

# Cambridge Businesses Ready for Heat?

PREPAREDNESS FOR EXTREME WEATHER



**Get started:** Extreme heat can impact everyone. This document provides the steps to prepare within 24 hours or less of an extreme heat event to reduce the probability of your business being impacted.

## 1. ARE YOU AT RISK OF EXTREME HEAT?

### YOUR BUILDING



You have experienced an extreme heat event or want to proactively protect your business from the impacts of extreme heat.

### YOUR BUSINESS OPERATIONS



Identify who or what is at risk. This could be staff, equipment, or site.

### CHECKLIST TO ASSESS RISK

- Your building has little to no insulation
- Your building is surrounded by pavement
- You do not control indoor temperatures
- Your building has large glass storefront windows
- Your staff relies on public transportation
- Your business cannot operate remotely
- Your staff works outside
- Your business involves food/medication

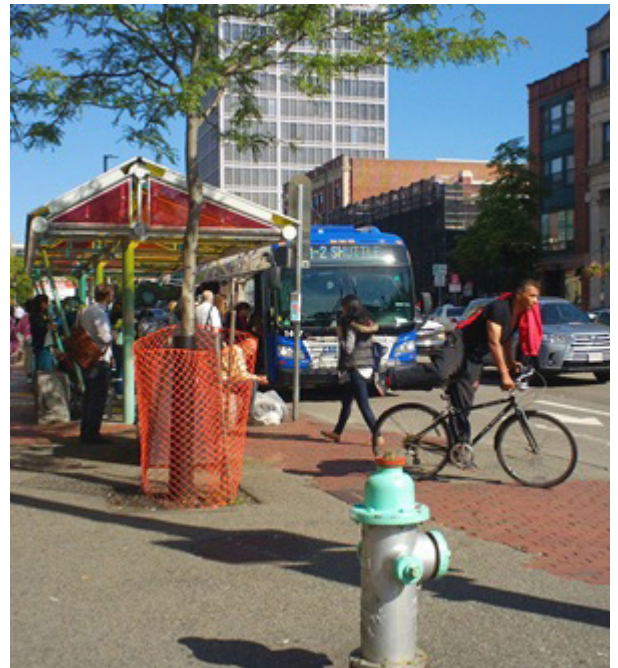
## 2. ASSESS POSSIBLE IMPACTS

### YOUR BUILDING

- Your building is too hot to occupy.
- You experience loss of power.
- Indoor temperature reaches 80 degrees and is unbearable.
- Heat and humidity in your building cause mold to grow.

### YOUR BUSINESS OPERATIONS

- You lose customers or staff is not able to work.
- The food/medication you sell is damaged.
- Your staff who works outside gets sick.



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## PREPAREDNESS FOR EXTREME WEATHER

### 3. WHAT YOU CAN DO TO REMAIN OPEN FOR BUSINESS

#### BEFORE

- Sign up for emergency alerts
- Lower curtains/shades to block sun
- Check your thermostat to confirm livable condition
- Activate your business continuity plan
- Notify employees of schedule changes
- Make sure your emergency generator is operable
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#### DURING

- Call 911 if you feel you are at risk
- Avoid traveling
- Do a periodic check of at-risk areas
- Lower performance expectation/slowdown of staff
- Have water available for staff
- Provide more breaks to staff
- Check-in with staff periodically
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#### AFTER

- Review Extreme Weather Toolkit for more permanent solutions
- Assess moisture and mold in building
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\*Fill out blank spaces with actions specific to you

### 4. RESOURCES

Learn about what changes you can make to **protect your building**:  
[www.cambridgema.gov/climateprep](http://www.cambridgema.gov/climateprep)

Sign up for **Cambridge emergency alerts**, such as **CodeRed**:  
[www.cambridgema.gov/subscribe](http://www.cambridgema.gov/subscribe)

Learn about what you can do to **maintain operations and support your staff** pre & post extreme weather events:  
[www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/econdev/smallbusinessassistance/emergencypreparednessforbusinesses](http://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/econdev/smallbusinessassistance/emergencypreparednessforbusinesses)

Learn tips for **Preventing Heat-Related Illness**:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/extremeheat/heattips.html>