

Village Office Hours:

Monday to Friday

8:30 am - 12:00 pm 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

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Montrose A Firesmart Community



As residents of Montrose we are currently living in a wildland/urban interface area and your home may be at risk to wildfire. Here are some things that you can do around your home and yard to reduce the threat of wildfire to your home:

Establish a “Priority Zone” around your home

Clear trees and brush to the recommended distances between structures and surrounding forests where possible.

Priority Zone 1

The area closest to the structure, within 10 meters (30 feet), is critical. Any kind of vegetation is combustible. Remove any shrubs, deadfall and trees, and ensure your grass is mowed and watered. Woodpiles and propane tanks should also be moved out of this area and away from vegetation. Ensure that your roof and eavestroughs are clean of combustible debris and overhanging trees and vegetation.

Priority Zone 2

In the area 10 to 30 metres away from the structures any fuels should be reduced by thinning and pruning vegetation and trees. This will slow a fire’s spread. Trees should be spaced so their crowns are 3 to 6 metres apart to prevent a fire from jumping from tree to tree. Remove any “ladder fuels”, such as deadfall and thick shrubs, that would allow the fire to spread from the ground to forest canopy. If planting new trees, consider deciduous species such as aspen, poplar and birch, which all have a low flammability rate.

Priority Zone 3

This zone begins 30 metres from any structure and extends to a distance of 100 metres and beyond. The focus of this area should be to thin out trees and vegetation so that if a fire does burn into the area it will be less intense and spread at a slower rate. Just like in Zone 2, attempt to thin out trees and shrubs below the forest canopy, keep trees spaced apart to reduce the potential of fire from crown to crown, and retain fire resistant deciduous trees.

Before a Fire:

- Develop a household emergency plan and assign specific safety tasks to family members. Practice your household emergency plan every six months.
- Put together an emergency kit to be self-sufficient for at least 72 hours, but aim for one week. Keep a kit in your vehicle, and at school or work.
- Plan a family meeting spot and have a contact, such as a family member in another region, to check in with if you become separated.
- Get training in emergency preparedness and first aid.
- Keep your vehicle in working order and always have at least half a tank of gas.
- Pay attention to notices of danger and information updates on radio, TV and the internet.
- Obey fire bans and pay attention to wildfire risk signs which are often seen on highways or main roads.
- Plan escape routes by car and by foot.

During a Fire:

- If you see a wildfire call 1-800-663-555 or *5555 on your mobile phone to report it.
- Stay tuned to local media and get ready to evacuate at any time.
- Leave cars unlocked with windows shut.
- If you have time before you evacuate and feel it is safe, you should:
 - Move flammable items away from your home;
 - Turn off any gas or propane;
 - Leave lights in your house on so firefighters can locate it in the dark;
 - Connect garden hoses to outside faucets;
 - Close windows, vents, doors;
 - Remove flammable curtains and leave doors unlocked;

To Report a Forest Fire Call:

**1-800-663-555 or *5555 on your mobile
phone**

Your local RDKB Fire Department:

250-364-1737