



Adams Lake Indian Band

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PHONE: (250) 679-8841/FAX: (250) 679-8813

July 11, 2017

Notice to Community

Re: Emergency Preparedness

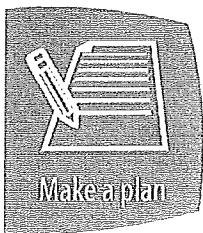
Attached is information to assist your household to be prepared **“In case of emergency.”**

- Your Emergency Preparedness Guide
- Homeowners Manual for Fire Smart
- Air Quality information

Should an emergency occur, we all should be prepared to take care of ourselves as it may take emergency workers time to reach out.

Kukstsemc

Your *emergency* preparedness *guide*



72
HOURS

**IS YOUR FAMILY
PREPARED?**



Public Safety
Canada

Sécurité publique
Canada

Canada

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72 HOURS IS YOUR FAMILY PREPARED?

YOUR EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

If an emergency happens in your community, it may take emergency workers some time to reach you. You should be prepared to take care of yourself and your family for a minimum of 72 hours.

Learn how quick and easy it is to become better prepared to face a range of emergencies – anytime, anywhere. Use this guide to create your own emergency plan. Use the checklists to build a 72-hour emergency kit. These basic steps will help you take care of yourself and your loved ones during an emergency.

Our partners

This publication was developed in collaboration with:



Canadian Association
of Chiefs of Police



Canadian Association
of Fire Chiefs



CANADIAN
RED CROSS



St. John Ambulance



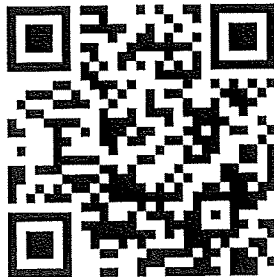
Giving Hope Today

This publication is also available in multiple formats: audio CD, Braille, large print, and electronic text. To order, please call:

1 800 O-Canada (1-800-622-6232)

TTY: 1-800-926-9105

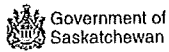
Scan this code with your mobile device to visit m.GetPrepared.ca



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IS YOUR FAMILY
PREPARED?

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KNOW THE RISKS

Although the consequences of various disasters can be similar, knowing the risks in your region can help you better prepare. Across Canada, we face a number of hazards, such as earthquakes in British Columbia, blizzards in Nunavut and tornadoes in Ontario. In addition to natural disasters, there are other types of risks, such as power outages and industrial or transportation accidents.

Some of the risks may be relevant to your community. Find out which ones by visiting www.GetPrepared.ca. You may want to identify the most likely ones for easy reference.

You may also want to find out how disasters have impacted Canadians. Learn more about disasters, including those triggered by natural hazards, technological hazards or conflict by using the Canadian Disaster Database at www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cdd.

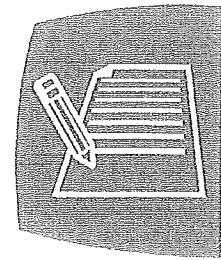
To learn more about emergency preparedness or to order copies of this guide, call:

1 800 0-Canada (1-800-622-6232)

TTY: 1-800-926-9105

Visit www.GetPrepared.ca or follow @Get_Prepared on Twitter.

MAKE A PLAN



Every Canadian household needs an emergency plan. It will help you and your family know what to do in case of an emergency. It will take you about 20 minutes to make your plan.

Your family may not be together when an emergency occurs. Plan how to meet or how to contact one another, and discuss what you would do in different situations.

Use the following pages to create your plan. Most of this information can be filled out on your own. You may need to get some information from your municipality and province/territory about their emergency plans. A list of provincial emergency management agencies is available at the end of this guide.

Keep this document in an easy-to-find, easy-to-remember place (for example, with your emergency kit). Photocopy this plan and keep it in your car and/or at work. If you completed your plan online, keep an electronic version on your computer.

Household plan

Emergency exits

Draw up a floor plan of your home that shows all possible exits from each room. Plan a main exit route and an alternate exit route from each room. If you live in an apartment, plan to use the stairs instead of the elevators. If you are unable to use the stairs, notify emergency personnel ahead of time. Also, identify an evacuation route from your neighbourhood in case you need to leave in a hurry (and think of more than one option).

SAFE IDEA

Learn about first aid. You could save a life.

Along with making emergency plans and preparing an emergency kit, knowing first aid could save a life. Contact your local Canadian Red Cross or St. John Ambulance office to find out about first aid courses in your area.

Meeting places

Identify safe places where everyone should meet if you cannot go home or you need to evacuate.

Safe meeting place near home:

Safe meeting place outside immediate neighbourhood:

Evacuation routes from neighbourhood:

SAFE IDEA

Make copies of important documents

Make copies of birth and marriage certificates, passports, licences, wills, land deeds and insurance. Take photos of family members in case a lost persons record is created. Keep them in a safe place, both inside and outside your home. You might want to put them in a safety deposit box or give them to friends and family who live out of town.

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Workplace

Learn about the emergency evacuation plans in place and what you will need to do. You may want to have some basic supplies at work, such as water and food that won't spoil, in case you need to stay put for a while. Check with your employer about workplace emergency plans, including fire alarms, emergency exits, meeting points, and designated safety personnel or floor wardens.

Children

Ask your children's school or daycare about their emergency policies. Find out how they will contact families during an emergency.

Find out what type of authorization the school or daycare requires to release your children to a designated person if you can't pick them up.

Make sure the school or daycare has updated contact information for parents, caregivers and designated persons.

Designated person 1: _____ Phone: _____

Designated person 2: _____ Phone: _____

School contact information: _____

Plan for pets

In case of an evacuation, remember that pets are not allowed in some public shelters or hotels. In case of an evacuation, prepare to take your pets with you to the home of a relative or friend, or take steps to identify pet-friendly hotels or pet boarding facilities in your area and further away from home.

Location and contact information: _____

Special health needs

Establish a personal support network of friends, relatives, health-care providers, co-workers and neighbours who understand your special needs.

Write down details about:

Accommodation needs

Insurance information

Allergies

Medical conditions

Emergency contacts

Medication

Family medical history

Recent vaccinations

Health screenings

Surgeries

Keep a copy of this information in your emergency kit, and give a copy to your personal support network.

Talk to your doctor about preparing a grab-and-go bag, if possible, with a two-week supply of medication and medical supplies. Include prescriptions and medical documents. Remember that pharmacies may be closed for some time, even after an emergency is over.

Health information:

Medication and medical equipment:

Grab-and-go bag location:

Plan for specific risks

Public Safety Canada offers brochures on specific risks, such as earthquakes, power outages, floods and severe storms. Download your free copies at www.GetPrepared.ca.

Neighbourhood safety plan

Work with your neighbours to identify people who may need extra help during an emergency. To help make sure everyone is taken care of, assign "block buddies."

Emergency contact information

Photocopy this list. Put a copy close to your telephone. If possible, program these phone numbers into your home phone and cell phone.

Emergency numbers

Fire, police, ambulance: 9-1-1 (where available)

Other:

Non-emergency numbers

Police:

Fire:

Health clinic:

Poison control:

Other contact numbers:

Out-of-town contact

Name:

Home phone: Work phone:

Cell phone: Email:

Home address:

Family

Name:

Home phone:

Work phone:

Cell phone:

Email:

Home address:

Friend/neighbour

Name:

Home phone:

Work phone:

Cell phone:

Email:

Home address:

TIP

Write yourself a reminder to update your emergency plan one year from now.

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On this date next year, review your contact information, practise your emergency evacuation plans, change the batteries in your smoke alarm and carbon monoxide detector, and restock your kit(s). Change the batteries, food and water in your emergency kits once a year.
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Family doctors

Patients' names:

Doctors' names and phone numbers:

Insurance agent/company

Agent's/company's name:

Phone:

Home and Car Policy numbers:

Home security system

Company's name:

Phone:

Safe home instructions

Make sure you have a working carbon monoxide detector, smoke alarm, fire extinguisher and well-stocked first aid kit. If you live in an apartment, or if you are staying in a hotel, know where the fire alarms and emergency exits are located.

