FireSmart™ Canada

Home Partners Program Assessment

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INFORMATION PAGE

Welcome to your customized FireSmart Home Partners property assessment report

This report is based on the assessment recently conducted on your property and identifies all required actions you must take to reduce your wildfire risk and receive recognition through the FireSmart Home Partners Program for your achievements.

Follow these steps to become recognized:

1. MAKE A PLAN! Simply review the following "Summary of Required Actions" page to see the tasks that must be completed in order for you to receive a FireSmart Home Partners recognition certificate. The full report that follows the "Summary of Required Actions" page includes further details and photos associated with each of the "Required Actions".

2. TAKE ACTION! Roll up your sleeves and get to work!
   OR
   Hire an experienced contractor to take care of the work for you.

3. SCHEDULE AN INSPECTION! Once you complete all of your required mitigation actions, contact the FireSmart Home Partners program to schedule an inspection. Visit Home Partners FireSmart BC for program contact information.

4. INSPECTION DAY! At the time of inspection, the wildfire mitigation specialist will inform you if you have either successfully addressed all of the required actions in the assessment report OR further action is required. This will also be reflected in the inspection report.

5. BE RECOGNIZED! A pdf copy of your inspection report and FireSmart Home Partners Certificate recognizing you for all of your hard work will be emailed to you once you have successfully addressed all of the Required Actions in the Assessment Report.

Questions? Email us!

✉ homepartners@firesmartbc.ca

DISCLAIMER:
While the purpose of the FireSmart Home Assessment is to reduce the risk of fire damage to your home or property, following the recommendations in the Assessment does not guarantee prevention of such damage. Wildfire mitigation work around your home can give firefighters the best chance to defend and protect your property from wildfires, and can also substantially increase your safety and reduce the risk to life and property. However, wildfire is unpredictable and can be impossible to stop or control, regardless of what mitigation efforts you have taken. FireSmart Home Partners makes no warranties, guarantees or representations of any kind with respective to the effectiveness of any mitigation efforts you undertake in connection with your participation in the FireSmart Home Partners program.

Summary of Required Actions

ROOF AND EAVES

Debris: Are the roof, gutters, eaves, chimney, solar panels and skylights free of combustible debris (tree needles, moss, lichen, leaves and nests)? (Select all that apply).

- [ ] It is important to ensure that the roof, eaves, chimney, solar panels and skylights are free of combustible debris throughout the wildfire season (often April to October). Inspect and remove debris twice annually or after significant weather events. Ensure these features are not damaged and replace/repair them as needed to restore their function and resilience.

Gutters: Is the roof edge above the gutters protected by metal angle flashing and are the gutters and downspouts non-combustible?

- [ ] Install metal angle flashing or drip edge where gutters are installed to protect the roof and any exposed fascia board from ignition. Ignited debris in the gutters can spread into the roof if this flashing/drip edge is not present.

SIDING, VENTS & OPENINGS

Siding type: Is the siding combustible or non-combustible?

- [ ] Ensure that your combustible siding has nothing against it that can catch fire. Establish and maintain a 1.5m non combustible zone around the perimeter of your home. This area should be highly prioritized and maintained to offer the best protection to your home in its current state. The best form of mitigation would be to replace your siding with a non-combustible material such as cement-fibre board.

Base of walls: Is there a minimum of 6" (15cm) of non-combustible material at the base of all structure walls (foundation clearance or non-combustible flashing/strapping) to prevent ignition from radiant or convective ignition sources?

- [ ] Install a minimum of 6" (15cm) of non-combustible material around the entire perimeter of the structure at ground level or exposure concrete foundation in order to prevent the ignition of combustible walls from radiant or convective heat sources. In doing so, ensure you are not creating any new gaps, cracks or holes.

Are overhangs and/or other unenclosed areas properly mitigated? (Select all that apply).

- [ ] Ensure that combustible material is removed during the wildfire season (April - October). Enclosing the exposed insulation will also better protect your home from embers that can lodge and accumulate, causing igntion.

Doors: Are garage, storm and entry way doors properly mitigated and in good condition?

- [ ] It is critical all doors, especially garage doors, are sealed tight around their entire perimeter when closed. Any openings provide an opportunity for embers to blow inside and ignite combustible materials. Regularly inspect doors to ensure they close snug and replace any damaged weather stripping, door sweeps, sill plates, strike plates & latches, door windows and window seals.

DECKS, PORCHES AND STRUCTURE ATTACHMENTS

Deck materials

- [ ] Ensure that any accumulated debris is regularly cleaned. Fine debris such as pine needles, leaves, etc. will accumulate in between the deck boards and on top of the joists under the deck. Inspect and clean these areas regularly between April - October.

