



Regional District of Central Kootenay

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About the RDCK FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program

Citizen involvement is the cornerstone of the FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program.

FireSmart homes and neighbourhoods allow fire fighters to concentrate on fighting the wildfire – which ultimately saves more homes and lives. Communities whose residents take steps to reduce their vulnerability have a greater chance of surviving a wildfire without the intervention of the fire department.

The Program draws on a community's spirit and its willingness to take responsibility for reducing wildfire risks.

The Program utilizes the following template:

- The RDCK Local FireSmart Representative will perform an area assessment.
- The FireSmart Representative will provide wildfire hazard reduction information designed specifically for that community.
- With the assistance of the Local FireSmart Representative, neighbours form a cooperating network to address the wildfire hazards around them and implement local solutions.
- Communities invest \$2 per capita in mitigation (Volunteer time counts at \$21/hr) and hold at least one annual FireSmart event. A mitigation work bee, chipping day or FireSmart information day, for example.
- Upon completion the neighbourhood can apply to become a nationally recognized FireSmart Community

The Local FireSmart Representative administers the program, and assists the communities, but community is encouraged to take on the responsibility for reducing wildfire risks.

When neighbours get together to FireSmart the whole community, they can reduce the risks for everyone. The FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program helps neighbours to organize and reduce the risk of wildfire damage for their whole community.

More information can be found on the [FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program webpage](#)

If you have any question about the program, or know a community or neighbourhood that would like to become FireSmart Recognized please contact the RDCK Local FireSmart Representative, Andrew Doran.

Andrew Doran
Local FireSmart Representative

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