TIPS

Arrange for each family member to call, email or text the same out-of-town contact person in case of an emergency.

Choose an out-of-town contact who lives far enough away that he or she is unlikely to be affected by the same event.

If you are new to Canada or have recently moved to a new area, make arrangements through friends, cultural associations or community organizations.

Make sure you have a fire extinguisher on every level of your home, including one in your kitchen. Everyone in your home should know where to find the fire extinguishers. All capable adults and older children should know how to use it. See instructions regarding the lifetime of your fire extinguisher and check with your local fire department for more information.

Older children and adults should know how to turn off your home's water, electricity and gas. Make large, easy-to-see signs for water and gas shut-offs as well as for the electrical panel.

Teach children how and when to dial 9-1-1 as well as how to call the designated out-of-town contact.

Locations of fire extinguishers:

Water valve location:

Utility company phone number: _____

Electrical panel location:

Utility company phone number: _____

Gas valve location:

Utility company phone number: _____

(Shut off gas only when authorities tell you to do so.)

Floor drain location:

(Always make sure the drain area is clear of boxes, furniture, etc., in case of flooding.)

Emergency instructions

Call 9-1-1 (where available) to report a fire, a crime or to save a life.

For non-emergency calls, use the ten-digit numbers listed in your local phone book, or this emergency plan, for police, fire and other health services.

TIP

Limit phone calls to urgent messages only.

Keep calls short to free up the lines for others.

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When notifying emergency services of your location, provide the exact street or civic address and nearest intersection.

In an emergency

Follow your emergency plan.

Get your emergency kit.

Make sure you are safe before assisting others.

Listen to the radio or television for information from authorities. Local officials may advise you to stay where you are. Follow their instructions.

Stay put until all is safe or until you are ordered to evacuate.

Evacuation orders

Authorities will not ask you to leave your home unless they have reason to believe that you may be in danger.

If you are ordered to evacuate, take your emergency kit, your wallet, personal identification for each family member and copies of essential family documents with you. Bring a cellular phone and spare battery or charger with you, if you have one. Use travel routes specified by local authorities.

TIP

For the gas and water valves, keep shut-off instructions close by and read them carefully.
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If you have time, call or email your out-of-town contact. Tell them where you are going and when you expect to arrive. Once you are safe, let them know. Tell them if any family members have become separated.

If possible, leave a note telling others when you left and where you are. Shut off water and electricity if officials tell you to do so.

Leave natural gas service on unless officials tell you to turn it off. If you turn off the gas, the gas company has to reconnect it. In a major emergency, it could take weeks for a professional to respond.

Take pets with you. Lock your home. Follow instructions from authorities.

If you go to an evacuation centre, register your personal information at the registration desk. Do not return home until authorities advise that it is safe to do so.



GET AN EMERGENCY KIT

In an emergency, you will need some basic supplies. You may need to get by without power or tap water. Be prepared to be self-sufficient for at least 72 hours.

You may have some of the items already, such as food, water and a battery-operated or crank flashlight. The key is to make sure they are organized and easy to find. Would you be able to find your flashlight in the dark?

Make sure your kit is easy to carry and everyone in the household knows where it is. Keep it in a backpack, duffle bag or suitcase with wheels, in an easy-to-reach, accessible place, such as your front-hall closet. If you have many people in your household, your emergency kit could get heavy. It's a good idea to separate some of these supplies in backpacks. That way, your kit will be more portable and each person can personalize his or her own grab-and-go emergency kit.

Basic emergency kit

- △ Water – at least two litres of water per person per day; include small bottles that can be carried easily in case of an evacuation order
- △ Food that won't spoil, such as canned food, energy bars and dried foods (replace food and water once a year)
- △ Manual can-opener
- △ Crank or battery-powered flashlight (and extra batteries). Replace batteries once a year
- △ Crank, battery-powered radio (and extra batteries) or a Weatheradio
- △ First aid kit
- △ Extra keys to your car and house
- △ Some cash in smaller bills, such as \$10 bills and change for payphones
- △ A copy of your emergency plan and contact information

TIP

Keep a corded phone in your home, as most cordless phones will not work during a power outage.

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- △ If applicable, other items such as prescription medication, infant formula, equipment for people with disabilities, or food, water and medication for your pets or service animal (personalize according to your needs)

Recommended additional items

- △ Two additional litres of water per person per day for cooking and cleaning
- △ Candles and matches or lighter (place candles in deep, sturdy containers and do not burn unattended)
- △ Change of clothing and footwear for each household member
- △ Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each household member
- △ Toiletries
- △ Hand sanitizer
- △ Utensils
- △ Garbage bags
- △ Toilet paper
- △ Household chlorine bleach or water purifying tablets
- △ Basic tools (hammer, pliers, wrench, screwdrivers, work gloves, dust mask, pocket knife)
- △ A whistle (in case you need to attract attention)
- △ Duct tape (to tape up windows, doors, air vents, etc.)

TIPS

When in doubt, do not drink water you suspect may be contaminated. Check with your municipality or local authorities for details.

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Keep some cash on hand, as automated bank machines and their networks may not work during an emergency. You may have difficulty using debit or credit cards.

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Pre-packaged kits

Canadian Red Cross kits can be purchased at www.shop.redcross.ca. Various kits and supplies are also available for sale from other commercial entities.

Emergency vehicle kit

Prepare a small kit and keep it in your vehicle.

The basic kit should include:

- △ Blanket
- △ Candle in a deep can and matches
- △ Extra clothing and shoes
- △ First aid kit with seatbelt cutter
- △ Flashlight (crank or battery-powered). Replace batteries once a year.
- △ Food that won't spoil (such as energy bars)
- △ List of contact numbers
- △ Radio (crank or battery-powered). Replace batteries once a year.
- △ Small shovel, scraper and snowbrush
- △ Warning light or road flares
- △ Water
- △ Whistle

Recommended additional items to keep in your vehicle

- △ Antifreeze, windshield washer fluid
- △ Fire extinguisher
- △ Road maps
- △ Sand, salt or cat litter (non-clumping)
- △ Tow rope and jumper cables



EMERGENCY KIT BASIC ITEMS



- 1 Water – at least two litres of water per person per day; include small bottles that can be carried easily in case of an evacuation order
- 2 Food that won't spoil, such as canned food, energy bars and dried foods (replace food and water once a year)
- 3 Manual can-opener
- 4 Crank or battery-powered flashlight (and extra batteries)
- 5 Crank or battery-powered radio (and extra batteries)
- 6 First aid kit
- 7 Extra keys to your car and house
- 8 Some cash in smaller bills, such as \$10 bills and change for payphones
- 9 A copy of your emergency plan and contact information
- 10 If applicable, other items such as prescription medication, infant formula, equipment for people with disabilities, or food, water and medication for your pets or service animal (personalize according to your needs).

RESOURCES

To learn more about emergency preparedness, visit www.GetPrepared.ca or on your mobile device at m.GetPrepared.ca

To order additional copies of this publication, call:
1 800 O-Canada (1-800-622-6232)
TTY: 1-800-926-9105

Environment Canada Weather Office

www.weatheroffice.gc.ca

1-900-565-4455; a \$2.99 per-minute charge applies

Check the blue pages in your local phonebook under Weather for weather reports and forecasting available by phone.

Canadian Red Cross

www.redcross.ca

613-740-1900 or check for your local branch phone number.

St. John Ambulance

www.sja.ca

613-236-7461 or check for your local branch phone number.

Toll-free: 1-888-840-5646

Salvation Army

www.SalvationArmy.ca

416-425-2111 or check for your local branch phone number.

Provincial and Territorial Resources

Contact your provincial or territorial Emergency Management Organization (EMO) for more information on emergency preparedness.

