avenue, SE	7	Closed Thursdays Mon - Wed: 10AM - 6PM Fri - Sun: 10AM - 6PM
Douglass Pool 1921 Frederick Douglass Court, SE	8	Closed Wednesdays Mon - Tue: 10AM - 6PM Thu - Sun: 10AM - 6PM
Theodore Hagans Pool 3201 Fort Lincoln Drive, NE	5	Closed Mondays Tue - Fri: 10AM - 6PM Sat - Sun: 10AM - 6PM
Fort Stanton Pool 1800 Erie Street, SE	8	Closed Thursdays Mon - Wed: 10AM - 6PM Fri - Sun: 10AM - 6PM
Francis Pool 2435 N Street, NW	2	Closed Tuesdays Mon: 10AM - 6PM Wed - Sun: 10AM - 6PM
Kelly Miller Pool 4900 Brooks Street, NE	7	Closed Mondays Tue - Fri: 10AM - 6PM Sat - Sun: 10AM - 6PM
Kenilworth Pool 1300 44 th Street, NE	7	Closed Wednesdays Mon - Tue: 10AM - 6PM Thu - Sun: 10AM - 6PM
Jelleff Recreation Center Pool 3265 S Street, NW	2	Closed Wednesdays Mon - Tue: 10AM - 6PM Thu - Sun: 10AM - 6PM
Langdon Park Pool 2860 Mills Avenue, NE	5	Closed Thursdays Mon - Wed: 10AM - 6PM Fri - Sun: 10AM - 6PM
Oxon Run Pool 501 Mississippi Avenue, SE	8	Closed Mondays Tue - Fri: 10AM - 6PM Sat - Sun: 10AM - 6PM

Address	Ward	Hours
Randall Pool 25 I Street, SW	6	Closed Mondays Tue - Fri: 10AM - 6PM Sat - Sun: 10AM - 6PM
Ridge Road Pool 830 Ridge Road, SE	7	Closed Thursdays Mon - Wed: 10AM - 6PM Fri - Sun: 10AM - 6PM
Rosedale Pool 1701 Gales Street, NE	6	Closed Wednesdays Mon - Tue: 10AM - 6PM Thu - Sun: 10AM - 6PM
Upshur Pool 4300 Arkansas Street, NW	4	Closed Mondays Tue - Fri: 10AM - 6PM Sat - Sun: 10AM - 6PM
Harry Thomas Sr. Pool 1743 Lincoln Road, NE	5	Closed Tuesdays Mon: 10AM - 6PM Wed - Sun: 10AM - 6PM
Volta Park Pool 1555 34th Street, NW	2	Closed Mondays Tue - Fri: 10AM - 6PM Sat - Sun: 10AM - 6PM

Table 5 Outdoor Pools

6.4 Walk to Learn Swimming Pools

Swimming pools for children ages 12 and under will be open on weekdays from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM at the pools included in Table 6. Please note that Children’s Pools are not open year-round. For more information about walk to learn swimming pools please visit <https://dpr.dc.gov/service/find-pool>.

Address	Ward	Telephone
Park View Children’s Pool 693 Otis Place, NW	1	202-576-8658
Lincoln Capper Children’s Pool 555 L Street, SE	6	202-727-1080

Table 6 Walk to Learn Pools

6.5 Spray Parks

Table 7 includes a listing of available Spray Parks. Please note Spray Parks are not open year-round. Please check <https://dpr.dc.gov/page/spray-parks> to confirm open/close dates for the season.

