



BUCCANEER BAY
HOLDINGS

COMMUNITY FIRE
PROTECTION PLAN

Submitted by:

BBH Fire Sub-committee



Quick Reference Guide

In the event of a fire

- Ensure all your family and neighbours are accounted for and safe.
- If the fire is small enough use a fire extinguisher, garden hose or whatever is available to suppress the fire.
- Use your air horn to alert your neighbours and to call for assistance.
- Call ***5555** on your cell phone (or **1-800-663-5555**) to notify BC Wildfire Service.
- If help is nearby mobilize a crew to activate the pumps and hoses from the nearest tank farm.

Additional Resources

- **First aid kit** – caretakers' cabin.
- **Spine board** is located behind the Wordworth cabin (old phone booth location).
- **Defibrillators** are located at:
 - Adrian Dejong's cabin
 - McClaren sleeping shack
 - Caretakers' cabin.
- New **Naloxone kits** (for drug overdose) have been provided and will be stored with the defibrillators at the McClaren sleeping shack and the caretakers' cabin. Kelly Noel has sent links to free on-line naloxone training sites:

GPS Coordinates		
Field	49° 29' 339" N 123° 58' 828' W	
Water Bay dock	49° 29' 600" N 123° 58' 827' W	
Second Gap	49° 29' 680" N 123° 59' 381" W	
MEDICAL		
Emergency	911	
Ambulance - Sechelt	(604) 885-5191	
Sechelt Hospital	(604) 885-2224	
	Ambulance pick-up location - Buccaneer Marina & Resort 5535 San Souci Road, Halfmoon Bay, BC	
FIRE		
BC Wildfire Service (BCWS)	Fire	1-800-663-5555 or *5555 on cell
Sunshine Coast Fire Zone (BCWS)	Stephen Gemmell	(236) 468-3940
RCMP	Sechelt	(604) 885-2266
SCRD – Protective Services	Matt Treit	matt.treit@scrd.ca
EMERGENCY RESPONSE		
BBH Fire Marshals	Cam McLennan	(604) 828-8125
	Fraser Exel	(672) 999-5561
	Mark Cornwall	(604) 220-2978
	Rob Deasey	(604) 740-5418
Caretaker	Barry / Karen: (604) 740-2761 (C)	
Sunshine Coast Search & Rescue	info@sunshinecoastsar.ca	
Water taxi	<i>Buccaneer</i> - (604) 885-7888 <i>Thormanby</i> - (604) 885-1212	
Air Horn Protocols		
Fire or Medical Emergency		3 short blasts repeated, approx. 2 seconds
Evacuation		1 long blast repeated, approx. 5 seconds

If you call BC Wildfire (*5555 on your cell phone or 1-800-663-5555), inform dispatch of your situation, e.g. there is a structure fire that is threatening to spread to the nearby forest. BC Wildfire Service **will not respond to a structure (building) fire**. They will only respond if the fire is threatening wildland (the interface between infrastructure and forest) or it started as a wildland fire.

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BC Campfire Regulations
FireSmart in Nine Easy Steps
FireSmart – Home Ignition Zone

1.0 **BBH COMMUNITY FIRE PROTECTION PLANNING**

The Buccaneer Bay Fire Sub-Committee was formed to assist the Buccaneer Bay Holdings Ltd. (BBH) and community in developing a Community Fire Protection Plan. The assessment considered important elements of community fire protection that included communication and education, structure protection, training, emergency response, and vegetation management.

This Plan will provide the community with a framework to guide the development of emergency plans, emergency response, communication and education programs, and the management of forest lands adjacent to the community.

1.1 **Committee Recommendations**

The Buccaneer Bay Fire Sub-Committee recommends the actions be taken by the Board and Shareholders:

Create a Community Fire Plan

Communicate and Educate Shareholders on the Plan

Implement Fire Prevention and Fuel Management

Acquire Fire Fighting Equipment

Provide Emergency Response Training

1.2 **Using this Guidebook**

Buccaneer Bay, and its bordering communities, are not served by municipal fire services and currently no residents are certified first responders. While help may be dispatched for a wildland interface fire, Buccaneer Bay residents are on their own if faced with a fire, possibly for a considerable period of time.

This guidebook was prepared by the Buccaneer Bay Fire Sub-committee. All information provided in this guidebook has been sourced from federal and provincial FireSmart programs, and other emergency management sources, and should not replace common sense, sound judgement or your own research from other reputable sources. Each cabin is responsible for its own preparedness, response and recovery in the event of a fire or another type of emergency.

There is a lot of helpful information in this guidebook – it's intended to be read more than once. Revisit this guidebook annually, prepare yourself and your property, and educate your family and friends about fire safety, preparedness, response, and evacuation best practices.

Using This Guidebook

In an emergency, you may experience limited cell coverage, have insufficient battery power, and/or be physically or emotionally unable to use your cell phone or computer. To ensure you always have access to this guidebook, print a copy and keep it in an easy-to-access location on your property.

Print multiple copies of the Emergency Call-in Sheet (Fire, Medical, Police, Search & Rescue) and leave printouts in your cabin.

Feedback

If you would like to provide feedback or additional information to help improve this guidebook for our community, please email cam@nwproperties.ca.

1.3 Introduction to Buccaneer Bay



The BBH community consists of a narrow gravel road network, private dock and 65 small cabin structures. Each site manages its own power and water supply, and most water is sourced from aquifers or rainwater collection systems. The dock in Water Bay is the primary access to the island and would be integral in any evacuation efforts in the event of a wildfire.

The BBH has a neighbouring community on North Thormanby, Vaucroft, and two Marine Parks; Buccaneer Bay Marine and Simson Provincial Parks. Buccaneer Bay Marine Park hosts many

visitors during high fire season which substantially increases the risk of human-caused fire in its vicinity.

BBH is not located within the Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) fire service area and therefore falls outside of fire protection services. The official fire authority for BBH is the BC Wildfire Service; however they are mandated to only respond to forest fires and wildland interface fires.

Although BC Wildfire Service is the official fire authority for BBH, it does not mean that the agency will have the necessary resources to respond to a wildland fire. Depending on the time of year, the location, size and risk of the fire, the agency may be delayed or not attend a fire. Ultimately, it is each cabin's responsibility to be prepared, respond appropriately and safely, and to evacuate, if necessary, in the event of a fire.

Remember:

If you call BC Wildfire (*5555 on your cell phone or 1-800-663-5555), inform dispatch of your situation, e.g. there is a structure fire that is threatening to spread to the nearby forest. BC Wildfire Service will not respond to an infrastructure fire. They will only respond if the fire is threatening wildland (the interface between infrastructure and forest) or it started as a wildland fire.

2.0 INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL FIRES

2.1 Causes of Wildfire

There are many causes of fire that can lead to wildland fires, several of which have occurred in the past on BBH property.

