

# Appendix F-6

## Sample Wind Velocity Preparedness Guide

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High winds are a significant weather hazard that may affect both land and water activities. The effects of the wind (for example, what the wind is blowing) can cause injury and damage to persons and property.

### **ENVIRONMENT CANADA WEATHER INFORMATION**

What to listen for:

- Wind Warning: Parameters Environment Canada uses for issuing a wind warning.
  - Threshold criteria: 70 km/h or more sustained wind and/or gusts to 90 km/hr or more.
  - A wind warning can be issued but no wind watch alert will be issued by Environment Canada.
  - Wind speed is included in forecast when speed is greater or equal to 20 km/h

### **ROLE OF TEACHERS, COACHES, INTRAMURAL SUPERVISORS**

Where appropriate, prior to and during outside physical activities, check for wind warnings and cancel and/or make accommodations to activities where winds pose a hazard to students.

### **TOOL THAT CAN BE USED**

Anemometer –an instrument for measuring the speed of the wind (handheld model - \$100.00)

## **ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN**

Table 1 outlines actions to be taken dependent upon the velocity of the wind.

For water activities follow the wind guidelines for participation/cancellation of the governing body of the activity (for example, rowing, sailing), outside activity provider, or school board.

Table 1: Sample Land Activities Wind Chart (spring, summer, fall)

Wind Speed	Land Effects	Precautions/Actions to be Taken
0-19 km/h	Calm to Gentle breeze.  Wind felt on exposed skin.  Leaves in constant motion.	No precautions required.  Be vigilant for change in weather conditions.
20-39 km/h  Wind speed forecasted on weather reports.	Breezy.  Dust and loose paper raised.  Branches of trees move.	Continue outside activity. Teacher to secure items susceptible to being blown around.  Be vigilant for change in weather conditions
40 – 49 km/h	Strong Breeze.  Large branches in motion.  Umbrella use becomes difficult.	Teacher to take into consideration activity surroundings (e.g. trees, unsecure objects ground cover (sand), and equipment being used.

Wind Speed	Land Effects	Precautions/Actions to be Taken
	Empty plastic trash cans tip over.	Secure appropriate items.  Activity is to stop and/ or moved indoors when effect of wind poses a risk to participants.
50-59 km/h	High Wind.  Whole trees in motion.  Resistance felt with walking against wind.	Avoid outside activities.
WIND WARNING  60 KM/H or gusts of 90 km/h	Range from:  Twigs broken from trees.  Cars veer on road to large branches break off trees, small trees blow over.  Construction/temporary signs and barricades blow over.  Damages to tents and canopies.	No outdoor activities.

Resources used: Environment Canada; Beaufort Wind Force Scale (an empirical measure that relates wind speed to observed conditions on land or sea)

Resources to check: Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations AA/Provincial Sports Bodies (wind for outdoor activities)

Source: Environment Canada, 2017