Deck connections: Is there a minimum of 15cm (6") non-combustible clearance on the wall at the wall-to-deck junction and/or are the ledger boards, joists, and unions properly mitigated?

- [ ] Ensure that a 6 inch non-combustible protective layer is installed around the base perimeter of your home. This will help prevent embers igniting at the base of your siding.

Items on deck: Are all decks and balconies’ free of combustible material (fire wood, tree needles/leaf litter, patio furniture, planters, hanging baskets etc.)?

- [ ] Ensure to clear accumulations of combustible material from your deck regularly. During wildfire season (April - October), remove flammable materials from the deck before leaving the house, such as combustible patio furniture, cushions, planters, toys and tools. Take particular care to maintain the area where the deck joins the wall of your home.

IMMEDIATE ZONE (0 - 1.5M)

Non-combustible surface: Is there a non-combustible surface extending around the entire home and any attachments such as decks?

- [ ] Creating a 1.5m non-combustible surface around the entire perimeter of a structure and any attachments such as decks, provides an incredible amount of protection from ignition caused by both direct flame and embers. This can be achieved by installing gravel, stone, pavers, concrete, mineral soil or any other material that is non-combustible.

Live and dead vegetation: If shrubs, trees or tree branches are present in the Immediate Zone, are they properly mitigated? Are grasses, flammable plants, tree needles, leaf litter and other combustible materials absent from the Immediate Zone?

- [ ] Ensure that woody shrubs, trees, and tree branches in the Immediate Zone are maintained and this space is free of combustible debris throughout wildfire season (often April to October). Having dead and flammable vegetation removed from the Immediate Zone is one of the most significant factors in the survivability of your home during a wildfire event.

Immediate Zone combustibles: Is the Immediate Zone, extending around the entire structure and any structure overhangs free of combustible stored belongings such as tires, furniture, sporting equipment and lumber?

- [ ] The Immediate Zone is the most significant priority zone and it is incredibly important not to store combustible materials here. These items may ignite due to either radiant heat or embers and spread fire to the structure. Remove combustible materials from the walls to at least 10m away or store them in a FireSmart structure.

Under decks: Is the area under all decks and extensions clear of combustible materials?

- [ ] The area under your decks and extensions should be clear of combustible material during the summer months. This means relocating any combustible material to a non -combustible storage container or shed, and removing items such as pillows or furniture if you are to be away from your home for an extended period. The presence of combustible material under your home must be seen as a potential threat and mitigating these areas during the fire season (April - October) must be prioritized.

INTERMEDIATE ZONE (1.5 TO 10M)

Trees: Are trees appropriately mitigated?

- [ ] Break up the vertical and horizontal fuel continuity by limbing trees off the ground (ideally to at least 2m), separating conifer crown canopies (ideally to at least 3m) and promoting deciduous vegetation in all priority zones. Ensure that any branches near your home are limbed above your roof line to reduce the radiant heat and ember exposure.

Fine fuels: Are deep accumulations of fine fuels such as tree needles, leaves, mulches and grasses raked away from trees in Intermediate Zone?

- [ ] Remove accumulations of fuels from beneath and adjacent to any trees. If these fuels ignited, they could carry fire into the trees canopy creating significant radiant heat exposure, ember production and provide an opportunity for fire to spread from tree-to-tree or from a tree to a structure.

Are junipers, cedar hedges, or other highly flammable plants absent from the Intermediate Zone?

- [ ] Remove all junipers, cedars or other highly flammable plants. This type of resinous vegetation creates significant radiant heat exposure and produce large amounts of embers when ignited, threatening your home and property. Refer to the FireSmart BC Landscape Hub to identify these plants and select appropriate replacements.

Are all grasses and weeds cut to a maximum of 10cm or less?

- [ ] Ensure that all grass and weeds are maintained to a maximum height of 10cm throughout wildfire season (often April to October). Keeping this vegetation cut low prevents or significantly decreases the ability of a surface fire to approach your home, other structures, or other receptive vegetation.

Surface fuels: Are heavy accumulations of branches, logs, tree needles, leaves and wood chips removed from Intermediate Zone?

- [ ] Reducing the amount of combustible material on your property can reduce the risk of any potential fire igniting these heavier fuels and increasing fire intensity. If fuels are unable to be removed, ensure they are isolated, discontinuous, away from trees structures and belongings and not connected via fuel pathways (i.e., the area around them is free of combustible material or they are on a non-combustible surface.)

EXTENDED ZONE (10 TO 30M)

Conifers: Is there proper crown spacing between conifers (spruce, pine, fir, cedar, larch trees) and/or appropriate clumping in the Intermediate and Extended Zones?

