

FireSmart your Home, Neighbourhood and Community

Wildfire season is around the corner and the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) would like to remind residents of the steps they can take to FireSmart their homes, neighbourhoods and communities.

Review and update your Emergency Plan

The [Wildfire Preparedness Guide](#) can assist in preparing for wildfires. Take the time to review your plan and incorporate [COVID-19 preparedness](#) measures. Our website provides [information and resources](#) to help you prepare for local hazards as well as information on the [Neighbourhood Emergency Preparedness Program](#).

FireSmart Your Home and Property

Now is a great time to clean up your yard and do a FireSmart assessment of your home and property. Take the free [FireSmart 101 Online Course](#) which provides a great introduction to FireSmart. You'll learn about the Wildland Urban Interface, why FireSmart is needed now more than ever, the seven FireSmart principles and much more. Visit the [FireSmart BC](#) website to learn how you can help prepare for the upcoming wildfire season

Funding for Vegetation Management

The RDN has received a grant from UBCM to implement FireSmart activities across the region. The Community Resiliency Investment FireSmart grant will provide yard waste disposal bins to 20 neighbourhood and community vegetation management events. If your community or neighbourhood is interested in completing FireSmart activities, now is the time. Gather (while maintaining physical distance) your neighbours and contact the RDN Fire Services at 250-390-6756 or email emergencyservices@rdn.bc.ca.

Spider Lake Recognized for Community FireSmart Efforts

The Spider Lake FireSmart Board has achieved FireSmart Canada Community Recognition for its efforts to reduce wildfire threats around homes and the community. In 2020, Spider Lake hosted their first community event to clean up vegetation and in 2019, they organized a FireSmart Board, completed a community assessment and held FireSmart events. These efforts earned them community recognition for working together to reduce the intensity of a wildfire and influence how a wildfire will approach the community.

Get Involved RDN!

Interested in achieving FireSmart Canada Community Recognition? Take your FireSmart activities one step further by visiting [FireSmart Canada](#).

Provincial Fire Bans and Restrictions

Most open burning activities throughout British Columbia are now [prohibited](#). The following activities are prohibited: Category 2 open fires; Category 3 open fires; Resource Management open fires; the use of fireworks; the use of sky lanterns; and the use of burn barrels or burn cages of any size or description (except when used for a campfire). Restrictions will remain in effect until the public is otherwise notified

These prohibitions apply to all public and private land within British Columbia, unless specified otherwise (e.g., in a local government bylaw). A map of the affected areas is available [here](#).

For more information, please review the information bulletin found [here](#).

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For more information, please contact:

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