

Current Annapolis County Comfort Centres

Annapolis Royal Hub	143 Ritchie Street, Annapolis Royal
Annapolis Royal Volunteer Fire Department	5 St. Anthony Street, Annapolis Royal
Annapolis Royal/Port Royal Legion Branch #21	66 Victoria Street, Annapolis Royal
Bear River Volunteer Fire Department	1277 River Road, Bear River
Bridgetown Volunteer Fire Department	31 Bay Road, Bridgetown
Centrelea Community Hall	3495 Hwy 201, Centrelea
Felker Hall Community Centre	734 Broadway Avenue, Cornwallis Park
Lawrencetown Volunteer Fire Department	549 Main Street, Lawrencetown
Lower Granville Community Hall	3551 Granville Road, Annapolis Royal
Maitland Bridge Community Hall	701 Hwy #8, Maitland Bridge
Margaretsville Volunteer Fire Department	2768 Hwy 363, Margaretsville
Middleton Baptist Church	111 Commercial Street, Middleton
Middleton Volunteer Fire Department	49 Church Street, Middleton
Nictaux Volunteer Fire Department	9349 Hwy 10, Nictaux
Paradise Community Hall	10300 Hwy 1, Paradise
Port Lorne Volunteer Fire Department	532 Port Lorne Road, Port Lorne
Port George Regional Recreation Centre	12256 Shore Road East, Port George
Upper Clements Community Hall	2951 Route 1, Upper Clements

NOTE: Comfort Centres are managed, coordinated, and staffed by local facility volunteers, and not by the County of Annapolis or the Towns of Annapolis Royal or Middleton.

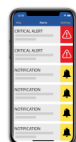
Comfort Centres may not be open when needed, as they are staffed by volunteers and resources may be redirected. Know the locations of nearby comfort centres. Add their facilities and address to your emergency kit and always check whether they are open before travelling.

For a complete and up-to-date list of Comfort Centres, visit the Annapolis County Regional Emergency Management Organization (REMO) website: www.annapolisremo.ca

Stay Informed

It is important to stay informed about what might happen and know what type of emergencies are likely to affect the region as well as when comfort centres may be established. Go to www.annapolisremo.ca to learn more about disasters and response.

Sign up for Alertable Emergency Notifications for timely, local, and important information during a disaster by visiting www.annapolisremo.ca or using the QR code below.

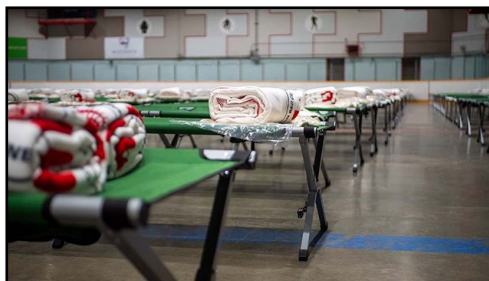


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To 'like' us on Facebook, just log into your Facebook account and search for "Annapolis REMO" or go to www.facebook.com/AnnapolisREMO

Follow us on X (formerly Twitter) at [@Annapolis_REMO](https://twitter.com/Annapolis_REMO)

Visit our pages often to find out the latest information on upcoming events, meetings, activities, and weather alerts.



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**Your Community Resource
During Emergencies**



During disasters and emergencies, the standard for residents to be prepared is at least 72 hours. However, there may be times or unique circumstances that the decision is made to open a comfort centre(s) to assist the public during this 72 hour window and after; an example being a long power outages with extreme temperatures.



What is a Comfort Centre?

A comfort centre is a community, church, or fire station hall that is opened in a time of need to provide a location where community members can gather for a short period of time during the day.

In Nova Scotia, neighbours help neighbours. When the need arises, these centres are opened by the operators of the facility. Community members take the lead in organizing and operating the comfort centre.

Comfort centres may provide different services depending on the resources available. However, all comfort centres are intended to provide a place to:

- Warm up or cool down
- Recharge electronic devices
- Use accessible washrooms
- Get a warm or cool drink
- Check on each other and share information
- Receive updates on weather and power restoration
- Refrigerate medical supplies

Some centres may provide:

- Light snacks and/or food prepared by volunteers
- A space for community members to prepare their own food with basic kitchen amenities

NOTE: A comfort centre is **NOT** an overnight shelter.

When Are Comfort Centres Opened?

Comfort centres are opened when there is a need in the community such as a warming/cooling center or for assistance during an emergency or disaster.

Examples of when they might open include:

- **Power outages** lasting for an extended period, affecting access to heat, cooling, light, or communications.
- **Severe weather events** such as hurricanes, snow storms, or flooding that disrupt daily life or access to essential services.
- **Road closures or isolation** due to storm damage or other incidents that make travel difficult.
- **Community support** during times of need, including a place to check in, receive help, or referrals.

The decision to open a comfort centre may be made by local volunteers who operate the facility, or by the municipality, depending on the circumstances.

Each comfort centre may have varied times when they will be open and closed to the public.



How will I know if a Comfort Centre is Open?

When a comfort centre is opened, notifications will be shared through multiple channels including:

- **Annapolis REMO** - Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), REMO Website, Alertable Emergency Alerts, and through email subscription.
- **Municipal Partners** - County of Annapolis, Town of Middleton, Town of Annapolis Royal and community partner websites and social media.
- **Nova Scotia 211** - for location and status information
- **Local Radio Stations** - for up-to-date broadcast announcements
- **On-Site Signage** - activated comfort centres will display an open sign at their location

During an emergency, comfort centres advise Annapolis REMO of their opening and closing times, as well as other relevant details, so accurate information can be shared with the public

Sheltering in Place

Depending on the nature of the emergency (such as severe weather, chemical spill, or air quality concerns) you may be told to shelter in place.

Sheltering in place means finding the safest, indoor area near you and putting as much distance and as many barriers between you and the threat as possible. Sheltering in place could occur at home, school, work, or elsewhere.

A shelter in place plan should be specific to your household's needs. Sheltering in place could last for a few hours or a few days depending on the nature of the emergency.

Planning ahead helps ensure you and your family can stay safe and comfortable during emergencies.



Reception Centres & Emergency Shelters

In large-scale emergencies, where there is a need to evacuate a community, a decision to open an emergency shelter and/or reception centre is made by Annapolis REMO in consultation with emergency responders and partners like the Canadian Red Cross.

In a community evacuation situation, residents can access a reception centre for immediate refuge and to assess their situation and make temporary plans. Provincial services might be deployed on-site to register and account for persons, assess immediate needs, and offer some basic services. Generally, the centre is not open overnight and does not provide sleeping accommodations.

When residents are displaced from their homes for an extended period of time and no other resource of temporary housing can be confirmed, an emergency shelter may be established. An emergency shelter operates 24/7 and serves as a temporary home for evacuees. More amenities and services are provided to residents using the facility, such as showers, feeding, and services for those with access and functional needs.

When a reception centre or emergency shelter opens, Annapolis REMO and emergency responders will share the location and important information with the public through websites, social media, Alertable, local radio, and other trusted sources.