- [ ] Break up the vertical and horizontal tree continuity by limbing trees off the ground (ideally to at least 2m), separating conifer crown canopies (ideally to at least 3m) and promoting deciduous vegetation. Coniferous tree species have volatile resins in their needles and sap which makes them far more flammable than deciduous trees, which do not have these resins, instead holding more water in their tissues.

Flammable shrubs: Are flammable shrubs well-spaced and removed from the drip line of "keep" trees in the Extended Zone?

- [ ] Remove all marked shrubs. Any shrubs you will be retaining, remove excessive growth, limb up the ground level branches and regularly remove any accumulated dead material (stems, dead leaves, grass, etc.).

Low limbing: Are the lowest branches in the Intermediate and Extended Zones, removed within 2-3m from the ground or limbed to 1/3 the height of the tree, whichever is less?

- [ ] If a tree is surrounded by a non-combustible surface such as rock beyond a single trees' dripline, limbing to the height of 2m may not be required. If limbing a tree to 2m or greater removes more than 1/3 of the canopy, consider removing the entire tree. When selecting trees for removal pick the 3 D's first: Dead, dying and diseased.

Surface fuels: Are heavy accumulations of dead branches, logs, tree needles and wood chips removed in the Extended Zone?

- [ ] Reducing the amount of combustible material in the Extended Zone can reduce the risk of any potential fire igniting in these fuels and if they did ignite, fire behaviour and fire intensity will be reduced. Fire exclusion may not be possible in this zone so focus on reducing the ability for fire to find fuel, spread and become more vigorous. Do fuel mitigation work in the extended Zone

ACCESSORY STRUCTURES & PERSONAL PROPERTY

Detached accessory structures: Are other structures in any of the three priority zones properly mitigated?

- [ ] Structures within 10 meters of your home should be mitigated to the same standard as your home. This means establishing a 1.5 meter non-combustible zone, have all gaps and holes mitigated for embers, and enclosing any space underneath so that embers can not accumulate underneath.

Firewood: Are firewood piles stored at least 10m from all structures and are there at least 3m of clearance between the piles and the closest conifer branches?

- [ ] Remove firewood at least 10m from all structures and place on a non-combustible surface or store within a FireSmart structure or structural attachment. Ensure there is at least 3m of clearance between firewood piles and any conifer branches. In the event the pile were to catch fire, you do not want it to spread to other fuels or structures.

Propane tanks: Are propane tanks properly mitigated?

- [ ] Ensure propane tanks are located on a non-combustible surface, 10m from radiant or convective heat sources, all connections are in good working condition, and where supply lines may enter the home, no cracks or gaps are present which may allow ember impingement and ignition of the structure.

Other items: Are other combustible items (scrap lumber, junk, cars, boats, rvs, etc.) properly mitigated?

- [ ] Combustible items should be stored in a non-combustible shed when not in use, and at least 10m away from any structure or significant fuel sources such as coniferous trees.

INSURANCE

Underinsurance: Are you aware that a large percentage of homeowners are NOT adequately insured?

- [ ] Understand how your home insurance renewal date may be affected by an active wildfire in your region.

Home inventory: Have you conducted a home inventory and stored it in a safe place outside of your home?

- [ ] Document items found in your home, renovations undertaken, specific valuables and any FireSmart mitigation efforts you have undertaken to protect your home and property. An easy way to accomplish this is by taking a walk-through video of your home and property highlighting the aforementioned elements and saving it in a secure place.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Evacuation: Have you practiced and/or actually evacuated your home?

- [ ] During an 'Evacuation Alert' you may be evacuated at a moment's notice so preparing and practicing to leave as soon as possible is critical. Establish and practice at least two evacuation routes from your home and have a designated muster station away from your home that every family member/occupant is aware of. Understand what routes out of your community may be most beneficial for you exit through in the event of an Evacuation Order. An 'Evacuation Order' means you must leave immediately, and you will have only a very limited amount of time to gather your belongings and leave the affected area. Don't be caught unprepared. Visit the FireSmart Canada website for evacuation materials: https://firesmartcanada.ca/resources#Checklists

Belongings: Have you prepared a disaster evacuation kit and a list of items to take with you?

- [ ] Plan ahead what important items you and your family will need to take with you such as medication, important documents, spare glasses, electronics chargers, computer hard drives etc. and be prepared to be evacuated for at least 72 hours without electricity or water. A list of common items to include in an emergency evacuation kit can be found here: https://www.getprepared.gc.ca/cnt/rsrcs/pblctns/yprprdnssgd/yprprdnssgd-eng.pdf

Communication: Have you planned how your family will stay in contact (and where you will meet) if separated during a wildfire?

- [ ] Establishing a pre-determined location to stay outside of the affected area can significantly reduce the stress of being relocated during an evacuation order. Evacuation centers can become quite crowded and depending on the situation, may have limited availability for pets and personal space.