Alberta

Alberta Emergency Management Agency
Telephone: (780) 422-9000 / Toll-free: 310-0000
www.aema.alberta.ca

British Columbia

British Columbia Provincial Emergency Program
Telephone: (250) 952-4913 /Emergency: 1-800-663-3456
www.pep.bc.ca

Manitoba

Manitoba Emergency Measures Organization
Telephone: (204) 945-4772 /Toll-free: 1-888-267-8298
Emergency: (204) 945-5555
www.manitobaemo.ca

New Brunswick

New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization
Telephone: (506) 453-2133 / Toll-free (24/7): 1-800-561-4034
24 hr: (506) 453-2133
www.gnb.ca/cnb/emo-omu

Newfoundland and Labrador

Fire and Emergency Services – Newfoundland and Labrador (FES-NL)
Telephone: (709) 729-3703
www.gov.nl.ca/fes

Northwest Territories

Northwest Territories Emergency Measures Organization
24 hr Emergency: (867) 920-2303
www.maca.gov.nt.ca/emergency_management/index.htm

Nova Scotia

Nova Scotia Emergency Management Office
Telephone (24 hr): 1-866-424-5620
<http://emo.gov.ns.ca/>

Nunavut

Nunavut Emergency Management
Telephone: (867) 975-5403 / 24 hr Emergency: 1-800-693-1666
<http://cgs.gov.nu.ca/en/nunavut-emergency-management>

Ontario

Emergency Management Ontario
Telephone: (416) 314-3723 / 24 hr: 1-877-314-3723
www.ontario.ca/emo

Prince Edward Island

Prince Edward Island Emergency Measures Organization
Tel: (902) 894-0585 / Toll Free 1-877-894-0585 /
After Hours (902) 892-9365
www.peipublicsafety.ca

Quebec

Quebec – Ministère de la Sécurité publique
Telephone (toll-free): 1-866-644-6826
General information (Services Québec): 1-877-644-4545
www.securitepublique.gouv.qc.ca/en/accueil.html

Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan Emergency Management Organization

Telephone: (306) 787-9563

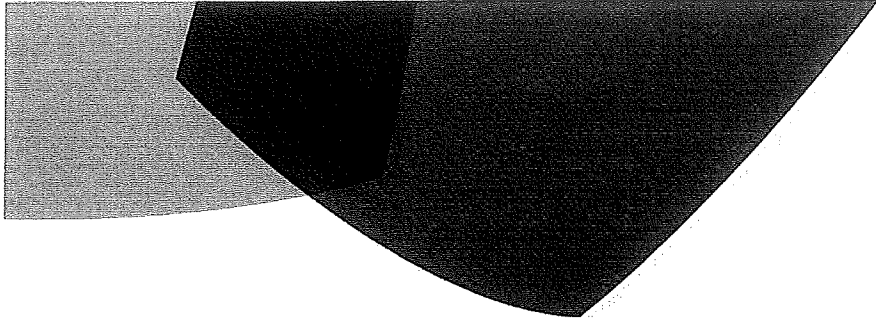
www.cpsp.gov.sk.ca/SaskEMO

Yukon

Yukon Emergency Measures Organization

Telephone: (867) 667-5220 / Toll-Free: 1-800-661-0408

www.community.gov.yk.ca/emo/index.html



**IS YOUR FAMILY
PREPARED?**

www.GetPrepared.ca



HOMEOWNER'S MANUAL

FireSmart Begins at Home



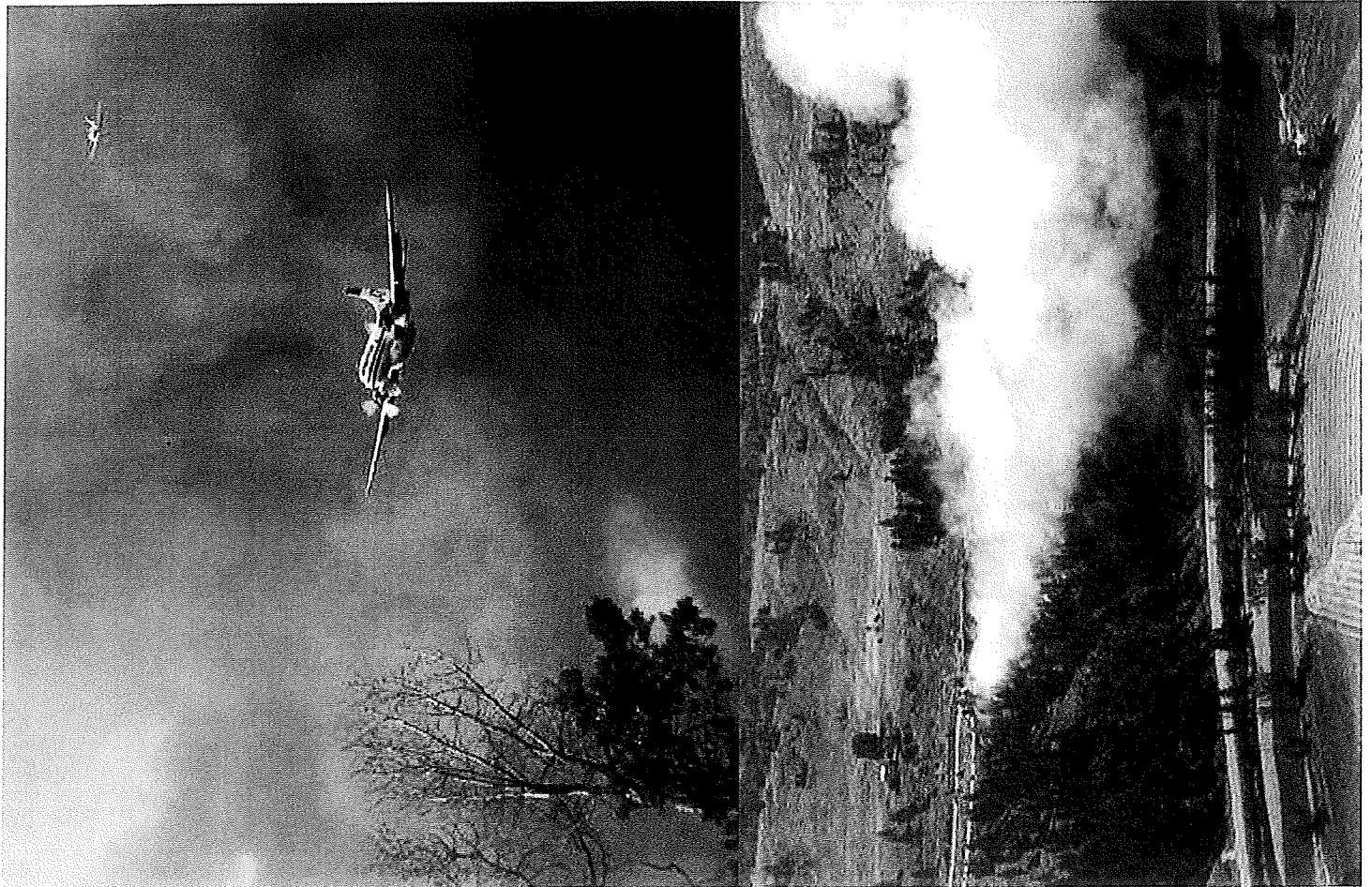
BRITISH
COLUMBIA

REDUCE THE POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF WILDFIRE ON YOUR HOME

You and your neighbours can
reduce wildfire hazards by following
simple, preventative steps.

Take a FireSmart Assessment test!

Is your home at risk?

