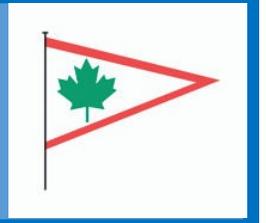


# Emergencies In Cottage Country August 19, 2017



We were very pleased with the interest in this Seminar and thought it would be appropriate to go over some of the important points that we learned.

---

## **Township of Muskoka Lakes**

### **Fire Prevention Officer, Douglas Holland**

During this presentation, we went over the **FireSmart Program** and what we can do to protect our homes and reduce the risk of wildfires in Muskoka.

Some important points we covered included:

- Manage the vegetation around your home. Plants, leaves, and wood piles are surface fuels.
- Thin and prune trees within 10-30 metres of your home.
- Grow fire resistant plants.
- Make sure to stack firewood a safe distance from your home.
- Spacing trees at least 3 meters apart will help reduce the intensity of a wildfire.

**Please follow the link below for more important information.**

<http://www.firesmartcanada.ca/>

---

## **Paramedic Services & Emergency Planning**

**Chief, Jeff McWilliam**

**Community Relations Coordinator, Manda Walker**

This presentation included the general procedure if paramedics were to arrive at your door, how you can be most helpful when speaking to a 911 operator and the importance of having an emergency survival kit.

Some important points we covered included:

- Depending on the situation, paramedics will advise the most appropriate hospital to take you to when they arrive.
  - When phoning 911 it is important to stay calm and give them as much information as possible. As you are speaking with them, they are already confirming your location with the appropriate response service (Fire, Paramedics, Police).
  - Muskoka has 5 EMS Stations located in Bracebridge, Gravenhurst, Huntsville, Mactier and Port Carling.
  - Flashlight, batteries, radio, first aid kit, candles, clothing, footwear and cash are a few things you should have in an emergency survival kit.
- 

### **If you are on an island**

Many residents throughout our community reside on an island. Our emergency services are well equipped to deal with these situations. Designated Emergency service vessels for the OPP, Paramedics and Fire are docked on our surrounding lakes for this purpose. The boats are stocked with the appropriate kits and materials necessary to make your travel to and from land as comfortable as possible.

### **Important message from our first responders!**

We need to remember that navigating through cottage country can have its difficulties. Please always make sure to keep your roads and driveways accessible for emergency vehicles to pass through. As we know, our roads can become quite narrow so clearing any low hanging branches from access routes is imperative. Please make sure your address is clearly marked. Whenever possible, provide two access routes to your home.

**The above information, and much more can also be found on the Districts website below.**

<https://www.muskoka.on.ca/en/live-and-play/Emergency-Services.aspx>