Park	Address	Ward
Guy Mason Spray Park	3600 Calvert Street, NW	3
Fort Davis Spray Park	1400 41 st Street, SE	7
Fort Greble Spray Park	Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue and Elmira Street, SW	8
Fort Stevens Recreation Center	1327 Van Buren Street, NW	4
Harrison Recreation Center Spray Park	1330 V Street, NW	1
Palisades Spray Park	5200 Sherrier Place, NW	3
Petworth Spray Park	801 Taylor Street, NW	4
Lafayette Spray Park	5900 33 rd Street, NW	4
Riggs LaSalle Recreation Center	501 Riggs Road, NE	4
14 th and Girard Street Spray Park	1480 Girard Street, NW	1
14 th and Park Road Park	14th Street and Park Road, NW	1
Macomb Recreation Center Spray Park	3409 Macomb Street, NW	3
Joseph H. Cole Spray Park	1299 Neal Street, NE	5
Takoma Community Center Spray Park	300 Van Buren Street, NW	4
Turkey Thicket Aquatic Center	1100 Michigan Avenue, NE	5
Hillcrest Recreation Center	3100 Denver Street, SE	7
Kennedy Recreation Center	1401 7th Street, NW	6

Table 7 Spray Parks

6.6 Libraries

All public libraries will be open during their normal business hours. The general public will be allowed entry to cool off but must obey all rules and regulations as permitted by each site. Table 8 includes information about the location and hours of the District public libraries.

Library	Ward	Hours	Phone Number
Mt. Pleasant Library 3160 16th Street, NW	1	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-671-3121
Georgetown Library 3260 R Street, NW	2	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-727-0232
West End Library 22301 L Street, NW	2	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-724-8707
Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library 901 G Street, NW	2	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-727-0321
Chevy Chase Library 5625 Connecticut Avenue, NW	3	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-282-0021
Cleveland Park 3310 Connecticut Avenue, NW	3	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-282-3080
Palisades Library 4901 V Street, NW	3	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-282-3139
Tenley-Friendship Library 4450 Wisconsin Avenue, NW	3	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-727-1488
Petworth Library 4200 Kansas Avenue, NW	4	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-243-1188
Takoma Park Library 416 Cedar S Street., NW	4	Closed until further notice.	202-576-7252
Shepherd Park (Juanita E. Thornton) Library 7420 Georgia Avenue, NW	4	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-541-6100
Lamond-Riggs Library (Interim) 395 Ingraham Street, NE	5	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-541-6255
Woodridge Library 1801 Hamlin Street, NE	5	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-541-6226
Northeast Library 330 7th Street, NE	6	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-698-0058

Library	Ward	Hours	Phone Number
Northwest One Library 155 L Street, NW	6	Closed until further notice.	202-939-5946
Rosedale Library 1701 Gales Street, NE	6	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-727-5012
Shaw (Watha T. Daniel) Library 1630 7th Street, NW	6	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-727-1288
Southeast Library 403 7th Street, SE	6	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-698-3377
Southwest Library 900 Wesley Place, SW	6	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-724-4752
Benning (Dorothy I. Height) Library 3935 Benning Road, NE	7	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-281-2583
Capitol View Library 5001 Central Avenue, SE	7	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-645-0755
Deanwood Library 1350 49th Street, NE	7	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-698-1175
Francis A. Gregory Library 3660 Alabama Avenue, SE	7	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-698-6373
Anacostia Library 1800 Good Hope Road, SE	8	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-715-7707, 202-715-7708
Bellevue (William O. Lockridge) Library 115 Atlantic Street, SW	8	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-281-2583
Parklands-Turner Library 1547 Alabama Avenue, SE	8	Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM	202-645-4532

Table 8: Libraries

7.0 Roles and Responsibilities

The following section outlines the roles and responsibilities of District agencies when the Heat Emergency Plan activates. All agencies will provide heat protective actions for at-risk and vulnerable employees working in field operations.