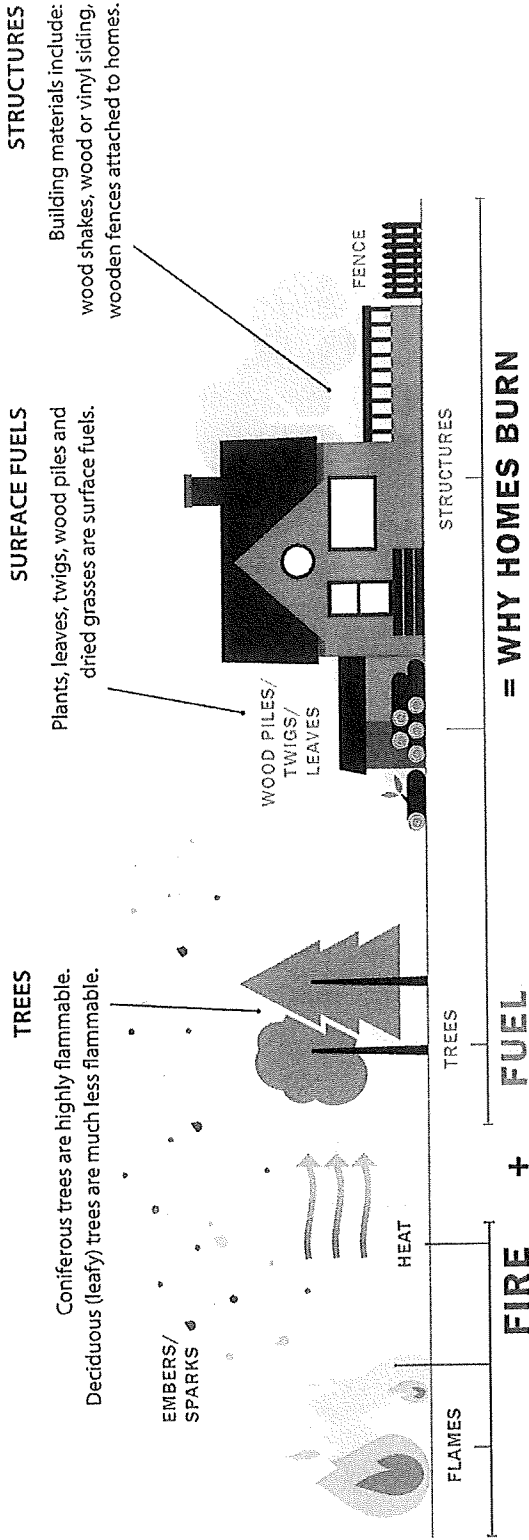


WILDFIRE REALITY

Wildfires are a natural part of British Columbia's wildland ecosystems. Without wildfire, the landscape loses its diversity. Wildfires recycle nutrients, help plants reproduce and create a mosaic of vegetation that provides habitat for a variety of wildlife.

By choosing to extend our communities, resource developments and recreational pursuits into forested areas, we become more exposed to the danger of wildfire. Living where wildfires can occur may put your home at risk, but it's possible to reduce the potential impacts on your home from these natural events. The recommendations in this manual will help reduce the risk of wildfire near your home and neighbourhood and provide a better opportunity for firefighters to defend your home.

HOW WILDFIRES GROW



HOW WILDFIRES SPREAD

SPARKS/EMBERS

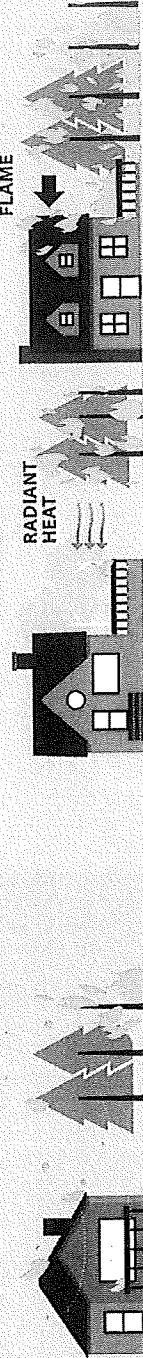
This is the burning debris that can be thrown up to two kilometres ahead of a wildfire. Sparks and embers can ignite materials on or near your home, causing severe damage.

EXTREME HEAT

Radiant heat from a wildfire can melt vinyl siding, ignite your home and even break windows. Extreme heat can come from flames within 30 metres of your home.

DIRECT FLAME

As wildfires spread toward homes, they ignite other flammable objects in their path. Breaks in this path, especially close to your home, can help reduce this threat.



FACTORS INFLUENCING WILDFIRE SPREAD

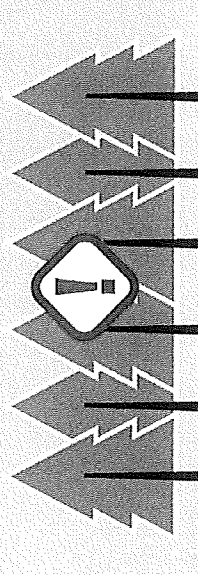
DENSE, CONTINUOUS FORESTS

Wildfire can spread quickly in forests where trees are in close proximity to each other. Fire spreads quickly and directly from tree to tree and can produce sparks and embers that may travel distances of two kilometres. These embers may land on trees or homes well ahead of the fire and create a multiple fire situation. It is important to be aware of the dangers of sparks and embers when creating a FireSmart property.

FASTER UP HILL

DENSE CONTINUOUS FORESTS

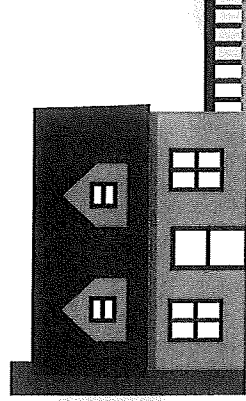
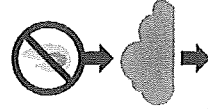
DENSE = DANGEROUS



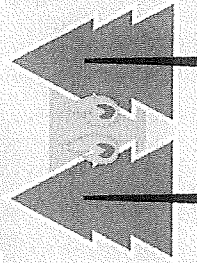
SLOPE CAN AFFECT WILDFIRE

Fire moves fastest uphill. The steeper the slope, the faster a wildfire will spread. Homes on hills or at the top of hills face the greatest risk from wildfire. If your home is located on a hill, you should consider taking on extra measures suggested in this manual, such as removing trees adjacent to the slope and planting fire-resistant plants. If you are planning on building a new home, consider having your home set back at least 10 metres from the crest of any hills or slopes, as well as the landscaping around it.

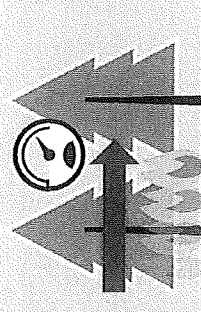
FIRE-RESISTANT PLANT



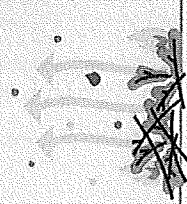
TREE TO TREE IGNITION



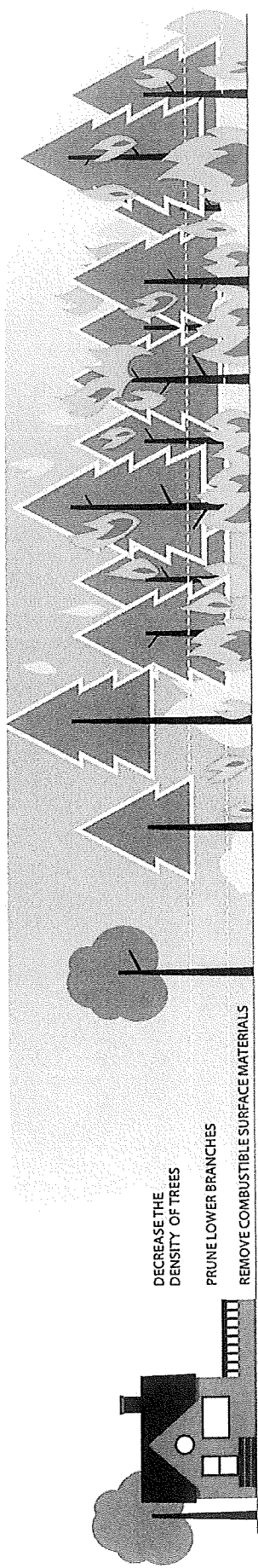
FLAMES TRAVEL QUICKLY



FINE FUELS GENERATE HEAT AND EMBERS



HOW FIRESMART TREATMENTS INFLUENCE WILDFIRE SPREAD



DECREASE THE DENSITY OF TREES

PRUNE LOWER BRANCHES

REMOVE COMBUSTIBLE SURFACE MATERIALS

Wildfire can follow a path from a forest or grassland to your home. A wildfire moving from the tops of trees can be slowed if the trees are spaced out. It can be further slowed by flame-resistant plants and shrubs in your yard. Since plants have different flammability, consider spacing out your plants to increase your home's ability to withstand a wildfire.