- Out of control or insufficiently extinguished campfire
- Burn barrel or slash pile burning that gets out of control
- Discarded or un-extinguished barbeque briquettes
- Lightning strike
- Improper disposal of a cigarette butt
- Car engine fire or hot vehicle left near dry grass
- Structure fire due to faulty wiring, appliance malfunction, kitchen fire, etc.
- Combustion of an oily rag
- Generator fire
- Chimney fire
- Kids playing with fire without parental supervision

Remember:

Keep matches and fire making materials in a safe place – talk to young children about how dangerous fire is, especially at Buccaneer Bay. Talk to older children and other visitors, who may be using your property, about the risks of fire on BBH and provide instructions for safe burning. Most fires are human caused!

Cost Recovery and Administrative Penalty – BC Wildfire Act Contraventions

In accordance with the BC Wildfire Act, the Province may determine that a person has contravened a provision of the Act/regulations (for example, by lighting a campfire when/where it was prohibited to do so or by tossing a lit cigarette butt). Fines are also levied for contraventions that do not result in a wildland fire.

If a forest fire results, the Province can order the person to pay:

- an administrative penalty of up to \$100,000;
- the cost to the government of the fire control/suppression work;

- the value of any Crown timber, other land resources and other government property damaged or destroyed by the fire; and
- the costs the government has incurred or will incur to re-establish a free growing stand of timber as a result of the fire.

2.2 Before You Burn

You should always check TWO regulations before you burn:

1. **BC Wildfire Service Bans & Restrictions** – <http://bcfireinfo.for.gov.bc.ca/hprScripts/WildfireNews/Bans.asp>
2. **BC Environment Venting Index Map** (this does not apply to small campfires) – <https://governmentofbc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=6d288bc667b24528a5c1e3b4c0373d07>

Even though open burning may be permitted by the BC Wildfire Service, the Venting Index for BBH (i.e., the Powel River zone) may be RED which means no burning.

Venting indices change daily, so always check before you burn.

2.3 Campfires

Did you know that if you light a campfire, you are legally responsible for making sure it doesn't escape? Anyone found in contravention of an open burning prohibition may be fined \$1,150, or, if charged, fined up to \$1 million and/or sentenced to 3 years in jail.

Remember:

- Campfire bans will be posted on the message board in Water Bay.
- Follow BC Campfire Regulations (see Appendix: BC Campfire Regulations).
- Keep it small, i.e. 0.5 metres x 0.5 metres (1.5 feet x 1.5 feet).
- Select your campfire location carefully – it is best to use an established pit, remove all leaves, twigs and other flammable material from the area and surround the pit with rocks.
- Consider wind strength and direction, overhanging branches or adjacent fuel sources such as leaves and or dry grass.
- All campfires should be located below the high tide line and not adjacent to beach logs.

- Do not leave a campfire unattended.
- Keep a hose connected to a water source, a bucket containing 8 litres of water and a shovel, or a pressurized water extinguisher nearby.
- Completely extinguish your campfire with water before you leave. Stir until there are no embers and the ashes are cold to the touch.
- **WEST SHORE IS NOT AN OPTIMAL LOCATION FOR CAMPFIRES GIVEN THE PROXIMITY TO THE ADJACENT FOREST AND DISTANCE FROM FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT.**



2.4 Open Burning

Other than the annual burn of the yard waste there should be no open burning that qualifies as a category 3 fire under the Wildfire Act. If you are going to use a burn barrel be extremely cautious.

Remember:

- Place the burn barrel far away from structures and trees.
- Keep the area near the burn barrel free of combustible material.
- Consider if it is too windy.
- Start small and add to the fire as it burns – do not ignite all of your combustibles at once!
- Keep a hose connected to a water source, a bucket of water and a shovel, or a pressurized water extinguisher nearby.
- Do not leave the fire unattended.
- Completely extinguish the fire with water before you leave. Stir until there are no embers and the ashes are cold to the touch. **An unextinguished fire can restart days or weeks later!**

2.5 Chimney Fires

A dirty chimney with a lot of creosote and soot build-up is dangerous because these materials burn at very high temperatures, spreading fire through the chimney and roof structure. Therefore, it's important to have your chimney and fireplace/wood stove checked annually.

Some home insurers may actually require that you have a certified Wood Energy Technology Transfer (WETT) professional clean and inspect your chimney periodically (often annually or biannually).

The BBH Fire Committee may coordinate a chimney cleaning event annually (usually late summer) that involves multiple properties per visit to reduce transportation costs.

2.6 Propane Tanks

It's important to note that large propane tanks (propane "pigs") can be extremely dangerous during a fire. Tanks have pressure release valves that release gas if the tank heats up. However, there is the potential for valve malfunction which could result in the whole tank exploding. You don't want to be anywhere near a propane tank during a fire, and you may want to also consider locating your large propane tank away from any structures (e.g. house, cabin, yurt). Large propane tanks (i.e. larger than 40 lbs) should be stored on a non-combustible surface (e.g. gravel or cement pad). While there are currently no regulations, it is recommended that the pressure valves be replaced every 15-20 years.

Smaller propane tanks (e.g. 40 lb tanks used in BBQs) are more susceptible to overheating and exploding. Store tanks in a cool place away from direct heat.

In the event of a fire and if it is safe to do so, turn off your main propane source. You and your family should know where the main shut-off valve for your tank is and how to turn it off.

2.7 Oily Rags

The most common type of spontaneous combustion fire is caused by improperly disposed oil- and stain-soaked rags. Combustible products include oil-based paints and stains, teak, tung and linseed oils, varnishes, polyurethane, and paint thinners.

Oils in rags release heat as they dry; if the heat is not released into the air, it builds up, and can cause a fire.

Remember:

1. Choose water-based finishes instead of oil-based – they are less likely to combust.
2. Never leave oily rags in a pile. Hang the rags outside or spread them on the ground, away from structures.
3. Put dry rags in a metal container (e.g. an old paint can). Fill the container with a water/detergent solution to break down the oils and cover tightly.
4. Keep the container of rags in a cool place, out of direct sunlight and away from other heat sources.
5. To dispose of your containers and/or oily rags check with your local authority or recycling service for disposal options.

2.8 Generators, Flammables and Combustibles

Generators can be a fire source and therefore are best stored away from the house in a non-combustible enclosure.

Also, gasoline or other combustible products should not be stored near a generator or any fire suppression equipment that you may need to access during a fire.

3.0 HOW TO PREPARE FOR A POTENTIAL FIRE

On average, there are more than 1,600 wildfires in BC every year. Sometimes they burn in areas away from houses or infrastructure, with ecological benefits to the landscape. Other times, they can threaten peoples' homes and livelihoods.

The probability of damaging wildfires has increased in recent years due, in part, to the effects of climate change. The Prepared BC Wildfire Preparedness Guide will help you prepare your household, protect your property, and understand what to do if a wildfire is approaching. (https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/embc/preparedbc/preparedbc-guides/wildfire_preparedness_guide.pdf)

3.1 Make Sure You Are Insured

Insuring your property, infrastructure and belongings will assist you in the event of a fire. If you are unable to extinguish a fire on your property or there is a fire moving from another location on the island, knowing that you're insured will give you some peace of mind.

