# FireSmart<sup>™</sup> for Homeowners

Every year, wildfires threaten homes and force the evacuation of many British Columbians. You can play a crucial role in reducing the wildfire threats to your community by learning more about FireSmart.

FireSmart is a nationally recognized program designed to reduce wildfire risks by making homes and communities more fire-resilient. FireSmart principles have been shown to reduce the impact of wildfires on rural and urban properties, even under the most extreme fire conditions.

Reducing wildfire threats is a shared responsibility. Do your part by learning about "Priority Zones" and how changes made to your home and the surrounding area have the greatest impact on protecting your property from wildfires.







# HOW WILDFIRES SPREAD

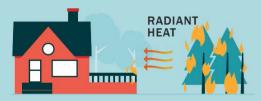
#### **SPARKS/EMBERS**

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.



#### **RADIANT 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 towards homes, they ignite other flammable objects in their path. To stop fire from directly affecting your home, create breaks in this path, especially closest to your home.



# WHAT YOU CAN DO!

# **FireSmart™ Your Property**

Request a free FireSmart home assessment

## **Check Your Structures**

Roof: ensure they are fire resistant or fire retardant

Chimneys: install a spark arrestor Doors: ensure they are fire rated

### Remove the Fuel

Clean up the area 10 metres around your home;

Make this a fire-resistant zone, free of all materials that could easily ignite from a wildfire including conifers, surface fuels, firewood, and recreational vehicles;

Prune all tree branches with 2 metres off the ground.





# **Be Prepared**

Have shovels, an axe, rake, sprinkler, hoses and ladders available to assist in suppressing wildfires;

Have your house number clearly marked so emergency vehicles can locate you.