Pets: Do you have a plan for evacuating your pets?

- [ ] It is important you have the right equipment, tools, trailers, pet carriers etc. necessary to evacuate your pets during an emergency. Make your pets familiar with these items and comfortable with their use. During an Evacuation Order you will have a limited amount of time to load and evacuate pets with you.

Address marker: Is there a proper property address marker?

- [ ] Your address marker should be highly visible, placed at the base of your property where it meets a connecting road and erected on a non-combustible post or feature to ensure it is not lost during a wildfire event. Having emergency personnel find your home is critical to an effective response for all emergencies.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Neighbours: Have you talked to your neighbours about coordinating mitigation efforts?

- [ ] Connecting with your neighbours regarding FireSmart practices and efforts can lead to more resilient communities and a greater sense of belonging. Consider starting or joining a FireSmart Canada Neighbourhood Recognized Program (FCNRP) to participate in wildfire mitigation efforts and collaboration. More information on the FCNRP can be found here: https://firesmartbc.ca/firesmart-canada-neighbourhood-recognition-program-fcnrp/

ROOF AND EAVES

1) What is the roof type? (Select all that apply).

Asphalt

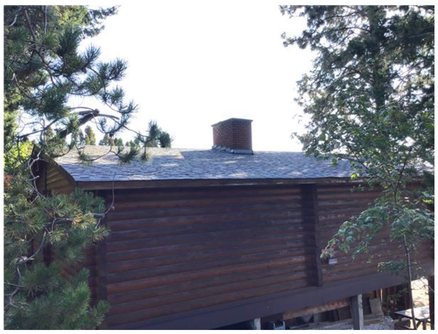

Figure 1

2) Condition: Is the roof in good condition?

YES

3) Roof design: Are dormers and other complex roof features mitigated to help prevent ignition (roof valleys, vertical wall junctions, chimney to roof seam, etc.)?

YES (PASS ALL)

ROOF AND EAVES

4) Debris: Are the roof, gutters, eaves, chimney, solar panels and skylights free of combustible debris (tree needles, moss, lichen, leaves and nests)? (Select all that apply).

Roof

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

It is important to ensure that the roof, eaves, chimney, solar panels and skylights are free of combustible debris throughout the wildfire season (often April to October). Inspect and remove debris twice annually or after significant weather events. Ensure these features are not damaged and replace/repair them as needed to restore their function and resilience.

Figure 1

ROOF AND EAVES

5) Gutters: Is the roof edge above the gutters protected by metal angle flashing and are the gutters and downspouts non-combustible?

Metal angle flashing above gutters

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Install metal angle flashing or drip edge where gutters are installed to protect the roof and any exposed fascia board from ignition. Ignited debris in the gutters can spread into the roof if this flashing/drip edge is not present.

Figure 1

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6) Eaves: Are open eaves and/or soffits properly mitigated and in good condition?

Mitigate open eaves

SIDING, VENTS & OPENINGS

1) Siding type: Is the siding combustible or non-combustible?

Combustible: Mitigate Priority Zone

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Ensure that your combustible siding has nothing against it that can catch fire. Establish and maintain a 1.5m non combustible zone around the perimeter of your home. This area should be highly prioritized and maintained to offer the best protection to your home in its current state. The best form of mitigation would be to replace your siding with a non-combustible material such as cement-fibre board.

Figure 1

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2) Siding condition: Is the siding free of gaps, holes, or other areas where embers could accumulate, lodge, or penetrate?

YES

SIDING, VENTS & OPENINGS

3) Base of walls: Is there a minimum of 6" (15cm) of non-combustible material at the base of all structure walls (foundation clearance or non-combustible flashing/strapping) to prevent ignition from radiant or convective ignition sources?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Install a minimum of 6" (15cm) of non-combustible material around the entire perimeter of the structure at ground level or exposure concrete foundation in order to prevent the ignition of combustible walls from radiant or convective heat sources. In doing so, ensure you are not creating any new gaps, cracks or holes.

Figure 1

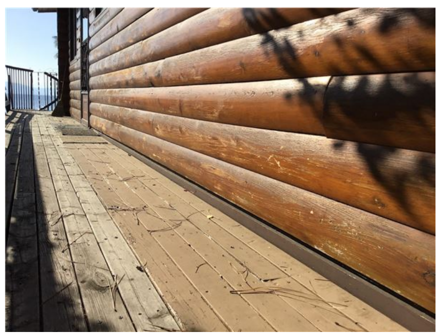

Figure 2

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4) Vents: Are vents properly mitigated? (Select all that apply).