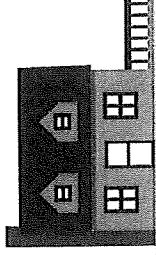
FIRESMART RULES OF THUMB



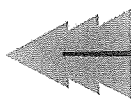
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YARD SPACING

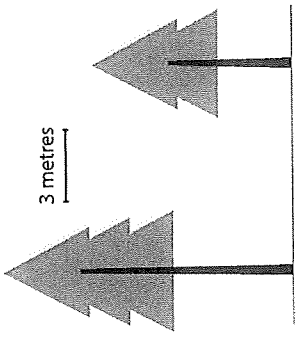
Changes within 10 metres of your home, including the removal of combustible surface material, will have the biggest impact.



10 metres



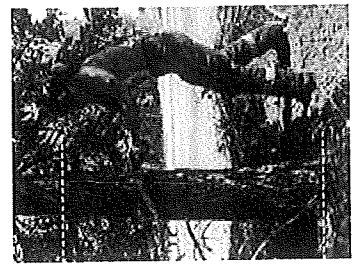
3 metres



2

TREE SPACING

Spacing trees at least 3 metres apart will help reduce the intensity of a wildfire.



2 metres

3

PRUNE TREES

Prune all tree branches within 2 metres of the ground.



**BEGINNING YOUR
FIRESMART JOURNEY**

Each section of this manual will help you to focus on changes that can help protect your home from wildfire. Start from your home and work your way outwards. Changes made to the area closest to your home and your home itself have the greatest impact on reducing the risk of wildfire damage.

**MAKING THE
MOST OF YOUR TIME**

Home renovations and upgrades can be costly and time-consuming. FireSmart focuses on what is realistic for you to achieve, in order to limit the risk of wildfire to your home. Integrate FireSmart into your long-term renovations and incorporate regular yard clean-ups to reduce your risk of damage from wildfire.

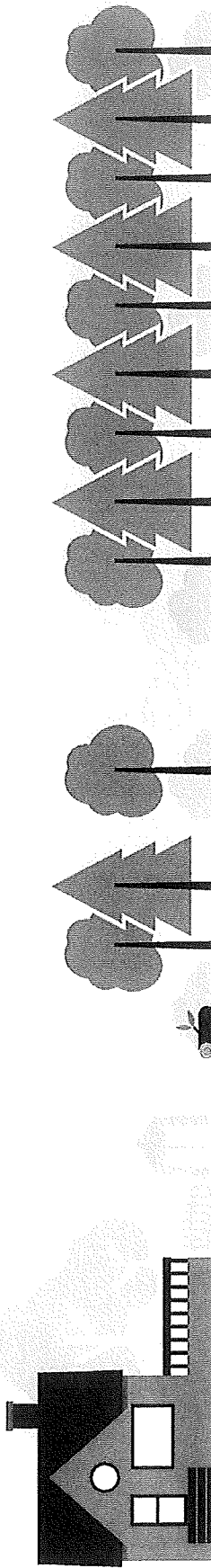
IMPACT TO REDUCE RISK FROM WILDFIRE

HOME

YARD

OUTER YARD

LARGE YARD OR NEIGHBOURHOOD



ZONE 1

HOME / YARD - 10 metres

This should be a fire-resistant zone, free of all materials that could easily ignite from a wildfire.

ZONE 2

10–50 metres

Thin and prune coniferous trees to reduce hazards in this area. Regularly clean up accumulations of fallen branches, dry grass and needles from the ground to eliminate potential surface fuels.

ZONE 3

30–100 metres

Look for opportunities to create a fire break by creating space between trees and other potentially flammable vegetation. Thinning and pruning is effective here as well. These actions will help reduce the intensity of a wildfire.

ZONE 1 HOME / YARD - 10 metres

Preparing your home and yard as recommended can help your home survive a wildfire.

1 ROOF

Material

Fire-resistant or fire-retardant roofing is referred to as Class A, B or C rated roofing. Options include metal, asphalt, clay and composite rubber tiles. Untreated wood shakes create a dangerous combination of combustible material and crevices for embers or sparks to enter. Refer to manufacturer's guidelines to maintain the fire resistance of your roof.

Maintenance

Every inside corner of your roof is a place where debris and embers can collect. Regularly clean your roof of combustible materials.

2 CHIMNEY

A spark arrestor on your chimney will reduce the chance of sparks and embers escaping and starting fires.

3 GUTTERS

Regularly remove debris from your gutters, since sparks and embers can easily ignite these dry materials. Consider screening your gutters with metal mesh to reduce the amount of debris that can accumulate.

4 EAVES AND VENTS

While vents play an important role in removing moisture from attics, they create an opening for sparks and embers. Consider screening your vents with 3-millimetre wire mesh. Open eaves also create a surface that can be affected by embers and direct heat. Properly fitted soffits and fascia help reduce the risk of embers and heat reaching the wooden rafters of your home.

5 SIDING

Stucco, metal siding, brick/concrete and fibre cement siding offer superior fire resistance. Logs and heavy timbers are still reasonably effective. Untreated wood and vinyl siding offer very little protection against wildfire.

6 WINDOWS

Tempered, thermal (double-paned) windows are recommended. Single-pane windows provide little resistance to heat from an advancing wildfire.

7 DOORS

All doors into your home should be fire rated and have a good seal. This is true for your garage doors as well as your entry doors.

8 DECKS

Embers and sparks can collect under these spaces. Enclose these areas. Sheath in the base of the decks, balconies and houses with fire-resistant material to reduce the risk of sparks and embers igniting your home.

9 OTHER

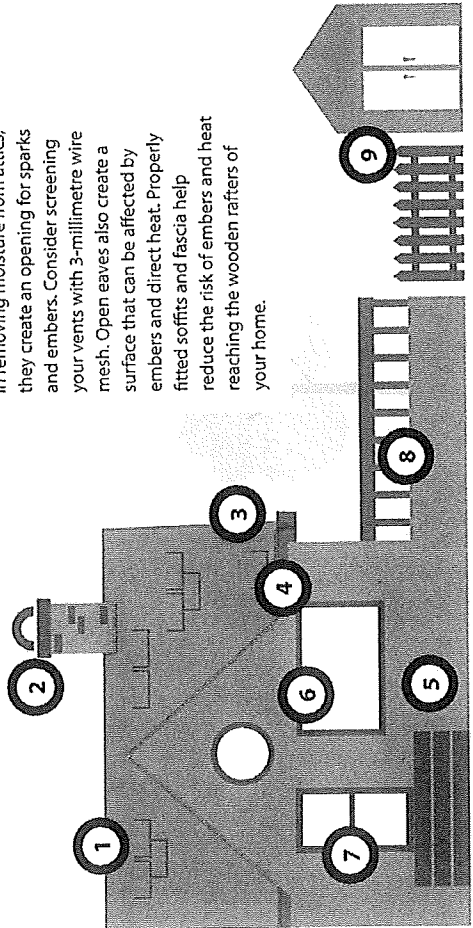
ATTACHMENTS TO YOUR HOME

Fence Lines

Wooden fences/boardwalks create a direct path from the fire to your home. Separating your house from a wooden fence with a metal gate can slow the advance of a fire. Remember to cut the grass along your fence line, since long, dry grass can ignite easily.

Sheds/Outbuildings

If these are within 10 metres of your home, give them the same FireSmart considerations as you do your home.



Check for other ignition points in and around your home. Look around your yard for other combustible materials. Consider how close you store combustible lawn furniture or deck storage boxes to your home.



