

# Preparedness Tips for You and Your Family

- Make sure every floor and all sleeping areas have working smoke alarms.
- Set up emergency numbers in your phone.
- Create a 72-hour emergency preparedness kit ready to go with at least\*:

- 4 litres of water per person, per day for drinking and cleaning
- Non-refrigerated food and a manual can opener
- Crank or battery powered flashlight/batteries
- Crank or battery powered radio
- Blankets or sleeping bags
- Toiletries
- First aid kit



\* Specialized items may be needed for infants, seniors, persons with disabilities and pets. For a more extensive list, visit [surrey.ca/sep](http://surrey.ca/sep).

Many losses due to fire can be prevented. To learn more, or to book a personal or neighbourhood emergency preparedness presentation, email [surreyemergencyprogram@surrey.ca](mailto:surreyemergencyprogram@surrey.ca).

To request a free HomeSafe visit to assess the fire risks inside your home, go to [surrey.ca/homesafe](http://surrey.ca/homesafe).

## Surrey Fire Service

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# FireSmart your Home to protect it from Urban Wildfire



Surrey Emergency Program



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**Urban wildfires** can start small and initially go unnoticed but can spread very quickly. Help keep your home and family safe by being prepared and following a few simple prevention tips.

# What is Urban Wildfire?

Many people assume wildfires only happen in the wilderness. However, wildfires can also be a risk within urban developments, particularly if they are nearby forested areas or heavy vegetation. As the weather heats up, there is an increased risk for brush or grass fires, which can easily spread to nearby homes. Keep your family and property safe with the following tips and preventative measures.



## Prevention Tips for Yard

- Create a buffer zone around your home that is free from combustibles that support burning, such as shrubs, patio furniture and overhanging branches.
- If possible, extend a minimum of 1.5 metre non-combustible surface around the perimeter of your home.
- Keep firewood piles, construction materials, and propane tanks as far away from the home as possible.
- Regularly clean up accumulations of fallen branches, dry grass, tree needles and leaves.
- Mow your lawn regularly to keep it at a height of six inches or less.
- Plant low density, fire-resistant plants.

## Prevention Tips for Home

- Keep your roof, siding and deck in good repair; free from holes, gaps and cracks.
- Use non-combustible building materials.
- Use multi-paned and tempered windows, including those on doors and the garage.
- Use metal or aluminum gutters and ensure they're kept clear of needles and leaves.
- Consider a closed porch, balcony or deck, which provide additional protection.
- Keep combustible material on an open deck to a minimum.

## If a Wildfire is Approaching your Home

- Stay tuned to the radio and City of Surrey social media channels for up-to-date information, including emergency instructions and road closures.
- Pack your car with your valuables and park it facing forward out of the driveway with windows closed.
- Close all home windows and doors, and move combustible materials, such as curtains and furniture, away from windows.
- Cover vents, windows and other openings with duct tape.
- Turn off propane or natural gas.