

Rural Municipality  
Of  
Ritchot

**ICE STORM/  
BLIZZARD**

The RM of Ritchot is located directly south of the City of Winnipeg and encompasses 336.2 Square kilometers, being approximately bordered by Highway 75 to the West and Highway 59 to the East. The majority of the 5000 residents live within the 4 Villages of Ste. Agathe, St. Adolphe, Ile Des Chenes, and Grande Pointe, with others in the rurally developed communities of Howden, Glenlea, Labarriere and South St. Germaine.

### **Possible Major Effects:**

- Injuries and/or death.
- Disruption of utilities.
- Road closures and stranded travelers.
- Destruction of buildings and property.
- Livestock isolated or killed/crop destruction.
- Isolation of communities and homes.
- Flooding/forest fires.
- Evacuation of people/livestock.
- Mobility of vehicles and pedestrians restricted by snow, debris downed lines etc.
- Large scale search and rescue missions to locate stranded or trapped persons/animals.
- Food and water shortages.

## **Rural Municipality of Ritchot Critical Infrastructure:**

- Rm of Ritchot Water treatment and distribution plant, East on PR 305 and at PR200.
- Water reservoir in Ste. Agathe located PR305 and Lemoine St..
- Water reservoir in St. Adolphe located on St. Adolphe Rd.
- Water reservoir in Ile Des Chenes, Located Leclair Rd.
- Sewage lift station, Ste. Agathe Canola plant.
- 3 Sewage lift station within village of Ste. Agathe.
- Sewage lift station, Ile Des Chenes, Main St. and Dumaine St.
- Sewage lift station, main Street St. Adolphe.
- St. Adolphe Nursing home in St. Adolphe
- Ste. Agathe elementary school, Ste. Agathe.
- St. Adolphe elementary school, St. Adolphe
- Gabriel Roy School, Ile Des Chenes
- Ile Des Chenes Elementary school, Ile Des chenes

## **Protection of Critical infrastructure:**

Sewer and Water Superintendent Mike Dumaine provided the critical infrastructure owned and operated by the RM Ritchot. The following backup systems are in place to ensure the continued service of Sewer and water should a sustained power failure occur.

### *WATER SERVICES:*

In the event of a Municipal wide power failure water to the villages of Ste. Agathe, St. Adolphe and Ile Des Chenes will be assured via power provided by the back up Genset generator system located at the main water treatment plant in Ste. Agathe. This generator is a manually operated diesel system and is capable of being operated for approx. 1 –2 days without refueling. If needed water pressure throughout the municipality can be provided on a limited basis with pressure being supplied by the treatment plant alone.

In addition, the villages of St. Adolphe and Ile Des Chenes have additional diesel generators located by the water reservoirs and are capable of being operated for 1-2 days without refueling. The Village of Ste. Agathe receives its water pressure directly from the Main treatment plant.

### *SEWER SERVICE*


The Sewage lift stations located within the villages of Ste. Agathe, St. Adolphe and Ile Des Chenes have no back up power system in place. Should the power be discontinued a three phase generators with min. 600 volts would be required to ensure sewers not to back up. An additional method utilized by Water and Sewer Superintendent to prevent sewer back up is to contract a Septic service and have the reservoirs pumped out to ensure an appropriate level of sewage is maintained. Presently Paul's septic service is utilized for this task.

Under normal weather conditions power could be discontinued to the lift station for approximately 2 to 24 hours before sewers begin backing up and a generator or pumping would be required. Estimates being as follows:

- Village of Ste. Agathe: 1 Day.
- Village of St. Adolphe: 4-5 hours
- Village of Ile Des Chenes: 2 hours

### **School Divisions operating within the RM of Ritchot**

Sunrise School Division	Superintendent Wayne Leckie	268-6500
Red River Valley School Division	Superintendent Pauline Lafond-Bouchard	746-2317
Seine River School Division	Superintendent Michael Borgfjord	878-4713
Louis Riel School Division	Superintendent Terry D. Borys	257-7827
Hanover School Division	Superintendent Ken Klassen	326-6471

-  Each School Division has guidelines and protocols to be followed for severe weather and other calamities. Details can be obtained by contacting the Superintendent of each Division that operates within the RM of Ritcho

### ***St. Adolphe Nursing home:***

This home is privately operated home housing 48-52 residents. For details pertaining to the homes guidelines and procedures in the event of a blizzard or major ice storm refer to St. Adolphe nursing home emergency plan.

### **RESOURCES:**

- Water tank trucks, bulk vehicles
- Power pumps, Gasoline or electric
- Electric Generators
- Batteries
- Amateur radio
- Gasoline, Diesel, Propane
- Portable electric heaters
- Blankets
- Septic Trucks
- Heavy Equipment
- Emergency power and lighting
- Evacuation and reception centers
- Construction material- lumber/poly
- Mutual aid from unaffected communities.
- Off road, 4-wheel driver vehicles and snowmobile clubs
- Helicopter and air support.

## **PRE-EMERGENCY RESPONSE:**

- ❑ Inform council of pending storm
- ❑ Decide on level of preparedness for pending storm.
- ❑ If required, activate EOC.
- ❑ If able issue warning to residents of possible severe weather.
- ❑ Notify schools, nursing home, and sporting events of severe weather.
- ❑ Inform public works, Water and waste of pending storm
- ❑ If needed, consider generator rental for sewer and water purposes.
- ❑ Ensure back up communication system available. Via Fleetnet, or VHF
- ❑ Notify Snow-goers snowmobile club of pending storm.
- ❑ If needed, preposition snowmobile club members at central location
- ❑ Consider Radio communication rental
- ❑ Notify Fire of pending storm.
- ❑ If required, notify SERHA, and CRHA of pending storm and RM activities.
- ❑ If needed, preposition snow equipment at both fire halls.

## **EMERGENCY RESPONSE:**

- ❑ If needed, Declare state of local emergency.
- ❑ If needed, Open EOC
- ❑ **If needed contact mutual aid**
- ❑ Consult with Mb. Highways department to enlist services for maintaining main thoroughfare are kept clear for emergency traffic.

- ❑ Ensure public works keeps streets clear for emergency equipment.
- ❑ Contact nursing home to ensure operation not effected by weather.
- ❑ Inform public of precautions to be taken through media releases.
- ❑ Conduct highway rescue operations.
- ❑ Maintain contact with Snow-goers during blizzard

### **POST-EMERGENCY RESPONSE:**

- ❑ Terminate state of local emergency if implemented.
- ❑ Continue media release with instructions to public
- ❑ Return all borrowed resources.
- ❑ Arrange for disposal of damaged food stuffs.
- ❑ Arrange for utilities to be repaired..
- ❑ Continue EOC until coordination functions are complete
- ❑ Review and critique the operation
- ❑ Amend plan to reflect the critique and review
- ❑ Arrange for counseling, if required.
- ❑ Contact MEMO about Disaster financial assistance.

\*For details in regards to the Municipalities evacuation and re-entry plan or telephone/resource list see *Municipality of Ritchot emergency plan*.