YES (PASS ALL)

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5) Windows: Are there any single pane windows present on the structure? Are all windows in good condition? Are tempered glass windows present where required? (Select all that apply).

YES (PASS ALL)

SIDING, VENTS & OPENINGS

6) Are overhangs and/or other unenclosed areas properly mitigated? (Select all that apply).

Overhangs

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Ensure that combustible material is removed during the wildfire season (April - October). Enclosing the exposed insulation will also better protect your home from embers that can lodge and accumulate, causing igntion.

Figure 1

Figure 2

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7) Other openings: Are other openings (utility line holes, air conditioners, dog/cat doors, crawl space doors, cellar doors, etc.) properly mitigated?

YES

SIDING, VENTS & OPENINGS

8) Doors: Are garage, storm and entry way doors properly mitigated and in good condition?

Gaps, Weather stripping

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

It is critical all doors, especially garage doors, are sealed tight around their entire perimeter when closed. Any openings provide an opportunity for embers to blow inside and ignite combustible materials. Regularly inspect doors to ensure they close snug and replace any damaged weather stripping, door sweeps, sill plates, strike plates & latches, door windows and window seals.

Figure 1

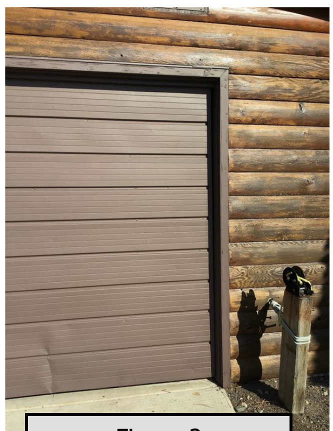

Figure 2

DECKS, PORCHES AND STRUCTURE ATTACHMENTS

1) Is there a minimum 1.5m separation between any combustible fence or combustible landscaping materials (ex: landscape timbers, combustible lawn edging) to a structures wall or overhang?

YES

DECKS, PORCHES AND STRUCTURE ATTACHMENTS

2) Deck materials

Non-Rated Wood

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Ensure that any accumulated debris is regularly cleaned. Fine debris such as pine needles, leaves, etc. will accumulate in between the deck boards and on top of the joists under the deck. Inspect and clean these areas regularly between April - October.

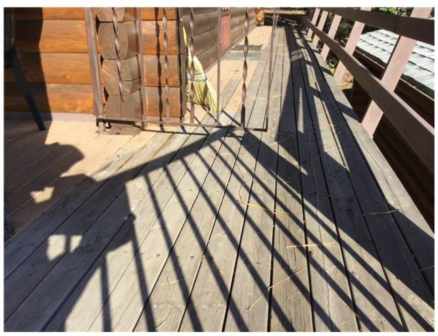

Figure 1

Figure 2

DECKS, PORCHES AND STRUCTURE ATTACHMENTS

3) Deck connections: Is there a minimum of 15cm (6") non-combustible clearance on the wall at the wall-to-deck junction and/or are the ledger boards, joists, and unions properly mitigated?

Deck surface at siding

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Ensure that a 6 inch non-combustible protective layer is installed around the base perimeter of your home. This will help prevent embers igniting at the base of your siding.

Figure 1

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4) Deck condition: Are deck boards or solid surface decks in good condition (free from rot and large cracks) and/or is the deck board spacing adequate to allow for embers to fall between them?

YES

DECKS, PORCHES AND STRUCTURE ATTACHMENTS

5) Items on deck: Are all decks and balconies' free of combustible material (fire wood, tree needles/leaf litter, patio furniture, planters, hanging baskets etc.)?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Ensure to clear accumulations of combustible material from your deck regularly. During wildfire season (April - October), remove flammable materials from the deck before leaving the house, such as combustible patio furniture, cushions, planters, toys and tools. Take particular care to maintain the area where the deck joins the wall of your home.

Figure 1

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6) Other attachments: Are other attachments such as staircases, trellis', arbors, dog houses, lattice walls, landings, storage bins, items on walls (bird houses, hose reels etc.) properly mitigated?

N/A

IMMEDIATE ZONE (0 - 1.5M)

1) Non-combustible surface: Is there a non-combustible surface extending around the entire home and any attachments such as decks?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Creating a 1.5m non-combustible surface around the entire perimeter of a structure and any attachments such as decks, provides an incredible amount of protection from ignition caused by both direct flame and embers. This can be achieved by installing gravel, stone, pavers, concrete, mineral soil or any other material that is non-combustible.