Agency	Roles/Responsibilities
Department of Human Services and the Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinate the opening and staffing of shelters for the homeless ▪ Provide water for persons remaining on the street when a Heat Emergency is activated in order to prevent dehydration and heat stroke ▪ The United Planning Organization (UPO) command center will make internal notifications when a Heat Emergency is declared
Department of Health (DC Health)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DC Health will assess the medical impact of the heat conditions identify/inform the public of appropriate health precautions ▪ Monitor hospital emergency room admissions related to heat illnesses. ▪ Provide HSEMA information related to heat prevention with protective actions to the general public most notably those with health and medical issues
Department of Aging and Community Living (DACL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinate the activation of neighborhood Cooling Centers for senior citizens per the facilities list ▪ Provide notifications and alerts to senior service organizations
DC Public Libraries (DCPL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Allow entry to all public libraries for individuals to cool off (all rules and regulations, to include COVID-19 capacity and Social Distancing restrictions as permitted by each site may be enforced) ▪ Notify HSEMA if there are any unexpected facility closures
Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inspect and report residential units and buildings that are without air-conditioning ▪ Identify those residents that may need fans after normal business hours and report such information to HSEMA
DC Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinate with HSEMA, FEMS, and MPD to provide messaging to the public on the prohibition against illegal use of fire hydrants as street showers for the purpose of cooling; operate DC Water Emergency Command Center (DCWECC) and monitor any Fire Hydrant-related issues
Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assist in providing box fans to HSEMA to be used for emergency assistance to citizens after normal business hours

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During normal business hours DOEE has established several programs designed to assist eligible residents with gas and electric bills as well as box fans
Department of General Services (DGS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure security personnel in any government building that allows access to the general public for the purpose of cooling has been notified that a Heat Emergency is activated. Ensure janitorial services occur at sites that fall under the agency's purview. Notify HSEMA of any District Government public facilities that are without air conditioning or power
Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure Spray Park locations and pools are activated Notify HSEMA of facility closures Open recreation centers in neighborhoods during major power outages if requested by HSEMA
Fire and Emergency Medical Services (FEMS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report water pressure problems resulting from illegally activated or opened fire hydrants to the DC Water Emergency Command Center
Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate responsible District agencies and organizations to maintain, activate, and implement the Heat Emergency Plan Update Heat.DC.Gov with all pertinent public information Maintain the GIS Cooling Center Map per notifications from agencies of facility availability/closures
Metropolitan Police Department (MPD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respond to those areas where fire hydrants are being illegally operated
Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide outreach and information to residents during a Heat Emergency Provide the names of special needs residents who may be impacted by the high temperatures and may need additional resources
Office of Unified Communications (OUC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 311 will provide citizens information on the locations of open cooling facilities
Protective Services Police Department (PSPD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notify contract officers under their authority when a Heat Emergency is activated
Serve DC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide support for mission assignments during a Heat Emergency Activation, when needed

Table 9: District Roles and Responsibilities

Extreme Heat

Preparedness Checklist

An extreme heat event is a series of hot days, much hotter than average for a particular time and place. Extreme heat is deadly and kills more people than any other weather event. Climate change is making extreme heat events more frequent, more severe and last longer. But we can take action to prepare. Prepare now to protect yourself and your loved ones.

What to Do: Before



Learn How to Stay Hydrated

You need to drink enough water to prevent heat illness. An average person needs to drink about 3/4 of a gallon of water daily. Everyone's needs may vary.

- You can check that you are getting enough water by noting your urine color. Dark yellow may indicate you are not drinking enough.
- Avoid sugary, caffeinated and alcoholic drinks.
- If you are sweating a lot, combine water with snacks or a sports drink to replace the salt and minerals you lose in sweat.
- Talk to your doctor about how to prepare if you have a medical condition or are taking medicines.



Gather Emergency Supplies

Gather food, water and medicine. Stores might be closed. Organize supplies into a Go-Kit and a Stay-at-Home Kit. In the event of a power outage, you may lose access to clean drinking water. Set aside at least one gallon of drinking water per person per day. Consider adding drinks with electrolytes. Include sunscreen and wide-brimmed hats.

- Go-Kit: at least three days of supplies that you can carry with you. Include backup batteries and chargers for your devices (cell phone, CPAP, wheelchair, etc.)
- Stay-at-Home Kit: at least two weeks of supplies.
- Have a 1-month supply of medication in a child-proof container and medical supplies or equipment.
- Keep personal, financial and medical records safe and easy to access (hard copies or securely backed up)
- Consider keeping a list of your medications and dosages on a small card to carry with you.



Make a Plan to Stay Cool

Do not rely only on electric fans during extreme heat. When temperatures are in the high 90s, fans may not prevent heat-related illness. Taking a cool shower or bath or moving to an air-conditioned place is a much better way to cool off.

