<u>Characteristics of Highly</u> <u>Flammable Plants</u>

- ♦ Aromatic leaves or needles
- Accumulations of fine, dry, dead material
- ♦ Resin or oils
- Contain fine, dry, dead material within the plant
- Loose, papery, or flaky bark

Plants to Avoid

These plants are combustible and can act as fuel in a wildfire event.

Cedar

Juniper

Pine

Tall Grasses

Spruce

Broom

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

Additional Resources:

Becoming FireSmart in the RDN: www.rdn.bc.ca/firesmart

RDN Team WaterSmart (Native Plant Information): www.rdn.bc.ca/team-watersmart

FireSmart Canada Website: www.firesmart.ca

FireSmart BC Website: www.firesmartbc.ca

Regional District of Nanaimo

6300 Hammond Bay Rd. Nanaimo, BC V9T 6N2

Phone: 250-390-4111

E-mail: emergencyservices@rdn.bc.ca

FireSmart for the Regional District of Nanaimo

A Guide to Native Plants





FireSmart Friendly: Species to Plant

These native species are classified as being Fire Resistant.

Shrubs

Mock Orange Oregon Grape

Salal

Evergreen Huckleberry

Willows (Scouler's, Sitka)

Red-twig Dogwood

Salmonberry

Flowering Current

Oval-leaved Blueberry

Rose

Cascara

Snowberry



Groundcover

Kinnikinnick

Sedges

Sedum

Bunchberry



Perennials & Biennials

Wild Ginger

Yarrow

Pearly Everlasting

Marsh Violet

Trees

Garry Oak

Vine Maple

Black Hawthorn

Crabapple (Western, Pacific)

Birch (Paper, White)

Weeping Willow

Bulbs

Onions



Columbine

Wild Strawberry

Saxifrage

Lavender

Sage, Perennial Salvia

Coast Penstemon

Lupine

White-Flag Iris





Characteristics of Fire-Resistant Plants

- Moist, supple leaves
- Little dead wood and tendency not to accumulate dead material
- Water-like sap with little or no odour
- Low amount of sap or resin material

FireSmart plants do not readily ignite from flame or other ignition sources.

⇒ Their foliage and stems do not significantly contribute or add to the fuel and fire intensity.

Benefits of Native Species

- Adapted to local soil and climate conditions. (They do not require excessive watering, chemical fertilizers, or pesticides in order to thrive).
- Native species can thrive in poor soils and can encourage biodiversity.