Figure 1

Figure 2

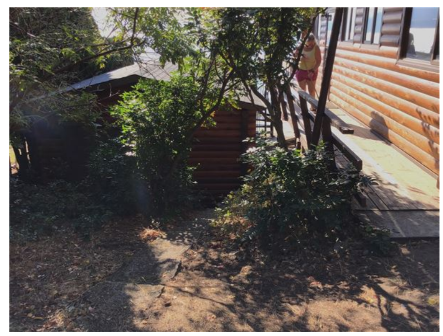

Figure 3

IMMEDIATE ZONE (0 - 1.5M)

2) Live and dead vegetation: If shrubs, trees or tree branches are present in the Immediate Zone, are they properly mitigated? Are grasses, flammable plants, tree needles, leaf litter and other combustible materials absent from the Immediate Zone?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Ensure that woody shrubs, trees, and tree branches in the Immediate Zone are maintained and this space is free of combustible debris throughout wildfire season (often April to October). Having dead and flammable vegetation removed from the Immediate Zone is one of the most significant factors in the survivability of your home during a wildfire event.

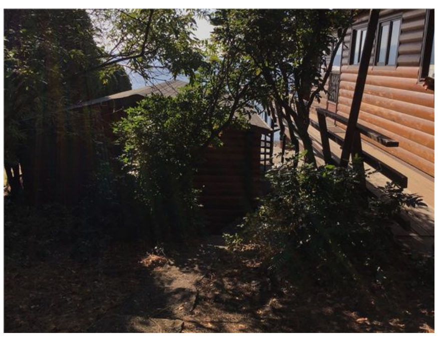

Figure 1

Figure 2

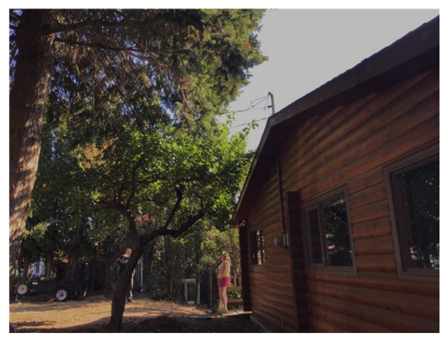

Figure 3

IMMEDIATE ZONE (0 - 1.5M)

3) Immediate Zone combustibles: Is the Immediate Zone, extending around the entire structure and any structure overhangs free of combustible stored belongings such as tires, furniture, sporting equipment and lumber?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

The Immediate Zone is the most significant priority zone and it is incredibly important not to store combustible materials here. These items may ignite due to either radiant heat or embers and spread fire to the structure. Remove combustible materials from the walls to at least 10m away or store them in a FireSmart structure.

Figure 1

Figure 2

IMMEDIATE ZONE (0 - 1.5M)

4) Under decks: Is the area under all decks and extensions clear of combustible materials?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

The area under your decks and extensions should be clear of combustible material during the summer months. This means relocating any combustible material to a non-combustible storage container or shed, and removing items such as pillows or furniture if you are to be away from your home for an extended period. The presence of combustible material under your home must be seen as a potential threat and mitigating these areas during the fire season (April - October) must be prioritized.

Figure 1

Figure 2

INTERMEDIATE ZONE (1.5 TO 10M)

1) Trees: Are trees appropriately mitigated?

Limb ladder fuels

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Break up the vertical and horizontal fuel continuity by limbing trees off the ground (ideally to at least 2m), separating conifer crown canopies (ideally to at least 3m) and promoting deciduous vegetation in all priority zones. Ensure that any branches near your home are limbed above your roof line to reduce the radiant heat and ember exposure.

Figure 1

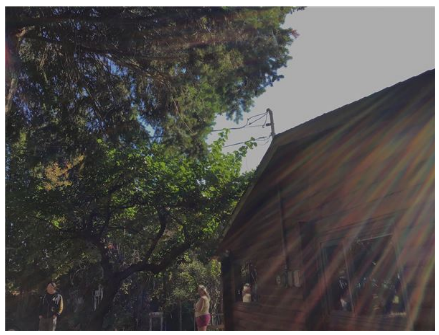

Figure 2

INTERMEDIATE ZONE (1.5 TO 10M)

2) Fine fuels: Are deep accumulations of fine fuels such as tree needles, leaves, mulches and grasses raked away from trees in Intermediate Zone?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Remove accumulations of fuels from beneath and adjacent to any trees. If these fuels ignited, they could carry fire into the trees canopy creating significant radiant heat exposure, ember production and provide an opportunity for fire to spread from tree-to-tree or from a tree to a structure.

Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3

INTERMEDIATE ZONE (1.5 TO 10M)

3) Are junipers, cedar hedges, or other highly flammable plants absent from the Intermediate Zone?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Remove all junipers, cedars or other highly flammable plants. This type of resinous vegetation creates significant radiant heat exposure and produce large amounts of embers when ignited, threatening your home and property. Refer to the FireSmart BC Landscape Hub to identify these plants and select appropriate replacements.