Historically BBH coordinated insurance for all cabins at Buccaneer, but this has changed due to a challenging insurance market. Some cabin owners have shifted to individual home insurance policies. NOTE: Disaster Financial Assistance is not available for losses due to wildfire.

If your property is for recreational use (i.e. you have a permanent residence elsewhere) and you have a structure(s) on your property, you can typically list this as a secondary or seasonal location on your existing policy.

Insuring Named Perils Only

Due to the risks associated with part-time occupation, recreational property insurance is generally provided on a named perils policy instead of a comprehensive or all risks policy.

Named perils policies cover specific risks such as fire or smoke damage. Coverage for certain risks, such as water damage or vandalism, may be more difficult or expensive to arrange due to

part-time occupancy. For example, if a water pipe bursts or if vandals break in while your property is vacant, damage is likely to be more severe because it could take longer for it to be discovered.

It is important to have third party liability coverage as this protects you if someone is hurt on your property or if you start a fire that accidentally spreads to neighbouring properties or forest.

Three Additional Coverages to Consider

1. **Contents.** Some insurance packages automatically include contents up to a certain percentage of the dwelling limit. This applies to contents permanently kept on your property. Anything you take back and forth (such as clothing) is covered by your primary home insurance policy. If inadequate, you may be able to buy additional coverage.
2. **Detached private structures.** Some insurance packages include limited coverage for outbuildings such as boathouses, garages or sheds. This is generally a percentage of the dwelling limit. If inadequate, you may be able to buy additional coverage.
3. **Replacement cost.** This covers the cost of repairing an item or replacing it with a new one, without any deduction for depreciation.

0.2.

3.2 11 Steps to Prepare You and Your Property

Each year, make sure you consider, at a minimum, the following 12 steps to prepare you and your family for the possibility of a fire:

1. Review this Community Fire Protection Plan annually.
2. Review the FireSmart Begins At Home Manual for fire preparedness best practices.
3. Ensure you have a sufficient number of extinguishers around your structures, property and in your vehicle. Use Class ABC fire extinguishers for electrical/grease fires, and Class A water extinguishers for outdoor use (wood, organics).
4. Install and regularly test all smoke detector(s).
5. Ensure you have an air horn, shovel, and buckets for transporting water. You should also invest in one or more pressurized water extinguishers and/or backpack water pumps for

outdoor fires. Keep an extra set of these items in your vehicle – you are most likely to be in your vehicle when you see a fire or are notified of a fire nearby that may be safely extinguished.

6. Clean your chimney annually and your gutters regularly.
7. Ensure you have a source of water for fire response, e.g. a water storage tank (potable or non-potable) that can be connected to fire hose/pump/sprinklers/garden hose/buckets.
8. Consider purchasing enough garden hoses and sprinklers (that connect to your main water source and pump) to keep the perimeter of your structure damp in the event of an approaching fire.
9. Consider placing sprinkler mounts on your roof. This may not be an option if you don't have sufficient water sources to run sprinklers but can be effective in defending your structure(s) from flying embers and increasing the humidity in the air surrounding your structure, especially if your roofing material is combustible.
10. Reacquaint yourself with the location of your main propane shut-off valve.
11. Talk to your family including kids about what to do in case of a fire.

3.3 Protecting Your Structures from Fire - FireSmart

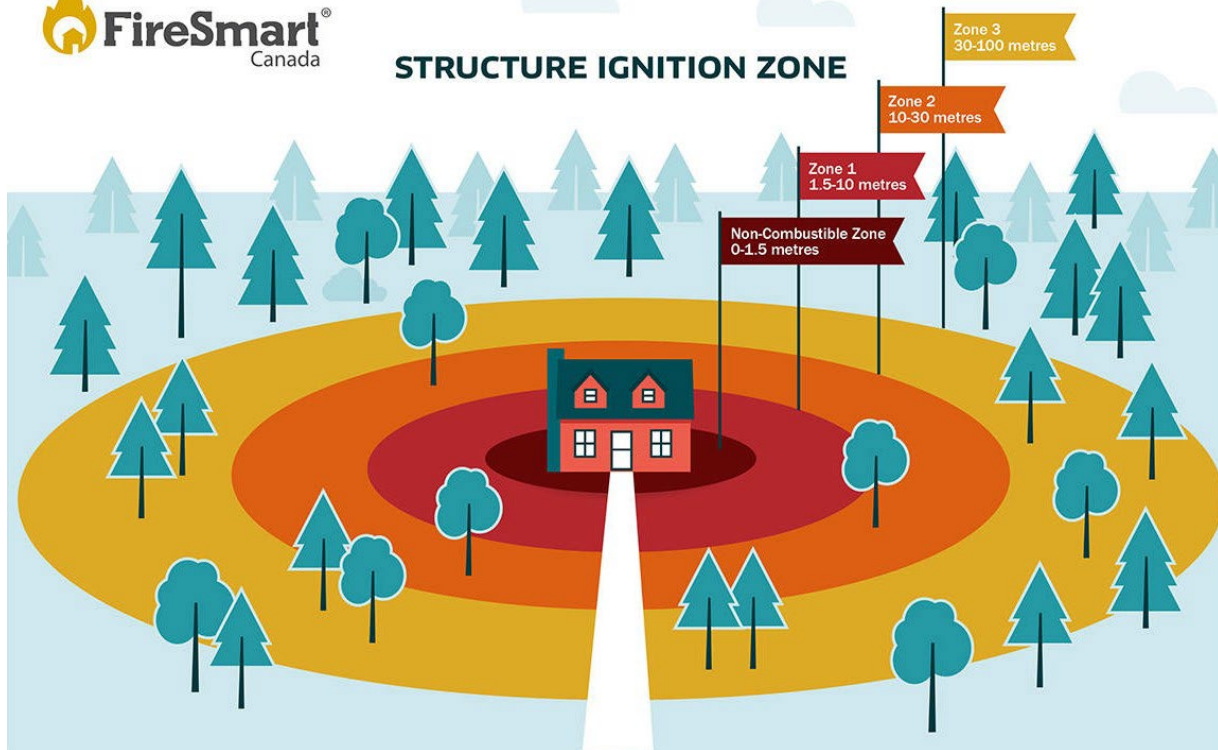
FireSmart is a national program that helps communities located in forested areas reduce the risk of wildfire to residences and communities. It also helps property owners and communities understand the wildfire risk and how to make residences and properties more resilient to fire. **The combination of community-wide fuel reduction and property-level FireSmart work is our community's best defense against wildfires.**

Over time, FireSmart principles have shown that they are effective at reducing the risk related to losses in the most extreme wildfire conditions. With a few simple steps, you can contribute to increasing your property's resiliency to wildfire.

Structure Ignition Zones

Start from your structure(s) and work your way outwards. Changes made to the area closest to your structure(s) (i.e. 0-10 metres), and the actual structures, have the greatest impact on reducing the risk of wildfire damage.

STRUCTURE IGNITION ZONE



Fires Move Fastest Uphill

The steeper the slope, the faster a wildfire will spread. Structures on hills or at the top of hills face the greatest risk from wildfire. If your structure(s) is located on a hill, you should consider taking on extra measures, such as removing trees adjacent to the slope and planting fire-resistant plants. If you are planning on building a new structure, consider setting it back at least 10 metres from the crest of any hills or slopes, as well as the landscaping around it.

