

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS



STAYING SAFE DURING WILDFIRE SEASON

Wildfire season runs from March 1 to October 31. Since wildfires can pose a significant risk to both your family and your community, it's essential to prepare and adopt strategies to reduce their impact. By preparing yourself, your home, and your family, you can ensure you are ready to face the challenges of wildfire season.

How can I prevent wildfires from starting and spreading?

Did you know that over 60% of Alberta's active wildfires in July 2025 were caused by humans? Help protect our lands by following these safety measures:

- ∞ Observe fire advisories, restrictions, and bans.
- ∞ Fully extinguish burn barrels and campfires before leaving the area.
- ∞ Follow off-highway vehicle (OHV) fire safety steps recommended by the Government of Alberta: ensure the engine and hot spots are free of debris, don't drive in wet areas, and carry a small fire extinguisher, pail, and shovel.
- ∞ If you smoke, make sure the cigarette is extinguished before discarding it.
- ∞ Unplug electronics that aren't in use to avoid phantom consumption and power surges.
- ∞ Report any wildfires immediately by calling 911 or 310-FIRE (3473).

If you have any questions,
please contact
wildfires@metis.org



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Métis Government

Environment and Climate Change
780-455-2200 • 1-817-454-0684 • wildfires@metis.org

AlbertaMetis.com

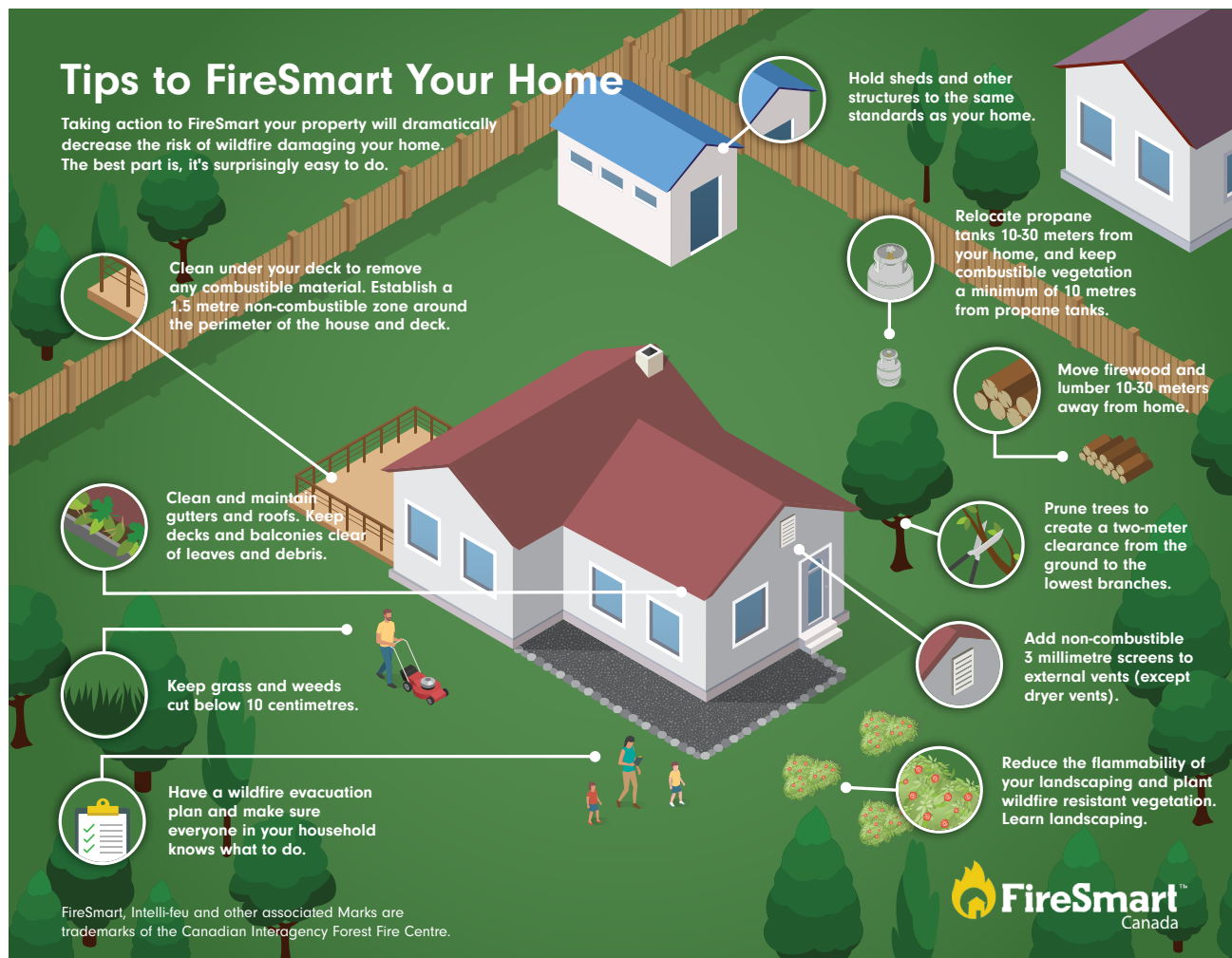


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How can I FireSmart™ my home?