ZONE 1

HOME / YARD - 10 metres

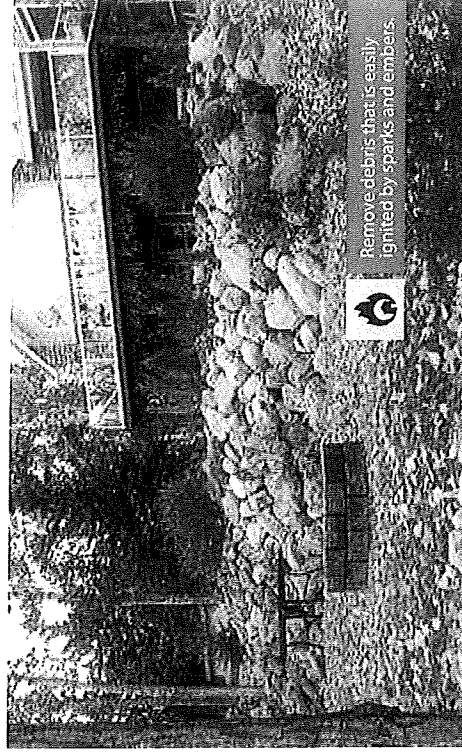
LANDSCAPING DESIGN



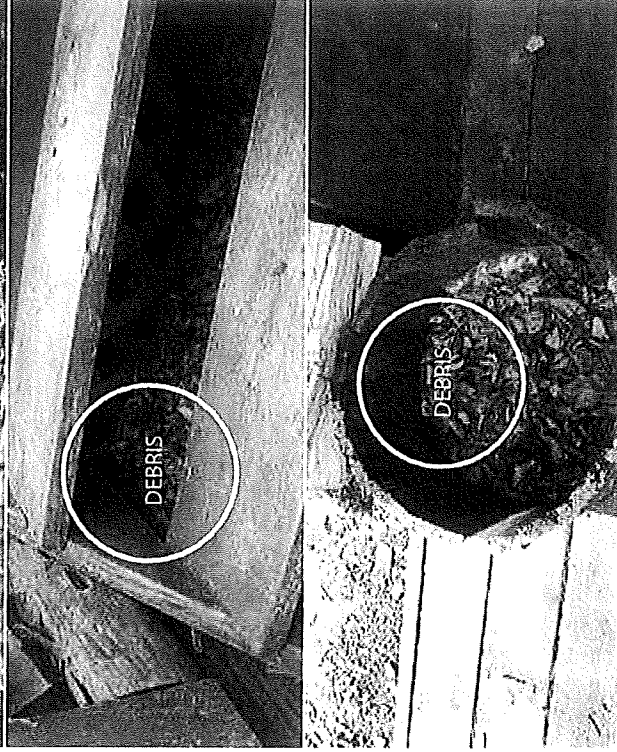
YOUR YARD

Adding a few FireSmart actions to your regular yard work routine will reduce wildfire risks. Changes within 10 metres of your home will have the biggest impact.

Fire embers may seem small, but they should not be underestimated — 50% of home fires caused by wildfires are started by sparks and embers. Regular maintenance and cleaning the corners and crevices of your home and yard (where needles and debris build up) will leave nothing for embers to ignite. Remember to remove any windblown leaves from under decks, as well as any flammable debris on balconies and patios.



Remove debris that is easily ignited by sparks and embers.



ZONE 1 HOME / YARD - 10 metres

LANDSCAPING AND YARD

A FireSmart yard includes smart choices for plants, shrubs, grass and mulch. Selecting fire-resistant plants and materials can increase the likelihood of your home surviving a wildfire.

LANDSCAPING WITHIN 10 METRES

Plant low-density, fire-resistant plants and shrubs. Avoid having any woody debris present, including mulch, since it can provide places for fires to start.

CHARACTERISTICS OF FIRE-RESISTANT PLANTS

- moist, supple leaves
- minimal accumulation of dead vegetation
- water-like sap that produces little odour
- low amount of sap or resin material

CHARACTERISTICS OF HIGHLY FLAMMABLE PLANTS

- aromatic leaves or needles
- accumulations of fine, dry, dead material
- resin or oils
- loose, papery or flaky bark

PLANTS TO AVOID

- cedar
- juniper
- pine
- tall grass
- spruce

GRASS

A mowed lawn is a fire-resistant lawn. Grasses shorter than 10 centimetres are less likely to burn intensely.

BARK MULCH AND PINE NEEDLES

Do not use bark or pine needle mulches within 10 metres of your home, since they are highly combustible. Gravel mulch and decorative crushed rock mulch significantly reduce the risk of wildfire.

ON-SITE FIRE TOOLS

Every home should have readily accessible shovels, rakes, axes, garden hoses, sprinklers and ladders to assist in suppressing wildfires.

POWER LINES

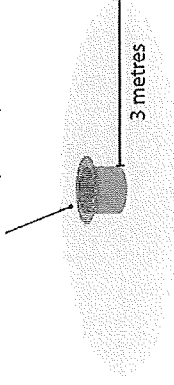
Power lines should be clear of branches and other vegetation. Contact your local utility company to discuss removing any branches or vegetation around overhead electrical installations.

FIREWOOD PILES

Wood piled against a house is a major fire hazard. Moving your firewood pile may be a key factor that allows your home to survive a wildfire. Clean up any such areas regularly, since easily ignited debris often collects here.

BURN BARREL

6-millimetre (or finer) wire mesh



BURN BARRELS AND FIRE PITS

Burn barrels should be placed as far as possible from structures and trees. Keep the area within 3 metres of the burn barrel free of combustible material. Always ensure that your burn barrel has proper ventilation and is screened with 6-millimetre (or finer) wire mesh.

Check with your local government about any specific requirements and restrictions regarding backyard fire pits.

Fire permits for burn barrels and fire pits are required in many jurisdictions.

Firewood piles should be at least 10 metres from your home.

Bark mulch is highly flammable.

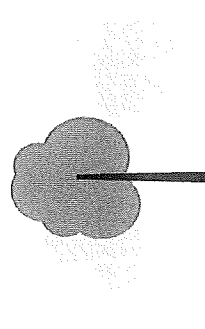


ZONE 1

HOME / YARD - 10 metres

TREES CLOSEST TO YOUR HOME

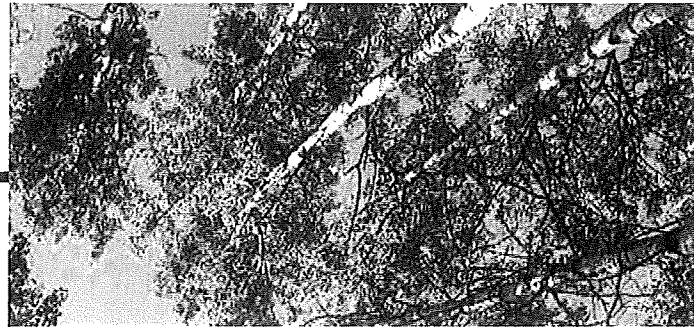
We often choose to live surrounded by the natural environment and trees are a cherished part of our relationship with nature. By following the recommendations in this manual, you can have a lush, green yard that is also resistant to wildfire.



TREES TO PLANT

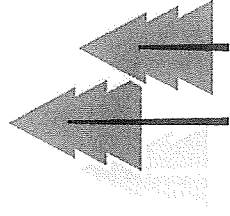
Deciduous (leafy) trees are resistant to wildfire and include:

- poplar
- birch
- aspen
- cottonwood
- maple
- alder
- ash
- cherry



MAINTENANCE

- Include debris clean-up in your spring and fall yard maintenance.
- Dry leaves, twigs and branches are flammable and should be removed from your yard and gutters.
- Older deciduous (leafy) trees can have rot and damage that makes them susceptible to fire. An arborist or forester can help you assess the condition of mature trees.



TREES TO AVOID

Coniferous trees, with cones and needles, are highly flammable and should not be within 10 metres of your home.

