

Fire Protection in the Regional District of Nanaimo

In British Columbia (B.C.), fire departments are formed under Local Government bylaws. Many areas in B.C. and the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) do not have fire protection, partly due to there being no legal requirement to provide this service. Fire Protection Areas (FPA) enable fire departments to deliver fire protection services to residents and visitors in their area. These FPA's function to establish a taxation area to fund the service provided. Within the RDN, fifteen fire departments provide various levels of fire protection services, rescue services and medical aid responses to their respective residents and areas.



Before buying property or developing land, the RDN strongly recommends property owners and developers check to see if the land in question is within an FPA. Many properties are not within a fire protection service area. Home buyers, property owners or tenants living in these properties may not be aware that they do not have fire protection. This could mean that when you call 911 in an emergency, a fire department will not be coming. This may also impact your home fire insurance rates and potential claims.



Fire Insurance Rating

Fire insurance rates vary depending on critical factors such as fire department capacity, distance to a fire hydrant and fire department response times. To help lower insurance costs to residents, many fire departments in the RDN have become Superior Tanker Shuttle (STS) Accredited with the Fire Underwriters Survey. The Fire Underwriters Survey provides insurance companies with ratings that affect insurance premiums. For example, STS Accreditation by the Fire Underwriters Survey can provide ratings of being near a fire hydrant when no hydrants are within 300 meters, potentially lowering the cost to insure property and belongings for fire-related incidents.


To learn more about Fire Services in the RDN:

- ✓ [Fire Departments](#)
- ✓ [Superior Tanker Accreditation: FAQ](#)
- ✓ [Fire Protection Area Mapping Tool](#)
- ✓ [Outdoor Burning Regulations Webpage](#)

For more information, please contact:

Regional District of Nanaimo

Fire Services Department

 250-390-6565

 fireservices@rdn.bc.ca

Get Involved RDN!