# Prevention in the event of a **HEATWAVE**



## **BEFORE**

#### PREPARE YOUR HOME

- ☐ Make sure you can keep your home cool: opaque curtains, blinds, fans, air conditioner.
- ☐ Prepare an **emergency kit**: water, lightweight clothing, a spray bottle, medication.
- ☐ Use an indoor thermometer to monitor room temperature.

#### **PLAN YOUR ACTIVITIES**

- ☐ Check on **weather** alerts: sign up to receive weather advisories by dialing 1 866 982-7282 or by visiting **CONSEILS CLIMAT's website.**
- ☐ Make an **emergency plan** that includes reminders to hydrate and emergency contacts.
- ☐ Discuss **preventive measures** with your friends. colleagues, and neighbours.

#### **CREATE A SUPPORT NETWORK**

- $\square$  Have a list of emergency contacts ready.
- ☐ Identify people around you who are at risk: seniors, people living alone or who are ill.
- ☐ If you live alone, designate someone to check on you.



## **DURING**

#### ADJUST YOUR LIFESTYLE ACCORDINGLY



Drink water regularly, even when you don't feel thirsty.



Avoid alcohol and heavy meals.



Avoid physical exertion between 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m..



Take cool baths/showers or use a spray bottle to cool off.



Spend a few hours each day in public places with air conditioning: Pools, libraries, cooling centres.



Wear loose-fitting, lightweight clothing in light colours.



Protect yourself from the sun: Hat, SPF 15+ sunscreen.



Check on friends and family members who are at risk, and let others know how you are doing.

#### **COOL YOUR HOME**

- Close curtains and windows during the day.
- Open them at night if the air outside is cooler.
- Limit the use of heat-generating appliances.

#### **KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR HEALTH**

- Dehvdration: extreme thirst, fatigue, headache, dry mouth.
- Heat stroke: dizziness, nausea, confusion, skin that is hot and dry, lack of perspiration.

Check local measures and services available in your municipality.

### **AFTER**

- Open windows and doors to let evacuate accumulated heat out of your home.
- Continue to drink water regularly.
- Update your kit and your contacts to prepare for the next heatwave.

## WHAT TO DO?

- Feeling unwell? If you have health-related questions, call Info-Santé at 8-1-1.
- In case of an emergency call 9-1-1.

## For more information and tips



www.quebec.ca/en/public-safety-emergencies/ emergency-situations-disasters-and-natural-hazards/what-to-do-before-during-after-emergency-disaster/extreme-heat

> Centre intégré universitaire de santé et de services sociaux de l'Ouest-del'Île-de-Montréal

