SCHEDULE D

Warming and Cooling Centre Guidelines



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Warming/Cooling Centre Guidelines

The set of guidelines herein will be followed when determining when to open a facility to the public for use as a warming or cooling centre within the Municipality. All temperatures are in Celsius.

Definitions

Heat wave – a period of unusually high atmospheric-related heat stress that may have adverse health consequences for the affected population. Environment Canada considers a heat wave to occur when there are three consecutive days when the maximum temperature is 32° or higher.

Humidex – a measure of how hot we feel. It is an equivalent scale intended for the general public to express the combined effects of warm temperatures and humidity. It provides a number that describes how hot people feel, much in the same way the equivalent chill temperature, or 'wind chill factor', describes how cold people feel. Humidex is used as a measure of perceived heat that results from the combined effect of excessive humidity and high temperature.

Wind chill – wind chill is the cooling sensation that is caused by the combined effect of temperature and wind on the body. On a calm day, our bodies insulate us somewhat from the outside temperature by warming up a thin layer of air close to our skin, known as the boundary layer. When the wind blows, it takes this protective layer away, exposing our skin to the outside air. It takes energy for our bodies to warm up a new layer and, if each layer keeps getting blown away, our skin temperature will drop, and we will feel colder. Wind also makes our bodies feel colder by evaporating any moisture on our skin. This process draws more heat away from our body.

Guidelines

The Head of Council, CAO, and/or CEMC will review the Environment Canada weather forecast, and will use the following guidelines to determine when a facility will be activated as a warming/cooling centre:

Warming Centre

1. If the hydro for an area is out overnight and the temperature is -15° or below, opening a warming centre will be considered at the discretion of the Head of Council, CAO, and/or CEMC.
2. If the hydro for an area is out for two nights and the temperature is -10° or below, opening a warming centre will be considered at the discretion of the Head of Council, CAO, and/or CEMC on the second day.
3. If the hydro for an area is out for three or more nights and the temperature is -5° or below, opening a warming centre will be considered at the discretion of the Head of Council, CAO, and/or CEMC on the third day.

Warming centre(s) opening and closing times will be determined by the Head of Council, CAO, and/or the CEMC. The suggested time is 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Note: the facility may be closed earlier if no users are present.

The wind chill factor will be considered when making a decision regarding the opening/closing of a centre (see chart below).

Wind Chill Hazards and What to Do

Wind Chill	Risk of Frostbite	Other Health Concerns	What to Do
0 to -9	Low	• Slight increase in discomfort	• Dress warmly • Stay dry
-10 to -27	Low	• Uncomfortable • Risk of hypothermia if outside for long periods without adequate protection	• Dress in layers of warm clothing with an outer layer that is wind-resistant (hat, mittens or insulated gloves, a scarf and insulated, waterproof footwear) • Stay dry • Keep active

Wind Chill	Risk of Frostbite	Other Health Concerns	What to Do
-28 to -39	High: exposed skin can freeze in 10 to 30 minutes	• Risk of frost-nip or frostbite: check face and extremities for numbness or whiteness • Risk of hypothermia if outside for long periods without adequate clothing or shelter from wind and cold	• Dress in layers of warm clothing, with an outer layer that is wind-resistant • Cover exposed skin (wear hat, mittens or insulated gloves, a scarf, neck tube or face mask and insulated, waterproof footwear) • Stay dry • Keep active
-40 to -47	High: exposed skin can freeze in 5 to 10 minutes	• High risk of frostbite: check face and extremities for numbness or whiteness • Risk of hypothermia if outside for long periods without adequate clothing or shelter from wind and cold	• Dress in layers of warm clothing, with an outer layer that is wind-resistant • Cover all exposed skin (wear hat, mittens or insulated gloves, a scarf, neck tube or face mask and insulated, waterproof footwear) • Stay dry • Keep active
-48 to -54	Very high: exposed skin can freeze in 2 to 5 minutes	• Very high risk of frostbite: check face and extremities frequently for numbness or whiteness • Serious risk of hypothermia if outside for long periods without adequate clothing or shelter from wind and cold	• Be careful. Dress very warmly in layers of clothing, with an outer layer that is wind-resistant • Cover all exposed skin (wear hat, mittens or insulated gloves, a scarf, neck tube or face mask and insulated, waterproof footwear) • Be ready to cut short or cancel outdoor activities • Stay dry • Keep active
-55 and colder	Extremely high: exposed skin can freeze in less than 2 minutes	Danger! Outdoor conditions are hazardous	• Stay indoors

Cooling Centre

1. If the hydro for an area is out and the temperature is 35° or warmer, opening a cooling centre will be considered at the discretion of the Head of Council, CAO, and/or CEMC.
2. If the hydro for an area is out for two days and the temperature is 33° or warmer, opening a cooling centre will be considered at the discretion of the Head of Council, CAO, and/or CEMC on the second day.
3. If the hydro for an area is out for three or more days and the temperature is 30° or warmer, opening a cooling centre will be considered at the discretion of the Head of Council, CAO, and/or CEMC on the third day.