- Spending a few hours each day in air conditioning can help prevent heat illness.
 - If you have air conditioning, be sure that it is in working order.
 - If you do not have air conditioning or if there is a power outage, find locations where you can stay cool. For example, a public library, shopping mall or a public cooling center. Plan how you will get there.
 - Additional resources may be available from local government or community groups.
- Make sure you have plenty of lightweight, loose clothing to wear.
- Create a support team of people you may assist and who can assist you. Check in with them often to make sure that everyone is safe.



Learn Emergency Skills

- Learn how to recognize and respond to heat illness.
- Learn First Aid and CPR.
- Be ready to live without power. Utilities may be offline. Be ready to live without power, gas and water. Plan for your electrical needs, including cell phones and medical equipment. Talk to your doctor. Plan for backup power



Plan to Stay Connected

- Sign up for free emergency alerts from your local government.
- Plan to monitor local weather and news.
- Have a backup battery or a way to charge your cell phone.
- Have a battery-powered radio during a power outage.
- Understand the types of alerts you may receive and plan to respond when you receive them.
- A WATCH means **Be Prepared!** A WARNING means **Take Action!**

What to Do: During



Stay Hydrated

- Drink plenty of fluids. Encourage others to drink plenty of fluids, too.
- Replace salt and minerals with snacks or a sports drink.



Prevent Heat Illness

Check on your friends, family and neighbors. Help them prevent heat illness. Act fast if you notice someone with symptoms.

Anyone can develop heat illness. But, people at greater risk are:

- Older adults
- Infants, children and pregnant women
- People with medical conditions
- Outdoor workers
- People with limited personal resources
- People living in places that lack green spaces



Stay Cool

- Stay in an air-conditioned place as much as possible.
- If your home does not have air conditioning, go to your predesignated cool location.
- Wear lightweight, loose clothing and take cool showers or baths.
- Limit your outdoor activity. If you must work outdoors, schedule tasks earlier or later in the day.

Heat Illness	What to Look For	What to Do
<p>Heat Cramps are muscle spasms caused by a large loss of salt and water in the body.</p>	<p>Heavy sweating with muscle pain or spasms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heavy sweating • Cold, pale and clammy skin • Fast, weak pulse • Nausea or vomiting • Muscle cramps • Tiredness or weakness • Dizziness-Headache-Passing out 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move to a cool place. • Drink water or a sports drink • Get medical help right away if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cramps last longer than 1 hour - Person affected has heart problems
<p>Heat Exhaustion is severe and may require emergency medical treatment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High body temperature (104°F or higher) • Hot, red, dry or damp skin • Fast, strong pulse • Headache-Dizziness • Nausea-Confusion-Passing out 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move to a cool place • Loosen tight clothing • Cool the body using wet cloths, misting, fanning or a cool bath • Sip water slowly Get medical help right away if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vomiting occurs - Symptoms last longer than 1 hour or get worse - Confusion develops
<p>Heat Stroke is deadly and requires immediate emergency treatment.</p>	<p>Call 911 right away, then:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move to a cool place • Cool the body using wet cloths, misting, fanning or a cool bath • Do NOT give the person anything to drink 	

What to Do: After



Take Care of Yourself

It's normal to have a lot of bad feelings, stress or anxiety. Eat healthy food and get enough sleep to help you deal with stress.

You can contact the Disaster Distress Helpline for free if you need to talk to someone. Call or text **1-800-985-5990**.

Prepare so you can protect.