FireSmart Begins At Home Manual

Refer to the FireSmart Begins At Home Manual https://firesmartbc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/FireSmart_Booklet_web-Updated.pdf for comprehensive information on protecting your property and structures from wildfire, including:

- removing combustible materials (e.g. wood piles, unused lumber, dead trees, low hanging branches, tall grasses, gasoline containers, generators, etc.) within at least 10 metres of your residence/structure;
- closing in any open areas underneath your residence/structure to prevent embers from flying underneath and igniting combustible materials;

- thinning and pruning coniferous trees and cleaning up accumulations of fallen branches, grass and needles within 10-30 metres of your residence/structure;
- pruning tree branches within 2 metres of the ground (to prevent fire from easily climbing trees); and
- consider vulnerability to ignition when selecting roof, siding and decking materials when making repairs or replacement.

FireSmart 101 Online Training

FireSmart 101 online training provides you with an introduction to FireSmart and invaluable information for understanding wildland urban interfaces, your structure's ignition zone, and 7 FireSmart disciplines you can adopt to protect your family and property. It's free and you can take the training course right from the comfort of your home. <https://www.firesmartcanada.ca/programs-and-education/firesmart-101/>

FireSmart Home Assessment Score Card

You may also want to assess your property's risk from wildfire. Download the FireSmart Home Assessment Score Card and answer the questions to see what changes will make the greatest difference in reducing your property's risk from wildfire. https://firesmartcanada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/FS_Home_Assessment_final.pdf

3.0 FIRE RESPONSE AND SUPPRESSION EQUIPMENT

We are each responsible for the first line of defence on our own cabin. BBH will be purchasing firefighting suppression equipment that is compatible with the BC Wildfire Service's equipment. This will be critical should the BC Wildfire Service need to use our equipment to fight a fire on the property.

4.1 Fire Fighting Response Options

The following equipment should only be used to help stop the spread of a manageable fire. If a fire extinguisher is not available, suitable or sufficient to suppress a fire, your next options include:

1. hand tools (shovel, pulaski, and rake) and buckets of water;
2. a fire-retardant foam kit that attaches to your garden hose;
3. a pressurized water extinguisher or a portable water backpack (“piss can”) with foam hand pump, especially for outdoor fires away from a water source;
4. a garden hose (or multiple hoses) that attach to a water pump which draws water from your water tank(s) (low flow/limited water);
5. enough garden hose to reach your roof top, along with a rooftop access ladder and sprinkler;
6. a fire hose that is attached to a fire pump that draws water from your water tank(s) (high flow/limited water) or dedicated water tanks;
7. a fire hose that is attached to a fire pump that draws water from the ocean (high flow/lots of water) – limited to properties that are located next to the ocean, and by tides;
8. WASP sprinkler system or alternative to wet and reduce spread of fire; or
9. EVACUATE

If you have advanced firefighting equipment on your property (e.g. fire pump, forestry hoses, nozzles, etc.), it is beneficial for you to:

1. notify BBH of the type and location of your equipment so that this information can be recorded and accessed if you are injured, there is a fire on your property in your absence, or BC Wildfire needs to access additional resources;
2. show your neighbours where your pumps and hoses are stored and how to operate them in case of an emergency; and
3. maintain and test your equipment annually.

Interface fires often start as small accidental ignitions. Timely action by properly equipped residents can make the difference between a fire that escapes and a fire that is quickly controlled.



4.2 Air Horn

7.2.

A hand-held air horn can act as an effective fire alarm, hazard warning or call for assistance. The air horn is an inexpensive method of alerting people in the vicinity of danger or the need for assistance and can deliver a high pitched sound that is audible at distances of upto 1.5 kilometres away.

They are inexpensive (less than \$20), non-toxic, very easy to use, and extremely effective for notifying neighbours of an emergency, especially when cell service is limited.



Fire or Medical Emergency:		3 short blasts, repeated, approx. 2 seconds each
Evacuation:		1 long blast, repeated, approx. 5 seconds

If you hear 3 short blasts:

1. If it is reasonable for you to respond to a fire or medical emergency (i.e. you have training, equipment and time), attend to the situation immediately.
2. Call 911 if necessary.

If you hear 1 long blast:

1. Prepare to evacuate (e.g. gather everyone, collect your grab-and-go bags and other valuables if it is safe to do so).
2. Gather your family and friends and decide how you will evacuate (by foot, by vehicle, by other means) and which direction is the safest to evacuate your property or your current location.
3. If you hear one long blast again (continuous) or confirm through other communications that you are required to evacuate, make your way to the outside of the island to a dock, float or boat taking the safest route.
4. Call 911 if necessary.

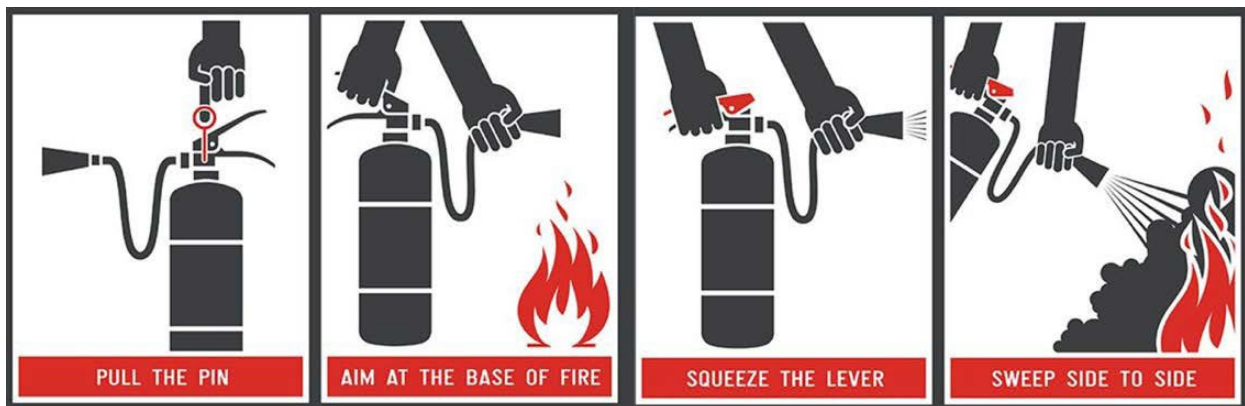
4.3 Chemical Fire Extinguishers

Chemical fire extinguishers are perhaps the best-known method of fighting small indoor fires in their early stages, e.g. an 8 lb fire extinguisher will last approximately 15 seconds. With options ranging from the versatile ABC fire extinguisher (which can tackle a range of common fires including grease and electrical) to pressurized water extinguishers that are ideal for outdoor use (i.e. wood fires), there's a fire extinguisher for practically every application.