The humidex factor will be considered when making a decision regarding the opening/closing of a centre (see chart below).

Cooling centre opening and closing times will be determined by the Head of Council, CAO, and/or CEMC. The suggested time is 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Note: the facility may be closed earlier if no users are present.

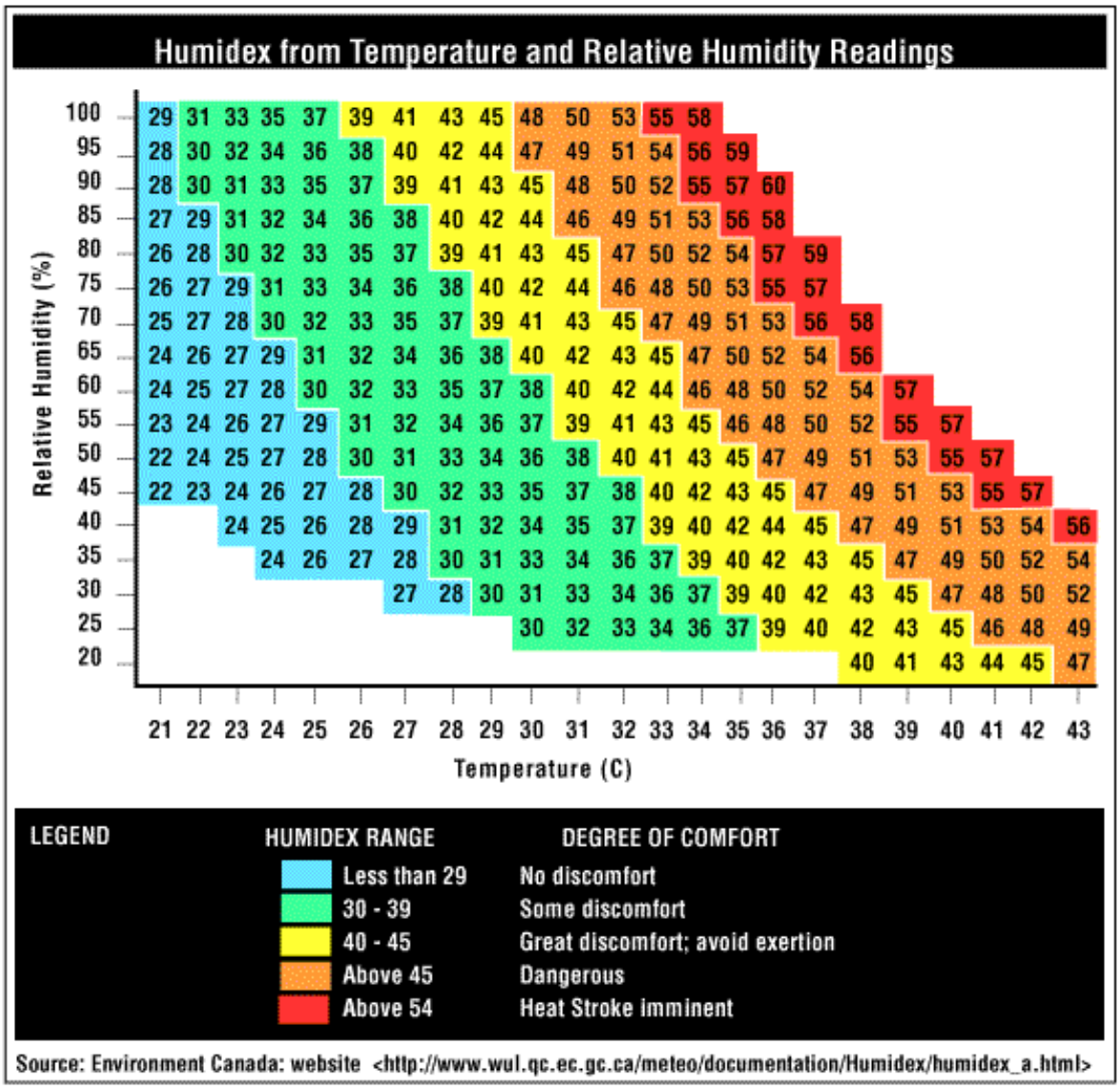


Table 2 - Humidex from temperature and relative humidity readings

Chart courtesy of the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety

Facilities

The following facilities can be used for cooling and/or warming centres:

- Lion's Head and District Community Centre/Arena is located at 4 Tackabury Street, Lion's Head
- St. Edmunds Community Centre is located at 7420 Highway 6, Tobermory
- Depending on availability and necessity, other municipal facilities could be utilized.

The facility(ies) will be closed as a warming/cooling centre(s) once it is determined that it is safe for residents to return to their homes.

During winter conditions, please check road closures prior to departing the facility, in the event Provincial, Municipality or County roads may be closed.

Amendment	Review Date	Change Date	Changed By
Added Table of Contents	November 21, 2023.	November 21, 2023.	J. Burt
Annual Review and Revisions	November 21, 2023	November 21, 2023.	J. Burt
Annual Review and Revisions	November 19, 2024.	November 19, 2024.	J. Burt
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