For more information, visit redcross.org/prepare

Download the Emergency App

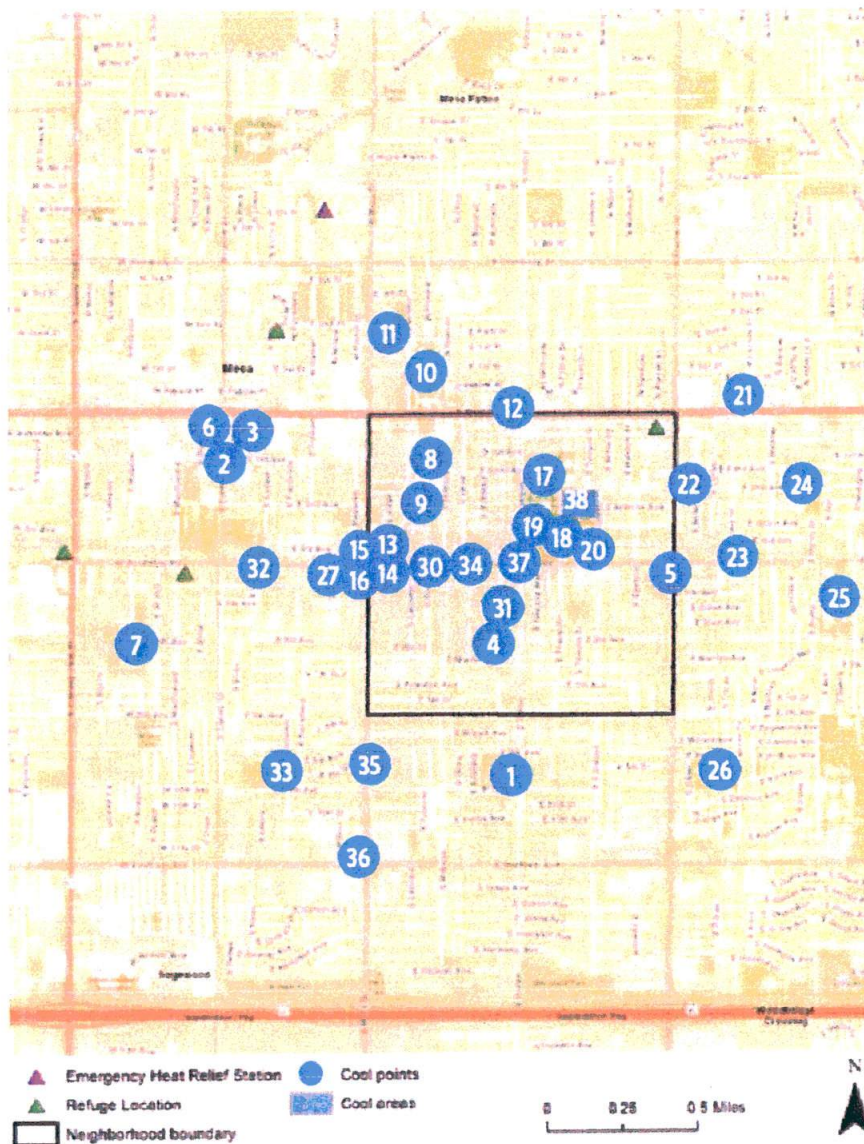


Mesa Care Cool Spots

Cool spots represent cooling assets that residents identified during workshops or existing emergency heat relief stations, hydration stations, or cooling centers / refuge locations.

ID NOTES

- 1 Holmes Elementary School and Headstart - Cool
- 2 First United Methodist Church of Mesa - Cool resource. Coolers, place to get water, food and clothing.
- 3 Mesa Arts Center - Cool resource. Cooling center, blackouts/extreme heat events
- 4 Community Bridges Health Services (rehabilitation) Shelter
- 5 QuikTrip - Restroom and water
- 6 Heritage Academy Charter School - 7-12
- 7 Boys & Girls Clubs of the East Valley
- 8 Mesa Arizona Temple - Grass, contemplative space, visitor center. Cool resource.
- 9 Church of Jesus Christ of LDS - Cool resource
- 10 Pioneer Park - New splash pad and covered play area. Cool resource.
- 11 First Presbyterian Church - Cool resource
- 12 Paletas Ice Cream - Cool resource
- 13 Kerby's Furniture - Cool resource.
- 14 El Bigo Taco - Cool resource. Tent.
- 15 Circle K - Gives out water
- 16 Deliciosos Super Hot Dogs - Tent. Cool Resource.
- 17 Mesa InterStake Center - Cool resource.
- 18 Lowell Elementary School - Cool resource.
- 19 Future Park - Park planned in 2019. Currently bulldozing.
- 20 Head Start - Cool resource
- 21 Food City - Cool resource.
- 22 Clinica Adalante - Cool resource.
- 23 Taco Stand - Cool resource. Tables in parking lot.
- 24 Christ the King Mission of Mercy - Cool resource.
- 25 Reed Skate Park - Cool resource. Skate park and soccer practice.
- 26 Lindbergh Elementary School - Cool resource. Head start program.
- 27 Los Tres Amigos - Cool resource. Benches with shade.



