



2023 Nova Scotia Wildfires Residential Mitigation Incentive Program

Activity Table Additional Information and Special Requirements



Activities marked with ■ apply to homeowners only

Wildfire Resiliency Activities	Specific Requirements	Information for Applicants	Max. Eligible CAD\$
Build/purchase an emergency preparedness kit in case of evacuation or shelter-in-place orders. Build an Emergency Kit - Canadian Red Cross	Photos of the kit and submission of receipts for any items purchased	It is recommended to keep a disaster preparedness kit at home with enough supplies for your family, including pets, for at least 3 days. Including non-perishable food, water, and essentials now ensures you can provide for your family during an emergency.	\$50
Remove debris from eavestroughs around your home	Before and after photos	Removing debris from eavestroughs is critical to prevent combustible* materials like leaves and pine needles from igniting during a wildfire. If not removed, this debris can easily catch fire and spread to the roof and home, increasing the risk of the entire building burning down.	\$50
Remove all combustible* ground cover, such as mulch and plants, within 1.5 metres of the house perimeter	Before and after photos	The 1.5 m area around your home is the most vulnerable to wind-blown embers during a wildfire. Creating an area around your home that can resist catching fire, as mulch and certain plants can ignite easily and transfer flames or heat to the structure.	\$50
Remove combustible* materials (firewood, lumber and non-fire-resistant vegetation) stored within 10 metres of house perimeter and from under the decks	Before and after photos	Firewood, lumber, and non-fire-resistant plants, trees and shrubs can ignite easily during a wildfire, producing intense heat and flames that spread to nearby structures. Decks and areas close to the home are especially dangerous, especially if the flammable items are stored close by, as they provide a direct pathway for fire to reach the building. Keeping this zone clear reduces the risk of a fire spreading to your home and increases your home's chances of surviving a wildfire.	\$50
Prune trees to create a 2 metre clearance from the ground to the lowest tree branches.	Before and after photos	A ladder fire is defined when flames climb from the ground to the tree canopy via low branches. This rapid spread makes the fire harder to control and more dangerous. Maintaining a 2 m clearance helps reduce this risk and slow the fire's vertical spread.	\$50

(*Combustible means things that can easily catch fire and burn)





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Create a fire safe apartment patio or balcony: clear combustible items like dry leaves, cardboard boxes, and other flammable items	Before and after photos	In the event of a fire, a clutter-free space allows for easier evacuation. It also prevents fire from jumping to adjacent units, especially in multi-story buildings.	\$50
Create a fire safe apartment patio or balcony: purchase fire-resistant furniture and / or planters	Photos, proof (e.g. material specifications) that furniture / planters are non-combustible.	Recommended materials include metal, stone, tempered glass, and treated wood. Avoid plastic, wicker, untreated wood and foam cushions.	\$100
 Perform roof maintenance/repairs	Before and after photos and submission of receipts/invoices	A well-maintained roof plays a vital role in protecting your home from wildfires. Wind-blown embers can enter through gaps, cracks, or missing shingles, potentially igniting the attic and causing internal fires. Regular inspections, sealing of openings, and timely repairs help block ember entry, enhance the roof's ability to withstand heat, and reduce the risk of collapse or fire spread.	\$100
 Repair windows and/or exterior doors	Before and after photos and submission of receipts/invoices	Re-caulk, fix gaps and cracks, and replace weather stripping to minimize exposure of combustible materials to fire and/or embers, and remove entry points for water and heat	\$100
 Repair cracks, gaps, holes in exterior cladding/siding	Before and after photos and submission of receipts/invoices	Minimize exposure of combustible materials to fire and/or embers, and remove entry points for water and heat	\$100
 Install non-combustible gutter guards	Before and after photos. Proof (e.g. contractor's receipt, material specifications, etc.) that new gutter guards are made of non-combustible materials	During a wildfire, one of the greatest threats to homes is wind-driven embers. These embers can travel kilometers ahead of the main fire and ignite leaves and other debris that accumulate in gutters. Note this could also mitigate flooding around the home where the gutter guard prevents buildup of eavestroughs allowing for water flow.	\$150
Purchase of a wildfire suppression gutter or roof mounted sprinkler system	Receipts for items purchased	<p>The gutter mounted or rooftop sprinkler system helps protect homes from wildfires by spraying water over the roof and nearby areas to keep them wet and reduce the chance of catching fire from blowing embers. It's easy to set up, doesn't require any tools, and is re-usable.</p> <p>The system can be easily attached to the house and is meant specifically to support fire protection if the household is evacuated. Households should follow evacuation instructions by officials.</p> <p>Depending on the structure in addition to the gutter mounted sprinkler system, sprinkler tripods and high-quality garden hoses can be added to enhance the capability of the system. These optional add-ons are not covered by this mitigation program.</p>	\$200






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 Install/retrofit deck boards (including stair treads and railings) with fire-rated materials	Before and after photos Deck boards and stair treads: proof that the material used is non-combustible, ignition resistant materials. Must meet CAN/ULC S102 standard) OR Class A flame spread rating (per ASTM E84 or CAN/ULC S102). A minimum of one of these three criteria must be met. Railings: proof that materials used are non-combustible. Composite railings must be tested under ASTM E84 or CAN/ULC S102.	The most common type of fire-rated decking material is composite decking, and lightweight concrete is the most common non-combustible decking. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-combustible decking materials include concrete, aluminum, etc. • Ignition resistant decking materials include composite materials. • Non-combustible railing materials include metal, tempered glass panels with metal framing or composite. 	\$1,500
 FireSmart™ tree replacement *refer to list of qualifying tree types	Before and after photos, receipts	Tree replacement must adhere to FireSmart™ Guidelines and be planted not closer than 10 meters from the residence. FireSmart_Landscaping-Guide.pdf	\$1,500
 Replace existing roofing with fire rated roofing (Class A)	Before and after photos Proof (e.g. contractor's receipt, material specifications, etc.) that new roofing material is rated as Class A, and must be installed by a professional	While Class A materials can still catch fire, the fire spreads much more slowly. Class A materials include metal, asphalt, fiberglass/asphalt and concrete/clay.	\$1,500
 Replace combustible siding with non-combustible* or ignition resistant material	Before and after photos Proof (e.g. material specifications, contractor invoice, etc.) that siding is non-combustible.	Non-combustible materials include metal, aluminum, cement board, stucco, and brick. EIFS (exterior insulation and finish system) is not eligible under this program.	\$1,500
 Replace exterior doors with ones that are fire-rated and thermally insulated	Before and after photos Proof (e.g. door specifications, contractor invoice, etc.) that the new doors are fire-rated and thermally rated. Must be installed by a professional.	Fire-rated and thermally insulated exterior doors slow the spread of flames and heat transfer, allowing time for emergency services to put out the fire, evacuate people, and save what remains of your property.	\$1,500

Disclaimer: It is important to note that no measure can completely eliminate the risk of damage or loss. Mitigation activities can help reduce the risk and potential impact of natural disasters, but they do not guarantee that properties will not be affected or damaged in the event of a hazard. It is important to always have a plan in place for emergencies and to follow any evacuation orders issued by local authorities. For additional information and helpful resources visit <https://firesmartcanada.ca/>.