- spruce
- fir
- pine
- cedar

If these trees ignite within 10 metres of your home, the direct flames and intense heat can cause damage or even ignite your home.

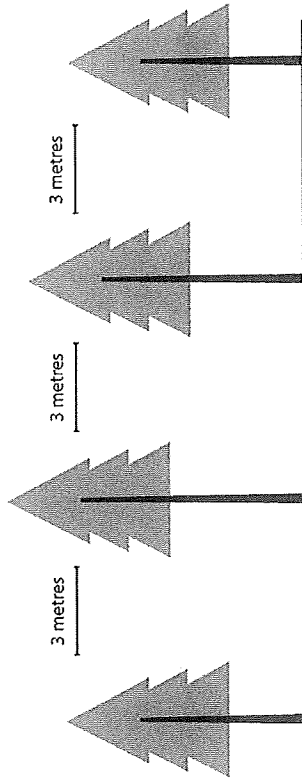


ZONE 2 YARD - 10-30 metres

TREES FURTHER FROM YOUR HOME

CONIFEROUS TREE SPACING

Once fire moves into treetops, it can easily move into neighbouring trees and increase the overall intensity of the fire. Spacing trees at least 3 metres apart will reduce the risk of this happening.



TREE-TO-TREE SPACING

Measure the distance between the outermost branches of your trees. There should be a minimum of 3 metres between trees.

REMOVAL OF COMBUSTIBLE MATERIAL

Remove smaller coniferous trees that could act as a "ladder" and allow fire to move into the treetops.

Clean up woody debris on the ground.

TREE PRUNING

A surface fire can climb up into trees quickly. Removing branches within 2 metres of the ground will help stop surface fires from moving into treetops.

Remove all branches to a height of 2 metres from the ground on coniferous trees within 30 metres of your home. If possible, pruning trees up to 100 metres from your home (Zone 3) is recommended.

WHEN TO PRUNE

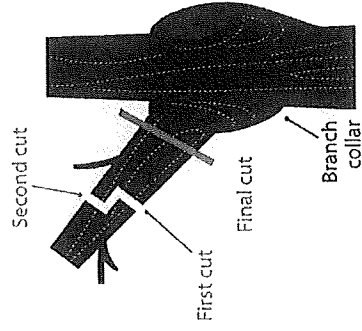
You can prune dead branches at any time of the year, but it is best to prune coniferous trees in the late winter when they are dormant.

HOW TO PRUNE

- Prune branches close to the tree trunk, but not so close that you damage the main trunk and bark of the tree.
- Never remove more than 1/3 of the canopy of a tree. Doing so can harm the tree.



Prune tree branches within 2 metres of the ground.



ZONE 3 LARGE YARDS - 30-100 metres

YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

Taking FireSmart actions in Zone 3 will influence how a wildfire approaches your home. You can change the dynamics of wildfire behaviour by manipulating vegetation within this zone. FireSmart treatments in Zone 1 and Zone 2 can influence the amount of work necessary in Zone 3.

Just as in Zone 1 and Zone 2, slope is a consideration. If your home is on a slope, consider extending this area further, since fire moves fastest uphill. Consider slope stability when removing trees.

The goal in Zone 3 is to reduce the intensity and rate of spread of a wildfire. This is done by thinning and pruning coniferous trees and reducing excess vegetation and branches.

- Remove low-hanging branches within 2 metres of the ground.
- Space trees 3 metres apart (from branch tips) to reduce the intensity and rate of spread of a wildfire.
- Remove smaller coniferous trees that could act as a "ladder" and allow fire to move into the treetops.
- Clean up woody debris on the ground.

ROADWAYS AND DRIVEWAYS

In an emergency, you and your family may need to leave your community while emergency responders enter. In order for this to happen safely and efficiently, consider the following tips:

1. Clearly mark your property with your address.
2. Clear vegetation from access routes to and from your home. Target trees and branches that could make it difficult for a firetruck to approach your home.
3. If you have a large property, make sure that your driveway has a turnaround and, if possible, provide two access routes to your home.

1

Many of the recommendations in this manual assume that you have direct control over the property within 100 metres of your home. If that is not the case, the FireSmart recommendations still apply. Chat with your neighbours about FireSmart. Shared information, along with mutual co-operation and planning, can help.

3

Are you concerned about your community's wildfire risk? Ask your local government, planning department or fire service how they are integrating FireSmart into their plans.

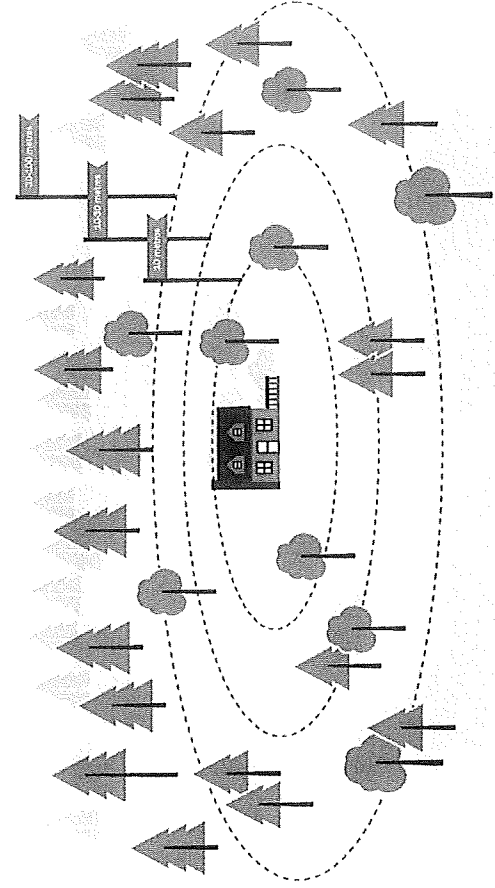
2


The FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program recognizes communities that:

- complete a community assessment and FireSmart plan
- organize a local FireSmart committee
- host a FireSmart event, such as a clean-up day
- contribute in-kind or monetary support toward FireSmart actions



To learn more, go to:
FireSmartCanada.ca





FireSmart



The BC Wildfire Service of the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations would like to thank the following:

- Partners in Protection for providing the information used in this manual
- Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development for allowing the use of its FireSmart Homeowner's Manual as a model for this manual
- B.C. Office of the Fire Commissioner and Emergency Management BC for their support in the production of this publication

Copies of this manual are available at your local fire centre office or online at <http://bcwildfire.ca/prevention/firesmart.htm>

Waiver:

The British Columbia Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and the Crown accept no responsibility of liability for any loss or damage that any person may sustain as a result of the information in, or anything done or omitted pursuant to, this manual.

Cover photo: Mount McLean wildfire near Lillooet, 2009
(BC Wildfire Service)

For more information about the BC Wildfire Service, please contact the office nearest you:

Provincial Wildfire Coordination Centre
BC Wildfire Service
250 372-3000 (Kamloops)

Kamloops Fire Centre
250 554-5500 (Kamloops)

Coastal Fire Centre
250 951-4222 (Parksville)

Southeast Fire Centre
250 365-4040 (Castlegar)

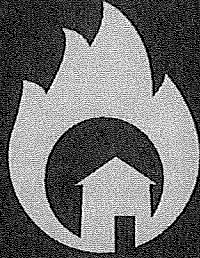
Northwest Fire Centre
250 847-6600 (Smithers)

Cariboo Fire Centre
250 989-2600 (Williams Lake)

Prince George Fire Centre
250 565-6124 (Prince George)

First Nations' Emergency Services Society of British Columbia
North Vancouver office:
604 669-7305
1 888 822-5388

First Nations' Emergency Services Society of British Columbia
Kamloops regional office:
250 377-7600
1 888 388-4431



FireSmart

FireSmartCanada.ca



Ministry of
Forests, Lands and
Natural Resource Operations

Emergency
ManagementBC

BC Wildfire Service



*First Nations'
Emergency Services Society*

OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

www.bcwildfire.ca

To report a wildfire, call:

1 800 663-5555

or

*5555 on your cellphone

Forest Fires and Air Quality



Staying Cool Indoors during an Air Quality Advisory

Please note that when there is an air quality advisory in your area, officials may recommend that you keep your windows closed with the air conditioner on (if you have one), or they may advise you to keep your windows closed with the air conditioner off. When your windows are closed and the air conditioner is off (or you don't have one), you will need to take special care to stay cool. Make sure to stay up to date on the specific recommendations for your area.