Figure 1

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4) Shrubs: Are shrubs well spaced and removed from the drip line of "keep" trees in Intermediate Zone?

YES

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5) Are all grasses and weeds cut to a maximum of 10cm or less?

YES

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Ensure that all grass and weeds are maintained to a maximum height of 10cm throughout wildfire season (often April to October). Keeping this vegetation cut low prevents or significantly decreases the ability of a surface fire to approach your home, other structures, or other receptive vegetation.

INTERMEDIATE ZONE (1.5 TO 10M)

6) Surface fuels: Are heavy accumulations of branches, logs, tree needles, leaves and wood chips removed from Intermediate Zone?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Reducing the amount of combustible material on your property can reduce the risk of any potential fire igniting these heavier fuels and increasing fire intensity. If fuels are unable to be removed, ensure they are isolated, discontinuous, away from trees structures and belongings and not connected via fuel pathways (i.e., the area around them is free of combustible material or they are on a non-combustible surface.)

Figure 1

Figure 2

EXTENDED ZONE (10 TO 30M)

1) Topography: Is there adequate downslope and flanking slope fuel mitigation completed to accommodate for 'FireSmart slope adjustment'?

N/A

EXTENDED ZONE (10 TO 30M)

2) Conifers: Is there proper crown spacing between conifers (spruce, pine, fir, cedar, larch trees) and/or appropriate clumping in the Intermediate and Extended Zones?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Break up the vertical and horizontal tree continuity by limbing trees off the ground (ideally to at least 2m), separating conifer crown canopies (ideally to at least 3m) and promoting deciduous vegetation. Coniferous tree species have volatile resins in their needles and sap which makes them far more flammable than deciduous trees, which do not have these resins, instead holding more water in their tissues.

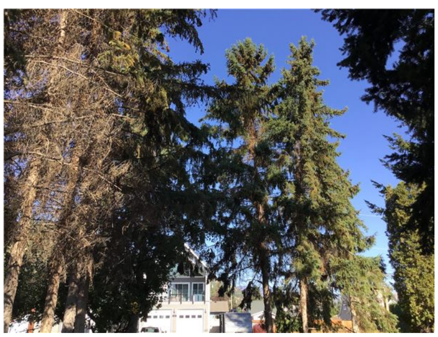

Figure 1

Figure 2

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3) Are low flammability deciduous trees present in the Intermediate and Extended Zones?

YES

EXTENDED ZONE (10 TO 30M)

4) Flammable shrubs: Are flammable shrubs well-spaced and removed from the drip line of "keep" trees in the Extended Zone?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Remove all marked shrubs. Any shrubs you will be retaining, remove excessive growth, limb up the ground level branches and regularly remove any accumulated dead material (stems, dead leaves, grass, etc.).

Figure 1

EXTENDED ZONE (10 TO 30M)

5) Low limbing: Are the lowest branches in the Intermediate and Extended Zones, removed within 2-3m from the ground or limbed to 1/3 the height of the tree, whichever is less?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

If a tree is surrounded by a non-combustible surface such as rock beyond a single trees' dripline, limbing to the height of 2m may not be required. If limbing a tree to 2m or greater removes more than 1/3 of the canopy, consider removing the entire tree. When selecting trees for removal pick the 3 D's first: Dead, dying and diseased.

Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3

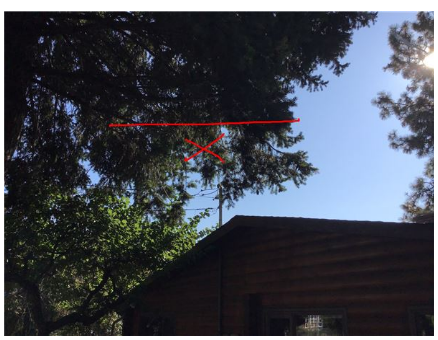

Figure 4

Figure 5

EXTENDED ZONE (10 TO 30M)

6) Surface fuels: Are heavy accumulations of dead branches, logs, tree needles and wood chips removed in the Extended Zone?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Reducing the amount of combustible material in the Extended Zone can reduce the risk of any potential fire igniting in these fuels and if they did ignite, fire behaviour and fire intensity will be reduced. Fire exclusion may not be possible in this zone so focus on reducing the ability for fire to find fuel, spread and become more vigorous. Do fuel mitigation work in the extended Zone

Figure 1

ACCESSORY STRUCTURES & PERSONAL PROPERTY

1) Detached accessory structures: Are other structures in any of the three priority zones properly mitigated?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Structures within 10 meters of your home should be mitigated to the same standard as your home. This means establishing a 1.5 meter non-combustible zone, have all gaps and holes mitigated for embers, and enclosing any space underneath so that embers can not accumulate underneath.