- 28 Maricopa County WIC - Cool resource
- 29 Mesa Community Action Network - Cool resource. WIC, immunizations, business development
- 30 Mesa Church - Cool resource. Used to be irrigated. Access to irrigation.
- 31 Mesa Care Partnership - Cool resource. Kids/ after school care. Water available. Community garden open. Mom Mobile (mobile maternity unit).
- 32 Broadway Recreation Center - Cool resource. Boxing gym.
- 33 Lincoln Elementary School - Cool resource. Head start program.
- 34 A New Leaf
- 35 Bus Stop - M-F Bus limited service
- 36 Clinic - Cool Resource. Clinic - Mesa and Southern
- 37 Moreno's Mexican Grill - Cool resource. Neighborhood staple
- 38 Soccer Fields - Cool resource

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EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, HEATING AND COOLING, SAFETY

How to Turn Facilities into Public Cooling Centers During Extreme Heat

By Corey Sipe, Associate Editor | Jul 26, 2022

Emergency Preparedness (<https://facilitiesmanagementadvisor.blr.com/category/emergency-preparedness/>), Heating and Cooling (<https://facilitiesmanagementadvisor.blr.com/category/heating-and-cooling/>), Safety (<https://facilitiesmanagementadvisor.blr.com/category/safety/>)

Updated: Jun 19, 2024

As temperatures and humidity increase in many sections of the United States, we are all looking for relief. Facilities managers should understand the importance of making their facilities into cooling centers and consider the best ways they can help keep the public safe.

What Is a Cooling Center?

According to the CDC (<https://www.cdc.gov/climateandhealth/docs/UseOfCoolingCenters.pdf>), cooling centers are typically air-conditioned facilities open to the public to provide safety during extreme heat. Cooling centers can also include outdoor locations. Most of the time, they provide restrooms or outdoor portable toilets.

Government-owned building cooling centers can include:

- Libraries
- Schools
- Senior centers
- Recreation centers
- Indoor community pools



- Community centers
- Town halls
- Police department facilities
- Fire departments facilities

Other inside cooling centers can include:

- Religious centers
- Coffee shops
- Shopping malls
- Movie theaters

Outside cooling centers include:

- Spray parks
- Outdoor community pools
- Public parks

Some people may find temporary cooling centers in more unordinary places. For example, the Amazon Meeting Center (<https://durkan.seattle.gov/2021/06/city-of-seattle-opens-additional-cooling-centers-and-updated-guidance-for-staying-cool-in-extreme-heat%E2%80%AF/>) in Downtown Seattle served as an official cooling center in 2021 with the space to accommodate up to 1,000 members of the public. Similarly, the Phoenix Convention Center (<https://www.azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/extreme-weather/pubs/gfl-cooling-center-report-2020.pdf>) was used as a cooling center by over 27,000 residents in 2020.

Facilities professionals should work with executives to consider if they have extra unused office space, reception areas, break rooms, or conference rooms that could be opened to the public during heat waves.

There are 7 ways to safely develop your facility into a cooling center:

1. Protect Against COVID

The California Department of Public Health (<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/GuidanceforCoolingCenters.aspx>) recommends that staff screen visitors and volunteers for symptoms prior to entering. This is especially important in areas with high transmissibility of COVID-19. Those who exhibit symptoms should be placed in an alternative location if it's possible. Staff should be encouraged to get vaccinated and boosted. Additionally, staff should have face masks available for those entering. Consider recommending staff and visitors wear face masks based on current local COVID protocols. They should follow additional cooling center guidance (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/cooling-center.html>) as provided by the CDC.

