

Know your colours



In flood emergencies, Cowichan Tribes and BC Housing staff conduct door-to-door assessments of flood damage to homes. Based upon questions asked at the door and visual assessments, a coloured sheet is placed on the home's door. This allows emergency response teams to quickly identifying the severity of flood impacts to homes.

If one of these sheets has been placed on your home, please **DO NOT** remove it. The sheet contains important information to help staff in the recovery efforts.



Red

Unsafe to enter or occupy

- Home has been severely damaged by flooding
- Severe structural or health concerns
- Entering the home could result in injuries or death
- Requires further inspection to determine if repairs are possible



Yellow

Restricted use

- Home has been damaged but entry is allowed with the restrictions listed on the sheet
- Structural or safety concerns were identified but are not considered life-threatening
- Requires further inspection to determine the extent of repairs



Green

No restrictions

- The home has been inspected from the outside and/or inside
- No structural or safety concerns were identified
- A more complete inspection may reveal hazards
- If you have concerns about flood damage, report any unsafe conditions to Cowichan Tribes for re-inspection

Have any question?

Call: **250.715.3333**

Email: emergency@cowichantribes.com



Frequently Asked Questions

Does Cowichan Tribes keep a record of the placard attached to my building during the emergency?

Yes, we keep a record of the placard so we know the status of damage to homes on our reserve and the most up-to-date information can be provided when requested.

When can I remove the placard from my building?

Red/yellow 

Do not remove a red or yellow placard until the work identified on the placard is complete, ensuring the building is no longer unsafe. Only a licensed/certified contractor, or Cowichan Tribes, can remove or alter red or yellow placards.

Green 

The green placard may be removed by the building owner at their discretion. For rental units - Cowichan Tribes Housing staff will determine when placards will be removed.

I don't agree with the notice on my home? What should I do?

If you're the owner or resident and think there's an error, please email emergency@cowichantribes.com or call 250.715.3333. Provide your name, address and error you think needs correcting.

What if I think my red placard has been placed because of a dangerous building or area next door - and I think that my home hasn't been damaged?

Do not reoccupy your home. There's a risk that an adjoining home or area which suffered more damage could present an immediate danger to life, or cause injury

to any occupants of a neighbouring home. Email emergency@cowichantribes.com or call 250.715.3333 to discuss further.

I own my home. Do I have to tell Cowichan Tribes I've had a structural assessment report and give them a copy?

Yes. Please send us a copy of the assessment and any information on work completed so we have the most up-to-date information on the property file. For example, a report or a contractor's invoice might show that suitable work was carried out after a placard was posted on your building.

Whose responsibility is it to make sure my home is safe to reoccupy?

Every homeowner has a legal responsibility to ensure their home's a safe place for residents or visitors. There could be serious legal issues for the owner if anyone is hurt because a home has not been made safe. Any contractor fees for the detailed inspection/quote-estimate process may be recoverable by the homeowner under insurance or Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA). The building inspector will also need to re-inspect after the repair work is eventually done to re-instate the occupancy permit.

For on-reserve Cowichan Tribes Housing rentals, housing staff will coordinate and pay for any necessary repairs.

If you have any other questions, email emergency@cowichantribes.com or call 250.715.3333.