Figure 1

ACCESSORY STRUCTURES & PERSONAL PROPERTY

2) Firewood: Are firewood piles stored at least 10m from all structures and are there at least 3m of clearance between the piles and the closest conifer branches?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Remove firewood at least 10m from all structures and place on a non-combustible surface or store within a FireSmart structure or structural attachment. Ensure there is at least 3m of clearance between firewood piles and any conifer branches. In the event the pile were to catch fire, you do not want it to spread to other fuels or structures.

Figure 1

ACCESSORY STRUCTURES & PERSONAL PROPERTY

3) Propane tanks: Are propane tanks properly mitigated?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Ensure propane tanks are located on a non-combustible surface, 10m from radiant or convective heat sources, all connections are in good working condition, and where supply lines may enter the home, no cracks or gaps are present which may allow ember impingement and ignition of the structure.

Figure 1

Figure 2

ACCESSORY STRUCTURES & PERSONAL PROPERTY

4) Other items: Are other combustible items (scrap lumber, junk, cars, boats, rvs, etc.) properly mitigated?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Combustible items should be stored in a non-combustible shed when not in use, and at least 10m away from any structure or significant fuel sources such as coniferous trees.

Figure 1

Figure 2

INSURANCE

1) Underinsurance: Are you aware that a large percentage of homeowners are NOT adequately insured?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Understand how your home insurance renewal date may be affected by an active wildfire in your region.

INSURANCE

2) Home inventory: Have you conducted a home inventory and stored it in a safe place outside of your home?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Document items found in your home, renovations undertaken, specific valuables and any FireSmart mitigation efforts you have undertaken to protect your home and property. An easy way to accomplish this is by taking a walk-through video of your home and property highlighting the aforementioned elements and saving it in a secure place.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

1) Evacuation: Have you practiced and/or actually evacuated your home?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

During an ‘Evacuation Alert’ you may be evacuated at a moment’s notice so preparing and practicing to leave as soon as possible is critical. Establish and practice at least two evacuation routes from your home and have a designated muster station away from your home that every family member/occupant is aware of. Understand what routes out of your community may be most beneficial for you exit through in the event of an Evacuation Order. An ‘Evacuation Order’ means you must leave immediately, and you will have only a very limited amount of time to gather your belongings and leave the affected area. Don’t be caught unprepared. Visit the FireSmart Canada website for evacuation materials: https://firesmartcanada.ca/resources#Checklists

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EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

2) Belongings: Have you prepared a disaster evacuation kit and a list of items to take with you?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Plan ahead what important items you and your family will need to take with you such as medication, important documents, spare glasses, electronics chargers, computer hard drives etc. and be prepared to be evacuated for at least 72 hours without electricity or water. A list of common items to include in an emergency evacuation kit can be found here: https://www.getprepared.gc.ca/cnt/rsrcs/pblctns/yprprdnssgd/yprprdnssgd-eng.pdf

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3) Communication: Have you planned how your family will stay in contact (and where you will meet) if separated during a wildfire?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Establishing a pre-determined location to stay outside of the affected area can significantly reduce the stress of being relocated during an evacuation order. Evacuation centers can become quite crowded and depending on the situation, may have limited availability for pets and personal space.

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4) Pets: Do you have a plan for evacuating your pets?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

It is important you have the right equipment, tools, trailers, pet carriers etc. necessary to evacuate your pets during an emergency. Make your pets familiar with these items and comfortable with their use. During an Evacuation Order you will have a limited amount of time to load and evacuate pets with you.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

5) Address marker: Is there a proper property address marker?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Your address marker should be highly visible, placed at the base of your property where it meets a connecting road and erected on a non-combustible post or feature to ensure it is not lost during a wildfire event. Having emergency personnel find your home is critical to an effective response for all emergencies.

Figure 1

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

1) Neighbours: Have you talked to your neighbours about coordinating mitigation efforts?

NO

Mitigation Specialist Comment(s):

Connecting with your neighbours regarding FireSmart practices and efforts can lead to more resilient communities and a greater sense of belonging. Consider starting or joining a FireSmart Canada Neighbourhood Recognized Program (FCNRP) to participate in wildfire mitigation efforts and collaboration. More information on the FCNRP can be found here: https://firesmartbc.ca/firesmart-canada-neighbourhood-recognition-program-fcnrp/

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

2) Community: Would you like more information on existing wildfire programs in your community?

YES

GENERAL COMMENTS

Mitigation Specialist's General Comments

Thank you for inviting me to your home and property. Please follow the recommended steps to achieve a more resilient FireSmart home. Please reach out if you have any questions at firesmart@rdco.com. Thank you.