There are three types of extinguishers (two of which are chemical-based):

1. ABC (chemical) – can deal with most types of fires – **BEST OPTION INDOORS**
2. CO2 (chemical) – Carbon Dioxide Fire Extinguisher – no pressure gauge – Class B (grease/gas) and C (electrical) fires
3. APW (water) – Air Pressurized Water Extinguisher – large silver “squirt gun” – Class A (wood) fires. See section 7.4 - Air Pressurized Water Extinguishers for more details – **BEST OPTION OUTDOORS**

To use an extinguisher, follow the **P-A-S-S** technique, i.e. **P**ull the pin, **A**im at the base of the fire, **S**queeze the nozzle and use a **S**weeping motion from side to side.



To care for and maintain your ABC (chemical) fire extinguisher:

- install fire extinguishers near each exit, at chest height above the ground – you are more likely to see an extinguisher during a fire if it's off the ground and easy to grab on the way out of a structure;

- inspect extinguishers monthly to make sure the pressure gauge is in the green zone, the pin and tamper seal are intact, the nozzle is unobstructed, and there are no dents, leaks, rust or chemical deposits;
- turn your extinguisher(s) upside down each month and shake briefly to ensure the powder remains loose and "fluffy";
- if you notice any damage to the head, handle, or operating lever, you should have the unit serviced; and
- recharge as needed (e.g. after use) and replace every 10-12 years.

4.4 Air Pressurized Water Extinguishers

An air pressurized water (APW) extinguisher is another type of fire extinguisher that uses ordinary water (as opposed to chemical fire retardant) to suppress outdoor Class A (wood) fires. The water is propelled by pressurized air and can reach distances of 30 feet, lasting for approximately 1 minute (compared to 15 seconds for an 8 lb chemical fire extinguisher).

These types of extinguishers are commonly referred to as “water cans” and are ideal for outdoor use in rural settings.

Follow the same **P-A-S-S** technique to use these extinguishers.

APW extinguishers are easily refilled by unscrewing the top and filling the cylinder with water about three-quarters of the way up. Close the cylinder and re-pressurize using an air compressor via the valve located on the back of the main valve body. To help extend the coverage and effectiveness of the extinguisher, add a small amount of dish soap (e.g. approx. 1 tablespoon for a 2.5 gallon extinguisher).



4.5 Backpack Water Pump

Backpack water pumps (also referred to as “piss cans”) can hold up to 20 litres of water and are ideal for small outdoor ground (wood) fires especially where access to water is limited or unavailable. They are:

- affordable compared to more advanced fire suppression equipment (\$150-\$250);
- require very little maintenance;
- can be left filled and ready to use in seconds;
- can reach distances of 30 feet; and
- are portable and easy to use.



Hard plastic option is easier to strap into the back of a vehicle, will stand up easier when filled and stored, and is more durable.

These backpacks are useful where responding quickly to an outdoor ground fire can prevent the spread of the fire to nearby infrastructure and forest.

Collapsible option is cheaper takes less space when stored.

4.6 Fire Blanket

Fire blankets are a good option for containing small kitchen fires and protecting people from flames, **but not for fighting a fire that’s already spreading.**

Fire blankets work on a simple principle: smother the fire and deprive it of oxygen. To do this effectively, they must be non-flammable and provide as much of a barrier for heat and oxygen as possible.

A fire blanket should be mounted on a wall near (but not directly over) the area where it might be needed. For example, place a fire blanket within 30 feet of all cooking appliances (similar to fire extinguisher placement requirements). A fire blanket typically comes with a protective cover that clearly identifies it and instructs you on how to extract and place the blanket during a fire.

4.7 Water

Your source of water (well, rainwater and/or ocean) is a primary consideration if you plan to set up a simple or advanced fire suppression system on your property.

Whether you'll be using garden hoses and sprinklers, or a fire pump with forestry-grade hoses and nozzles, you'll need to carefully consider the amount of water you'll need to be effective.

If you are using fire suppression equipment (pump, hoses, nozzles), the amount of water you will need to suppress a fire will depend on the type of equipment you're using, the distance from your water source to the fire, and the size of the fire. For example, if you are using a 100 gallon-per-minute (GPM) fire pump (such as a Honda WH15x) attached to a 15 GPM output nozzle that is drawing from a 1,000 US gallon water tank, you may have enough water to last anywhere from 30 minutes to an hour (this may vary depending on equipment, location of water source, etc.).

Prioritize how your limited water supply will best serve your property, especially if the exterior and roof of your structures are built from combustible materials.

In addition to your water tanks, you'll need to consider:

- the location of your well (how far does water need to travel in a downhill, uphill or level direction to your water tank(s) and structure(s)?);
- the refresh rate of the water in your well (they are all different and this will impact how long you can run your well pump before your standing water level drops below your well pump);
- the type of pump you will use to pump water from your well to your water tank(s) and whether you want to install a pump saver to protect your well pump in the event the standing water level drops below the well pump while it is operating;
- the location of your water tanks (i.e. are they near your structure(s)?);
- the type of pump you will use to pump water from your water tank(s) to your structure(s), etc.;
- the connections between multiple tanks to ensure they are serving as a single water source during a fire (e.g. you may want to connect your potable tank to a rainwater catchment tank);
- the location of spigots around your structures so that you can attach hoses and sprinklers;
- the number of sprinklers you need to dampen the entire perimeter of your structure; and
- whether you are pumping water uphill – if you are climbing in elevation, remember that

you lose about 1 PSI for every 2 vertical feet.