Here are some tips for how to keep your home and your family cool indoors when the temperature is hot outside and there is an air quality advisory. Make sure to follow the recommendations of the current advisory and pick the tips that work for your home.

- Keep the windows and blinds closed while the sun is up.
- Install an air conditioner (recommended with a health efficiency particulate air filter). Make sure that it recirculates air from inside your home only and that the filters are clean. Please note that during some air quality advisories it may be recommended that you turn your air conditioner off.
- Drink plenty of cool, non-alcoholic beverages.
- Place a bowl of ice in front of a fan to create a cool breeze.
- Avoiding smoking or burning materials inside your home.
- Avoid using the oven and instead cook on the stovetop or BBQ outdoors.
- Do any physical activity in the cooler morning or evening hours.
- Spend time in the cooler rooms of your home, like a basement.
- Wear lightweight, loose-fitting clothing.
- Take a cool shower or bath.

Current Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) for Kamloops

Calculated as of: July 11, 2017, 08:00am PDT

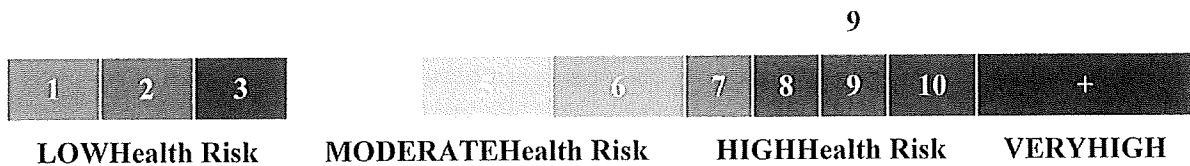
9
- High Health Risk

At risk population: Reduce or reschedule strenuous activities outdoors. Children and the elderly should also take it easy.

General population: Consider reducing or rescheduling strenuous activities outdoors if you experience symptoms such as coughing and throat irritation.

* If the AQHI index has increased to 7 (high health risk), it is usually because of high concentrations of smoke particles (PM2.5) in this community.

AQHI Scale - [Learn more about AQHI Categories and Explanations](#)



Maximum AQHI Forecast

Today

10 - High Health Risk

Tonight

7 - High Health Risk

Tomorrow

5 - Moderate Health Risk



Ministry of
Environment



Interior Health

MEDIA RELEASE

SMOKY SKIES BULLETIN EXPANDED TO COVER ALL OF SOUTHERN INTERIOR AND KOOTENAYS

July 11th, 2017 11:00:00 PDT– Kamloops. The Ministry of Environment, in collaboration with the Interior Health Authority, has expanded the Smoky Skies Bulletin issued on Saturday 8th July due to forest fire smoke that is covering the area. The areas now covered are: Kinbasket, North Columbia, West Columbia, East Columbia Yoho Park- Kootenay Park, East Kootenay, West Kootenay, Elk Valley, Kootenay Lake, Arrow Lakes – Slocan Lake, Boundary, Okanagan, Similkameen, Nicola, Fraser Canyon, South Thompson, North Thompson, 100 Mile, Cariboo (North and South), and Chilcotin.

Smoke concentrations will vary widely as winds, fire behaviour and temperatures change.

Avoid strenuous outdoor activities. If you are experiencing any of the following symptoms, contact your health care provider: difficulty in breathing, chest pain or discomfort, and sudden onset of cough or irritation of airways. Exposure is particularly a concern for infants, the elderly and those who have underlying medical conditions such as diabetes, and lung or heart disease.

This advisory will remain in effect until further notice.

Tips to reduce your personal health risk:

- People with heart or lung conditions may be more sensitive to the effects of smoke and should watch for any change in symptoms that may be due to smoke exposure. If any symptoms are noted, affected individuals should **take steps to reduce their exposure to smoke** and if necessary see their physician. People with symptoms should go to their health care provider, walk in clinic or emergency department depending on severity of symptoms.
- Use common sense regarding outdoor physical activity – if your breathing becomes difficult or uncomfortable, stop or reduce the activity.
- Stay cool and drink plenty of fluids.

- Smoke levels may be lower indoors, however levels of smoke particles will still be increased. If you stay indoors, be aware of your symptoms.
- Consider visiting a location like a shopping mall with cooler filtered air. Keep in mind that staying indoors may help you stay cool and provide some relief from the smoke, however many air conditioning systems do not filter the air or improve indoor air quality.
- Reduce indoor pollution sources such as smoking or burning other materials.
- You may be able to reduce your exposure to smoke by moving to cleaner air. Conditions can vary dramatically by area and elevation.
- Residents with asthma or other chronic illness should activate their asthma or personal care plan.
- Pay attention to local air quality reports, air quality may be poor even though smoke may not be visible.
- Commercially available HEPA (high efficiency particulate air) filters can further reduce poor indoor air quality near the device.
- Maintaining good overall health is a good way to prevent health effects resulting from short-term exposure to air pollution.
- For general information about smoke and your health, contact HealthLink BC available toll free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 8-1-1, or via the web at: <http://www.healthlinkbc.ca/kbaltindex.asp> .
- Real-time air quality information in Kamloops, and other communities in B.C. is available at <http://www.bcairquality.ca>.
- Visit <http://www.interiorhealth.ca>, click on the Your Environment tab at the top of the page, then Emergency Information → Forest Fire, and under the "During" tab, scroll to Your health and living with smoky skies.

Food safety and water quality tips:

- During a forest fire, it's also important to be aware of health risks associated with food safety in power outages and water quality.
- Interior Health's website contains helpful information and other resources related to forest fire smoke exposure / air quality, as well as food safety when the power is out and ensuring your drinking water is safe. <http://www.interiorhealth.ca>

What is a Smoky Skies Advisory?

- A Smoky Skies Advisory is a new type of public advisory being used by the Ministry of Environment, in collaboration with the Interior Health Authority, to improve communication on wildfire smoke.
- It will be issued when smoke concentrations in an area have, or may, reach levels that are of concern for human health.
- Such decisions are based on satellite information, smoke transport models, photographs of visual air quality, first-hand observations from the area, in addition to concentrations of fine particulate matter recorded at local air quality stations.
- This differs from the Wildfire Smoke Advisories issued by the Ministry of Environment, which are based primarily on concentrations of fine particulate matter measured over a 24-hour period at fixed monitoring stations in various communities.

- A Smoky Skies Advisory is intended to respond to the rapidly changing nature of wildfire smoke, in which smoke concentrations can vary significantly over short distances and periods of time that may not be well-characterised by the existing air quality monitoring network or responded to in a timely manner by Wildfire Smoke Advisories.
- The key messages of a Smoky Skies Advisory are:
 - a) In most fire seasons, there are occasions when smoke from forest fires is carried into our region.
 - b) Under these conditions, smoke concentrations may vary dramatically over short periods and over small distances.
 - c) Those members of the public who are sensitive to the effects of smoke should monitor their symptoms and, if necessary, take steps to reduce their exposure to smoke.
 - d) During the fire season, a heavy bluish-white haze, possibly accompanied by the smell of smoke, are clear indications that smoke concentrations are higher than usual. The concentrations and air quality health index measured at an air station many kilometres away may not be a good indication of local smoke conditions.

Contacts: For media and public questions regarding air quality and this advisory.
Ralph Adams, Air Quality meteorologist, Ministry of Environment,
250-371-6279

For media questions regarding health implications of wildfires.
Lesley Coates, Public Health Communications Officer, Interior Health
Authority, (250) 469-7070 ext. 12824

