

HOME IGNITION ZONE



THERE ARE MANY FACTORS THAT INCREASE YOUR COMMUNITY'S RISK OF WILDLAND FIRE.

Check out the *FireSmart Begins at Home Guide* for an in-depth look at how you can build wildland fire resiliency.

IMMEDIATE ZONE 0–1.5 metres

The Immediate Zone is an area that is clear of flammable materials, starting with the house and extending out to a 1.5 metre perimeter around the home and attached structures, including decks.

Reduce the chance of: wind-blown embers igniting your home by starting with these proactive steps:

- Choose non-combustible building materials when constructing or renovating your home.

- Clear vegetation and flammable materials down to mineral soil and cover with fire-resistant materials like gravel, brick, or concrete.
- Avoid planting woody shrubs or trees. If any are present, prune and maintain them regularly.

INTERMEDIATE ZONE 1.5–10 metres

Elements in the Intermediate Zone are managed so they don't carry fire to your home. Here are a few actions you can take to reduce your home's vulnerability:

- Plant fire-resistant vegetation and select non-flammable landscaping materials.
- Avoid the use of woody debris, including mulch.

- Keep flammable items like firewood piles, construction materials, patio furniture, tools, and decorative pieces out of this zone.
- Move trailers, recreational vehicles, storage sheds, and other flammable structures into the Extended Zone. If that's not possible, store firewood inside your fire-proofed

garage, shed, or other ember resistant structures.

- Use non-flammable ground cover, like a gravel pad, underneath and 1.5 metres around trailers, recreational vehicles, propane tanks, and sheds.

EXTENDED ZONE 10–30 metres

The goal in the Extended Zone is not to eliminate fire, but to reduce its intensity. If your community extends into this zone, a few important steps you can take include:

- Selectively remove evergreen trees to create space between them (at least 3 metres of

horizontal space between the single or grouped tree crowns).

- Remove all branches to a height of 2 metres from the ground.
- Regularly clean up fallen branches, dry grass, and needles to eliminate potential surface fuels.

- Continue to apply these principles if your property extends beyond 30 metres. Work with your community in overlapping zones and seek guidance from a forest professional if affected by other conditions like steep slopes.