•

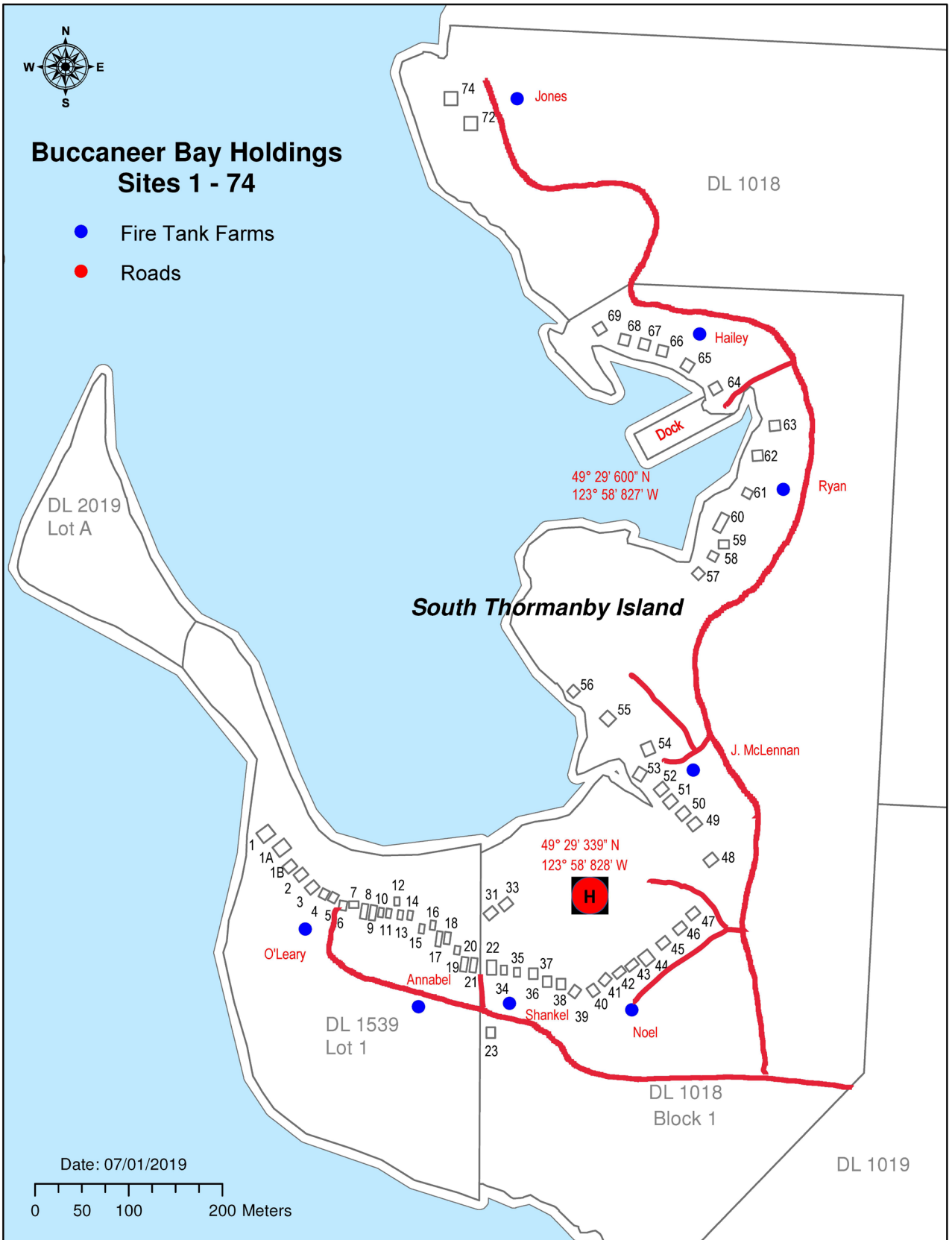
4.8 Community Fire Suppression Equipment

The Buccaneer Bay Fire Sub-committee has recommended the acquisition of fire suppression equipment in eight locations inclusive of the following components:

- **Water tank farms** – 3,000-gallon tanks strategically located and spaced to assist with fire suppression (marked on map).
- **Fire pump** – a gas pump to push water from the tank through a hose to the location of a fire. Since there isn't a main water source at Buccaneer, fire pumps are particularly important because they can deliver water at a higher pressure to help suppress a fire.
- **Hoses** – an intake hose connects the fire pump to the water tank and a forestry hose to deliver water from the pump to the fire.
- **Nozzles** – a nozzle connects to the forestry hose and delivers sufficient water, foam, or other fire-retardant liquid on a fire.
- **Adaptors** – a series of adaptors connects to all fire suppression equipment and should be compatible with BC Wildfire Services' equipment.
- **Instructions** – simplified instructions on how to set up the equipment and hoses, and start the pump.

The goal is to assign "fire marshals" to each tank farm or multiple adjacent farms. These individuals will have the training on the use of the equipment with annual education and training provided on the sports day weekend to the community at large.

It will be crucial for cross training and awareness between tank locations given the sporadic and seasonal usage of Buccaneer.



5.0 WHAT TO DO IF THERE IS A FIRE

The order of your actions will depend on each unique situation, common sense and your judgement. Most fires won't occur at a convenient time so you should be prepared for the worst-case scenario, e.g. in the middle of the night when you are alone, when your water tank is almost empty, and your cell phone isn't charged.

You should consider the following:

1. Are you and your family safe?
2. Is the fire inside a structure or outdoors?
3. Is the fire small enough that you can handle it on your own (smaller than a garbage can)?
4. Do you have the means to extinguish the fire on your own?
5. Do you have family members or pets that need help getting to safety?
6. Is there help nearby?
7. Which way is the wind blowing and is it raining?
8. What time of day or night is it?

5.1 Inside Fire (NOT GREASE)



- Ensure you have an ABC Fire Extinguisher located near each exit of your structure(s) (house, cabin, yurt, workshop, etc.). You should also keep an additional ABC Fire Extinguisher in your kitchen and your vehicle(s).
- Ensure your family is familiar with all exits of your structure(s), including each room. Ideally there should be two exits for each room (doors and windows).
- Ensure you have sufficient smoke alarms installed in all occupied structure(s) and check the batteries annually.



Follow these steps:

1. Assess safety – is the fire small enough for you to put out by yourself, i.e. smaller than a garbage can?
2. Use an ABC Fire Extinguisher.

3. Notify the community – 3 air horn blasts (and repeat), phone.
4. Call 911 and *5555 on your cell phone (or 1-800-663-5555) immediately.
5. If the fire is spreading through your home, evacuate the structure immediately.
6. If the fire is slow to burn and it is safe to do so, turn on any sprinklers around your structure to dampen the surrounding area and to prevent the fire from spreading to other structures and wildland.
7. Notify the community again – 3 air horn blasts (and repeat).

5.2 Stovetop Fire (Grease)



- DO NOT USE WATER!
- Ensure you have an ABC Fire Extinguisher located near one of the exits of your kitchen.
- You may also choose to install a Fire Blanket in your kitchen that is easy to access, e.g. mounted to the wall near your stovetop (not stored in a cupboard). NOTE: Only use a Fire Blanket to extinguish a small fire. A fire extinguisher is more effective and safer to use.



Follow these steps:

1. Assess safety – is the fire small enough for you to put out by yourself, i.e. smaller than a garbage can?
2. Turn off heat source – a grease fire needs heat to stay alive.
3. Use an ABC Fire Extinguisher (DO NOT USE WATER).
4. Use oven mitts to put on lid or cookie sheet to remove oxygen source (no blanket).
5. Baking soda (NOT FLOUR) – for a small fire to remove oxygen source.
6. Notify the community – 3 air horn blasts (and repeat).
7. Call 911 and *5555 on your cell phone (or 1-800-663-5555) immediately.
8. If the fire is spreading through your home, evacuate the structure immediately.
9. If the fire is spreading, but slow to burn and it is safe to do so, turn on any sprinklers around your structure to dampen the surrounding area and to prevent the fire from spreading to other structures and wildland.
10. If the fire continues to spread, evacuate immediately.
11. Notify the community again – 3 air horn blast (and repeat).

5.3 Outside Fire



- How much you prepare your property for a fire will depend on personal preference, resources and location. For more information, see Appendix: FireSmart in 9 Easy Steps.



