



Media Release

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON
3400 – 30 Street
Vernon, BC
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: February 18, 2020

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Public presentation: How to reduce the threat of wildfire with FireSmart

Vernon Fire Rescue Services (VFRS) is hosting a one-hour public presentation about how to reduce the threat of wildfire in your neighbourhood.

FireSmart: Breaking the Wildfire Disaster Cycle will introduce community members to the FireSmart program. VFRS members will explain how neighbours can work together to become a *FireSmart Community* and take proactive steps to reduce fire hazards near their homes.

“In 2016, Predator Ridge earned its first FireSmart Community designation,” said Deputy Fire Chief Scott Hemstad. “Residents organized fuel and vegetation clean-up days, education events and public outreach opportunities. Not only did participants increase safety in their neighbourhood, but they were also empowered with new knowledge about wildfire and how it behaves.”

VFRS is now hoping residents in the Eastside Road area will jump on board and become FireSmart Community Champions.

“Living in the wildland-urban interface means we need to understand how to live with wildfire,” said Sue Saunders, Emergency Program Coordinator. “By learning FireSmart principles and making appropriate changes around our homes and neighbourhoods, we can reduce the risk of damage and become a more resilient community.”

Although the presentation is geared towards the Eastside Road area, everyone is welcome to attend and learn how to take the next steps.

Date: Tuesday, February 25, 2020
Time: 7:00 – 8:00 pm
Location: Okanagan Landing Conference & ESS Building
7210 Okanagan Landing Road, Vernon, BC
(behind Fire Hall Station 2)