FireSmart Alberta offers several suggestions for addressing fire hazards on, in, and around your property firesmartalberta.ca/at-home. Review the graphics on page 2–3 to learn how you can reduce the impact wildfires can have on your home.

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Tips to FireSmart Your Home

Taking action to FireSmart your property will dramatically decrease the risk of wildfire damaging your home. The best part is, it's surprisingly easy to do.

Clean under your stairs to remove any combustible material. Establish a 1.5 metre non-combustible zone around the perimeter of the house and deck.

Clean and maintain gutters and roofs. Keep decks and balconies clear of leaves and debris.

Keep grass and weeds cut below 10 centimetres and remove flammable vegetation.

Have a wildfire evacuation plan and make sure everyone in your household knows what to do.

Hold sheds and other structures (such as watersheds) to the same standard as your home.

Add non-combustible 3 millimetre screens to external vents (except dryer vents).

Woodpiles and other combustible materials (eg. stored vehicles) more than 10-30 metres from home.

Prune trees to create a two-meter clearance from the ground to the lowest branches.

Any combustible fuel source (propane, oil, gas) should be stored on a non-combustible surface.

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 **FireSmart**
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What can I do to prepare for a wildfire?

The best way to prepare for a wildfire is to keep an eye on wildfire activity near your community and to improve your emergency preparedness.

You can monitor nearby wildfires by downloading the Government of Alberta's Alberta Wildfire app open.alberta.ca/blog/?page_id=206 or by regularly checking its interactive wildfires map experience.arcgis.com/experience/0e45bd0ef9814d5e9ec3f87900a4cfe9

Improving your emergency preparedness can be done in several ways. A good first step is to create a household emergency plan and household, vehicle, and pet emergency kits. These will help you respond quickly if an evacuation order is issued. Make sure that each kit has enough supplies to support each person and pet for three to seven days. Download the Emergency Kit Checklist at albertametis.com/household-emergency-kit-checklist and the Household Emergency Planner at albertametis.com/household-emergency-plan

Store the household emergency plan, emergency kits, and essential documents above ground in a safe and accessible location so that you can locate these easily during an emergency.

Finally, connect with your community proactively so that you can support each other and share resources during an emergency.

For more information about evacuation preparedness, please see our Preparing for Evacuation document or scan the QR code. For household, vehicle, and pet emergency kits and DIY air filter tutorial videos, look for [@ABMetis](https://www.facebook.com/ABMetis) on Facebook or [@albertametis](https://www.instagram.com/albertametis) on Instagram or TikTok.



Learn more about
the Alberta
Wildfire app



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Wildfires Map



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What should I do if a wildfire is near my community?

For your own and your household's safety, always follow instructions issued by local authorities if a wildfire is close to or approaching your community. Listen to official channels for evacuation alerts or orders so that you can leave quickly if necessary.

If the fire is far away and doesn't require an evacuation alert or order, focus on reducing your exposure to wildfire smoke by staying indoors and closing windows, doors, and vents. You can further improve your indoor air quality by running air purifiers or a homemade air filter. Seek immediate medical attention if you're experiencing breathing difficulties or other severe symptoms due to smoke inhalation.

For more information about the health impacts of wildfire smoke, please see our [Staying Safe in Wildfire Smoke](#) document or scan the QR code.



Scan to
download
[Staying Safe in
Wildfire Smoke
Document](#)

Please note: For guidance on how to respond to symptoms of wildfire smoke exposure, call Health Link at 811 or use Alberta Health Services' Healthwise Symptom Checker at myhealth.alberta.ca/health/Pages/conditions.aspx
If you or a loved one is experiencing a medical emergency, call 911.



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If I've had to evacuate, what should I do when I return?

If you've been asked to evacuate, only return home after authorities have confirmed that it's safe to do so. Your safety and your community's well-being are the priority.

Avoid areas where structures may have collapsed, and be mindful of hazards like unstable ground and broken glass. Help is available: visit the Accessing Assistance section at albertametis.com/emergency-preparedness for a list of financial, housing, and mental health resources.

For more information about returning home after an evacuation, please see our Preparing for Evacuation document or scan the QR code.



Scan to
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