Follow these steps:

1. Assess safety – is the fire small enough for you to put out by yourself, i.e. smaller than a garbage can?
2. Notify the community – 3 air horn blasts (and repeat).
3. Call 911 and *5555 on your cell phone (or 1-800-663-5555) immediately.
4. Shovel dirt on the fire, use a pressurized water extinguisher (Class A wood fires only), or a backpack water pump.
5. If available, use a hose attached to your property’s water system.
6. If available, use a fire hose attached to a fire pump that uses water from your water storage tank or the ocean.
7. If the fire is spreading but slow to burn and it is safe to do so, turn on any sprinklers around your structure to dampen the surrounding area and to prevent the fire from spreading to other structures and wildland.
8. Evacuate immediately.
9. Notify the community again – 1 air horn blast (and repeat), phone, WhatsApp, and/or text.

5.4 Vehicle Fire



- Carry an ABC Fire Extinguisher in your vehicle and ensure it is easy to retrieve.
- You may also choose to carry a bucket (for water), pressurized water extinguisher, portable water backpack and/or a shovel in your vehicle to assist with other types of fires. If you are driving around the community in your vehicle during an emergency, you may be able to provide immediate assistance.



Follow these steps:

1. Stop the car, turn off the ignition, pop your hood, and reach for the nearest ABC Fire Extinguisher.

2. Get every person out of the car, and don't allow anyone to go back to retrieve personal items.
3. If the fire is small, attempt to suppress the fire with your fire extinguisher. DO NOT ATTEMPT TO OPEN THE HOOD LATCH. If safe to do so, point the nozzle of the extinguisher under the hood to attempt to suppress any flames.
4. If you are unable to suppress the fire, move far from the burning vehicle to avoid the flames and toxic fumes—at least 100 feet—and also keep bystanders back.
5. Notify the community – 3 air horn blasts (and repeat), phone, WhatsApp, and/or text. Request for resources (i.e. water and fire suppression equipment) to dampen the perimeter around the burning vehicle to prevent it from spreading.
6. Alert oncoming traffic if possible.
7. If the fire is threatening to spread, call 911 and *5555 on your cell phone (or 1-800-663-5555) immediately.
8. Notify the community again – 1 air horn blast (and repeat), phone, WhatsApp, and/or text.

5.5 Chimney Fire



- Have your chimney inspected and cleaned regularly.
- Conditions that encourage the buildup of creosote are restricted air supply, unseasoned/wet wood, and cooler than normal temperatures.
- Do not burn cardboard boxes, wrapping paper as they can start a chimney fire.
- Install a chimney cap as it may keep debris and critters out.



Follow these steps:

1. Often you can hear a chimney fire (rumbling sound) before seeing it and you may be notified by a passing neighbour.
2. Safety is the main concern, evacuate everyone from the cabin.
3. Close damper to starve the fire of oxygen if possible or safe to do so.
4. Tossing a generous amount of sand or baking soda in the fireplace may help to starve the flames of oxygen.
5. Use caution if using a fire extinguisher as the pressure can throw embers into the surrounding area outside of the firebox.
6. Once the fire is extinguished ensure the fire was contained within the flue system and not extended into the attic or walls (use caution as there could be low oxygen levels in the attic).

6.0 EVACUATING THE ISLAND

If a fire starts during certain conditions (dry, hot and windy), it could sweep through the whole community and even extend to other parts of the island. While evacuation may seem easy it could be at night, the smoke may be thick limiting visibility and wind could made an advancing fire very dangerous.

Depending on the size and location of a fire, you may not be able to safely extinguish the fire.

The safest thing to do may be to evacuate immediately.

If you have an air horn, sound the horn in 1 continuous blast (approx. 5 seconds) and repeat as often as needed.

If you hear an air horn (1 continuous blast), prepare to evacuate immediately.

6.1 What to do in an Evacuation

Remember:

1. Consider which way the wind is blowing (fire) and/or the location of the hazard and try to evacuate in a direction away from the hazard.
2. Check with neighbours and provide assistance if necessary and safe to do so.
3. Move to the outside of the island to a dock, float or boat.
4. Keep in mind the single lane road to Water Bay may be blocked by fire, fallen trees or abandoned vehicles.
5. If you don't have a boat, notify other islanders where you are located and that you require pick up.
6. Phone 911 and *5555 on your cell phone (or 1-800-663-5555) as soon as your safety is assured.

6.2 Water Access

The main access point for the residents of Buccaneer is via the Water Bay dock. If evacuating please provide assistance to those in need or that do not have a boat.

Alternatively, there are numerous small boats on the front beach that can be quickly mobilized. If you are unable to access any of these points it may be possible to head south to West Shore or north to the community of Vaucroft. Extreme caution must be taken to avoid being caught in the forest as the fire advances.

6.3 Evacuation Tips

Grab-and-Go Bag

- Bottled water and ready-to-eat food, like high-calorie power bars
- Phone charger and extra batteries
- Battery-powered or hand-crank flashlight
- Small battery-powered or hand-crank radio
- Extra batteries
- Seasonal clothing and an emergency blanket
- Copy of your emergency plan and copies of important documents, such as insurance papers
- Small first aid kit and personal medications
- Toiletries and items such as an extra pair of glasses or contact lenses and solution
- Cash in small denominations
- Pen and notepad
- Whistle
- Pet food, water, leashes and carriers, if applicable

When you leave, remember to...

- Take your grab-and-go bags, medications, wallet, identification, and cell phone
- Shut off water, electricity and propane
- Notify your out-of-town contact and leave a note inside indicating when you left and where you are going (if time permits)
- Use specified evacuation routes if possible

- Do not pass through a fire by foot or in a vehicle and remember that fires travel faster uphill
- Do not return to your property until authorities advise it is safe

BC Campfire Regulations

BRITISH COLUMBIA **CAMPFIRE** REGULATIONS



Violating these regulations could cost you **\$1,150**.

If a violation causes a wildfire, the person responsible may also be ordered to pay all firefighting and associated costs.

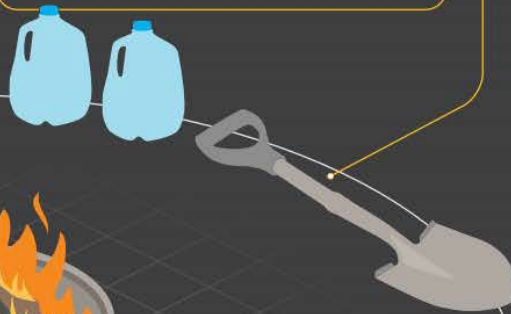
CAMPFIRE SIZE



A campfire is defined as a fire no larger than 0.5 metres high and 0.5 metres in diameter. Fires larger than that are considered Category 2 open fires and are illegal if Category 2 open burning prohibitions are in effect.

8 LITRES OR A HAND TOOL

You must keep at least eight litres of water or a hand tool on hand at all times while your campfire is lit.



0.5 metres

0.5 metres



PUTTING OUT YOUR FIRE

Before you leave the area for any amount of time, your campfire **MUST** be fully extinguished. The ashes of your fire must be cool to the touch.

FUEL BREAK

You must have a fuel break around your campfire. This area must be cleared of debris and anything combustible. It needs to be wide enough to stop the spread of the fire. A rock ring around the fire can also help prevent it from spreading.

You **MUST NOT** leave your fire unattended for **ANY** length of time.

Report wildfires, unattended campfires or violations of regulations by calling ***5555** on a cell or **1 800 663-5555** toll-free.

