FOR EVACUATED CITIZENS WHO MUST MOVE

The Organisation régionale de la sécurité civile de l'Estrie and its government partners wish to inform the evacuated residents of Lac-Mégantic who must move of the measures to take when moving their belongings, in order to avoid health risks, among others, and facilitate the move.

Q&A

HOW SHOULD I ORGANIZE MY MOVE, AND WHAT DIRECTIONS SHOULD BE FOLLOWED?

Please contact the Ville de Lac-Mégantic at 819 583-1303 to make an arrangement with the city regarding your move and to obtain the necessary information about organizing it.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO WITH MY BELONGINGS TO AVOID ANY HEALTH RISKS?

The following table indicates the instructions to follow according to the type of belonging and its condition. *If the article does not give off any odour and is not damaged, it is not a risk for your health, and can be moved.* If certain articles are covered with dust, they may be cleaned simply using a damp cloth.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Belonging</th>
<th>If there is a strong smell of smoke or oil</th>
<th>If there is damage caused by humidity from water damage (example: broken window)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mattresses, pillows, sofas, carpets</td>
<td>Throw out</td>
<td>Throw out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture, such as tables, desks, storage units, etc.</td>
<td>Clean with soap and a damp cloth</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Electronic equipment</td>
<td>Clean with a damp cloth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clothing, shoes or household linens and textiles, such as sheets, blankets, curtains, etc.</td>
<td>Clean in the washing machine or at the cleaners, as needed</td>
<td>Clean normally in the washing machine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kitchen objects, such as dishes, utensils, etc.</td>
<td>Clean normally</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH THE FOOD TO AVOID HEALTH RISKS?**

**Perishable food** that remained in the refrigerator or freezer must be thrown out. Perishable foods include meat, poultry, fish and seafood, dairy products, eggs and all prepared foods that contain perishable foods, whether raw or cooked.

**Non-refrigerated foods that do not show any signs of deterioration** may be kept. However, if they show signs of deterioration, or if in doubt, they must be thrown out. This includes the following:
• Hermetically packaged non-perishable foods (for example, canned foods, cookies, cereal, pasta). However, the container or packaging must be cleaned before it is opened.

• Non-perishable foods that are not hermetically packaged (for example, flour, sugar, salt). However, if the packaging shows signs of deterioration, the food must be thrown out. In addition, if any food smells of smoke, it must be thrown out. Any food likely to have been contaminated, either by smoke, fire, water or the contents of chemical extinguishers, must be discarded. Lastly, food that was not packaged (or packaging already opened) and was exposed to smoke or soot must be thrown out.

All other foods must be thrown out.

You can take the food you want to discard to the Écocentre de Lac-Mégantic. However, non-compostable packaging must be removed (plastic, styrofoam containers, etc.) and discarded. The Écocentre de Lac-Mégantic is located at 5138, rue Pie-XI, in Lac-Mégantic. The phone number is: 819 583-5188.

You can also dispose of food by discarding it in your garbage.

WHILE I AM AT MY HOME PICKING UP MY BELONGINGS, CAN I USE THE TAP WATER TO WASH MY HANDS, DO CLEANING OR TO DRINK?

If the home has water, it is recommended to let the tap water run for five minutes before using it to wash one's hands, do cleaning, or to drink.

If the home does not have water, it is recommended that an adequate supply of water be brought for any needs during the move.

IS THE CONTAMINATION OF SOIL ON MY PROPERTY A HEALTH RISK DURING THE MOVE?

Considering the short amount of time needed to move, there is no health risk related to walking around on your property.

IS IT DANGEROUS TO BREATHE THE AIR IN MY HOME WHEN I GO TO PICK UP MY BELONGINGS? SHOULD I WEAR A PROTECTIVE MASK?

Before allowing you to have access to your home, the firefighters will measure the gas in the air to make sure that it is safe for you to visit your home. Consequently, you will not need to wear a protective mask.

You may smell some unpleasant odours; these will vary, depending on the location of your home or business, the weather and the work under way at the site. However, measures have been taken to ensure that those odours are not a risk to your health. If the odour comes from outside, avoid opening the windows. If the odour comes from inside, air out the home by opening the windows while you are there.
ARE THERE SPECIFIC MEASURES TO TAKE FOR CERTAIN MORE VULNERABLE PERSONS (PREGNANT OR NURSING WOMEN, CHILDREN, THE ELDERLY, THOSE WITH CHRONIC DISEASES, ETC.) WHEN VISITING THE HOME?

The only persons who must exercise caution are those who have severe asthma. It is suggested that those persons limit the duration of their visit or ask someone else to pick up their belongings for them if strong odours of mould or smoke are noticeable, or if there is suspended dust in the air.

If you believe that, for you or the members of your family, the move could pose emotional problems, or cause anxiety or concerns, we invite you to call the 8-1-1 phone line.

WHERE CAN I GET HELP TO CHANGE MY ADDRESS WITH VARIOUS INSTITUTIONS?

Contact the Services Québec service counter at the Bureau d’Aide et d’Information (BAI), located at the Centre sportif de Lac-Mégantic, 5400, rue Papineau. The BAI is open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., from Monday to Friday. You can also call Services Québec at 1 877 644-4545 (toll free). Or you can use the Service québécois de changement d’adresse, available online at:

http://www4.gouv.qc.ca/EN/Portail/Citoyens/Evenements/changement-adresse/Pages/service-quebecois-changement-adresse.aspx#

IS THERE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO COVER THE EXPENSES FOR MY MOVE, FOR STORING MY BELONGINGS OR REPLACING THOSE THAT I WILL HAVE TO THROW OUT?

For all questions regarding financial aid, please call the financial assistance services of the ministère de la Sécurité publique at 1 888 643-2433.