



Media Release

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: April 28, 2020

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Protect your property with *FireSmart* this spring

In recent years, the province of British Columbia has seen an increase in both human-caused and naturally-occurring wildfires. As we prepare for another wildfire season, there are a number of proactive steps residents can take to help protect their homes and neighbourhoods from the threat of wildfire.

“While people have been spending more time at home, we’ve noticed a lot of folks are cleaning up their yards and doing maintenance projects,” said Fire Chief David Lind. “Now is the time for people to take a close look at their properties and consider what can be done to protect their homes – and their neighbourhood – from wildfire.”

FireSmart your home

- A minimum 1.5 metre non-combustible surface should extend around the entire home and any attachments, such as decks.
- Within 10 metres of your home should be a fire-resistant zone, free of all materials that could easily ignite from a wildfire.
- Thin and prune evergreen trees to reduce hazards around your home. Regularly clean up accumulations of fallen branches, dry grass and needles from on the ground to eliminate potential surface fuels.

“Focus on what is realistic for you to achieve in order to limit the risk of wildfire to your home,” said Deputy Chief Scott Hemstad.

Residents are encouraged to download and follow the [FireSmart Homeowner’s Manual](#).