FireSmart – Nine Easy Steps

FireSmart in Nine Easy Steps
THE DO'S AND DON'TS OF PROTECTING YOUR HOME FROM WILDFIRE

BRITISH COLUMBIA PreparedBC

REPLACE OLDER STYLE ROOFS LIKE CEDAR WITH NON-COMBUSTIBLE ONES. (METAL, CERAMIC OR ASPHALT). ✓

CLEAN YOUR EAVES AND ENCLOSE SOFFITS SO EMBERS CAN'T EASILY GET IN. ✗

SPACE TREES SO THAT THE CROWNS ARE THREE TO SIX METRES APART. ✓

DON'T PLANT HIGHLY COMBUSTIBLE TREE VARIETIES, SUCH AS PINE, SPRUCE OR JUNIPER. ✗

STACK FIREWOOD MORE THAN 10 METRES FROM YOUR HOME. ✓

REGULARLY MOW AND WATER THE GRASS. ✓

STORE PROPANE TANKS AT LEAST 10 METRES FROM YOUR HOUSE. ✓

REDUCE THE NUMBER OF EVERGREENS LIKE PINE AND SPRUCE, WHICH ARE MORE COMBUSTIBLE THAN DECIDUOUS TREES. ✗

REMOVE DEAD TREES, MATURE TREES AND THICK SHRUBBERY. SPACE CROWNS THREE TO SIX METRES APART WHERE POSSIBLE. ✗

ZONE 1
10 METRES

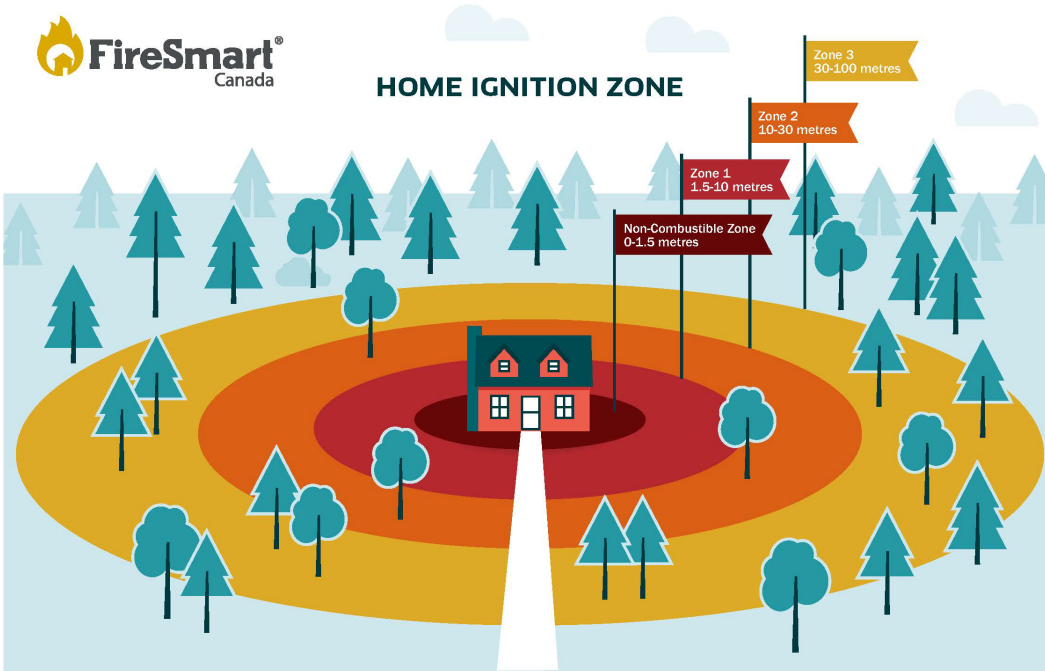
ZONE 2
30 METRES

ZONE 3
100 METRES

SOURCE WEBSITE:
WWW.BCWILDFIRE.CA

The infographic features a central illustration of a house with a chimney, surrounded by trees and a lawn. A person is shown mowing the lawn. Three concentric dashed green circles represent the FireSmart zones: Zone 1 (10m), Zone 2 (30m), and Zone 3 (100m). Various icons and text boxes are connected to the house and zones, indicating do's and don'ts. For example, a roof icon is marked with a green checkmark, while a pine tree icon is marked with a red X. A propane tank icon is marked with a green checkmark, and a dead tree icon is marked with a red X. The background is a dark green color with a lighter green circular area around the house.

FireSmart – Home Ignition Zone



Work with your neighbours in any overlapping priority zones!

<p>Non-combustible Zone (0-1.5 metres)</p>	<p>Reduce the chance of wind-blown embers igniting materials near your home. A non-combustible surface should extend around the entire home and any attachments, such as decks. Creating a non-combustible surface can be as easy clearing vegetation and combustible material down to mineral soil. To add to your landscape design, use non-combustible materials such as gravel, brick, or concrete in this critical area adjacent to your home. Woody shrubs, trees or tree branches should be avoided in this zone, any that are present should be properly mitigated.</p>
<p>Zone 1 (1.5-10 metres)</p>	<p>Create a landscape that will not easily transmit fire to the home. A FireSmart yard includes making smart choices for your plants, shrubs, grass and mulch. Selecting fire-resistant plants and materials can increase the likelihood of your home surviving a wildfire. Plant a low density of fire-resistant plants and shrubs. Avoid having any woody debris, including mulch, as it provides potential places for fires to start. Storing items such as firewood piles, construction materials, patio furniture, tools and decorative pieces against or near a house is a major fire hazard. Move firewood piles, trailers/ recreational vehicles, storage sheds and other combustible structures out of this zone and into Zone 2. If unable to move, store firewood inside your mitigated garage, shed or other ember resistant structures, create a non-combustible zone underneath and for 1.5 metres around trailers/ vehicles and mitigate sheds and other structures to the same standards as those of your home.</p>
<p>Zone 2 (10-30 metres)</p>	<p>If your property extends out to this zone, thin and prune evergreen trees to reduce hazard in this area. Within 30 metres of your home, selectively remove evergreen trees to create at least 3 metres of horizontal space between the single or grouped tree crowns and remove all branches to a height of 2 metres from the ground on the remaining evergreen trees. If possible, pruning trees up to 100 metres from your home (Zone 3) is recommended. Regularly clean up accumulations of fallen branches, dry grass and needles from on the ground to eliminate potential surface fuels. Consider seeking the guidance of a forest professional with wildland fire knowledge on appropriate management options for this zone.</p>
<p>Zone 3 (30-100 metres)</p>	<p>Taking FireSmart actions in Zone 3 on your property will influence how a wildfire approaches your home. You can change the dynamics of wildfire behaviour by managing vegetation within this zone. Look for opportunities to create a fire break by creating space between trees and other potentially flammable vegetation. Thinning and pruning is effective here as well. These actions will help reduce the intensity of a wildfire. Consider seeking the guidance of a forest professional with wildland fire knowledge on appropriate management options for this zone.</p>

Begins at Home