2. Ventilation

CDC recommends that facilities managers look over their heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/ventilation.html>) to ensure acceptable air quality based on the number of occupants expected. Restroom exhaust fans should be functional and operational at maximum speed. Be sure to increase air filtration as high as possible without reducing design airflow.

3. Cleaning

Facilities professionals should ensure that restrooms are properly maintained. This includes handwashing supplies such as soap and hand-drying materials. Hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol should be placed near the entrances of facilities and in common areas. Areas should be properly cleaned and sanitized. For more information, please read "Back to Basics: Cleaning, Disinfecting, or Sanitizing? What's Right for Your Facility" (<https://facilitiesmanagementadvisor.blr.com/back-to-basics/back-to-basics-cleaning-disinfecting-or-sanitizing-whats-right-for-your-facility/>) on *Facilities Management Advisor*.

4. Food and Beverages

Occupants should have access to food and beverages. Many governmental cooling centers give out bottles of water and snacks to occupants. Businesses and outdoor cooling center locations should have water fountains or water bottle refill machines so that occupants can get water for free. Food and beverages are often for sale at businesses that people utilize as cooling centers.

5. Electrical Plugs

Cooling centers should have easy access to electrical outlets to allow occupants to charge their electronic devices such as smartphones, tablets, and ear pods. All businesses with common areas, like malls and movie theaters, should have extra electrical outlets so that multiple occupants can charge devices simultaneously. Governmental facilities should ensure their facilities have power strips.

6. Allow Pets

Consider accommodating pets. If you do, make sure you have clean water and water bowls available and crates for dogs. During cooler periods of the day, allow pets the use of grassy or dirt areas outside the building where the ground is cooler than asphalt and pavements. If your facility cannot accommodate them, refer occupants with pets to pet-friendly cooling centers. Inform them that pets cannot be left in vehicles since vehicles can get a lot hotter than the air temperature. All cooling centers must allow service animals. Read more about this at "The Facts on Accommodating Service Animals and Emotional Support Animals at Your Facility" (<https://facilitiesmanagementadvisor.blr.com/human-resources/the-facts-on-accommodating-service-emotional-support-animals-at-your-facility/>) on *Facilities Management Advisor*.

7. Entertainment

Facilities hosting cooling centers should consider having games or activities for people to do while they pass the time. Many governmental cooling centers, including libraries, have books, magazines, puzzles, board games, and kid-friendly movies for families.

Why?

Facilities professionals and management should help people stay cool in order to reduce the chances of heat-related illnesses. According to the CDC, heat-related illnesses (<https://www.cdc.gov/climateandhealth/docs/UseOfCoolingCenters.pdf>) can include heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke.

Vulnerable members of the public especially impacted by high heat include:

- Outside workers
- Older adults
- Pregnant, newborns, and children
- Homeless people
- People with chronic medical conditions
- Low-income populations without access to air conditioning at home

Advisories

Facilities professionals should prepare for having cooling centers fully operational when they will be used the most. They can estimate this usage based on the issuance of advisories, outlooks, watches, and warnings by the National Weather Service (<https://www.weather.gov/safety/heat-ww>) (NWS). While extremely dangerous heat criteria can vary as states like Florida are much more prepared for heat than states like Alaska, typically dangerous heat index includes temperatures of 100°F or higher and nighttime air temperatures 75°F or higher for at least 2 days. The heat index is determined based on temperature and relative humidity.

NWS alerts include:

1. **Excessive Heat Outlook** – Potential for an excessive heat event in the next 3 to 7 days. Provides considerable lead time to prepare.
2. **Excessive Heat Watch** – Conditions are favorable for an excessive heat event in the next 24 to 72 hours. Make preparations, but occurrence and timing are unknown.
3. **Heat Advisory** – Issued within 12 hours of extremely dangerous heat. Start preparing.
4. **Excessive Heat Warning** – Issued within 12 hours of extremely dangerous heat conditions. Take precautions immediately.

Facilities management professionals should work with executives in making cooling centers that are safe and fun for occupants. Promoting these cooling centers online could generate positive public relations for the companies, businesses, and organizations hosting them.

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