

# Homalco

The Homalco emergency management team has produced this newsletter in order to share with the community our progress in protecting the community from wildfire through the implementation of FireSmart.



# FireSmart<sup>®</sup>

## Canada

## Newsletter

March 31, 2022

### FireSmart Champions

Did you know that Ella Paul and James Hackett are Homalco's trained Community FireSmart Champions? If you have any questions about what you see in this newsletter please reach out to them.



### What is FireSmart?

Fire is a natural component of the forests surrounding Homalco, and with climate change the presence and impacts of wildfire will only be more strongly felt by the community. FireSmart means living with and managing for wildfire. FireSmart gives us the tools to reduce risk.



Is your emergency information package hanging in the front closet? If you need one please ask Ella.

# FireSmart in Nine Easy Steps

## THE DO'S AND DON'TS OF PROTECTING YOUR HOME FROM WILDFIRE



PreparedBC

CLEAN YOUR EAVES AND ENCLOSE SOFFITS SO EMBERS CAN'T EASILY GET IN.

REPLACE OLDER STYLE ROOFS LIKE CEDAR WITH NON-COMBUSTIBLE ONES. (METAL, CERAMIC OR ASPHALT).

SPACE TREES SO THAT THE CROWNS ARE THREE TO SIX METRES APART.

DON'T PLANT HIGHLY COMBUSTIBLE TREE VARIETIES, SUCH AS PINE, SPRUCE OR JUNIPER.

STACK FIREWOOD MORE THAN 10 METRES FROM YOUR HOME.

STORE PROPANE TANKS AT LEAST 10 METRES FROM YOUR HOUSE.

REDUCE THE NUMBER OF EVERGREENS LIKE PINE AND SPRUCE, WHICH ARE MORE COMBUSTIBLE THAN DECIDUOUS TREES.

REGULARLY MOW AND WATER THE GRASS.

REMOVE DEAD TREES, MATURE TREES AND THICK SHRUBBERY. SPACE CROWNS THREE TO SIX METRES APART WHERE POSSIBLE.

ZONE 1  
10 METRES

ZONE 2  
30 METRES

ZONE 3  
100 METRES

SOURCE WEBSITE:  
[WWW.BCWILDFIRE.CA](http://WWW.BCWILDFIRE.CA)



**Be FireSmart.** CLEAR YOUR EAVES OF DEBRIS SO IT DOESN'T BECOME FUEL FOR WILDFIRES.

[WWW.BCWILDFIRE.CA](http://WWW.BCWILDFIRE.CA)



**Be FireSmart.** STACK FIREWOOD AT LEAST 10 METRES AWAY FROM YOUR HOME.

[WWW.BCWILDFIRE.CA](http://WWW.BCWILDFIRE.CA)



**Be FireSmart.** REMOVE HIGHLY FLAMMABLE PINE, SPRUCE AND JUNIPER TREES FROM WITHIN 10 METRES OF YOUR HOME.

[WWW.BCWILDFIRE.CA](http://WWW.BCWILDFIRE.CA)

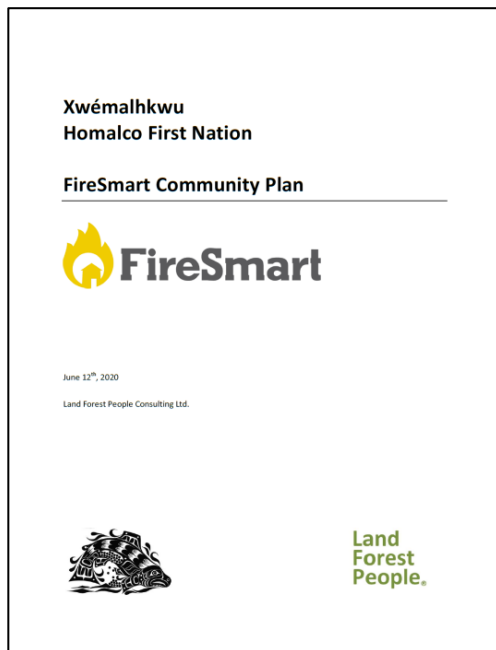


**Be FireSmart.** STORE COMBUSTIBLE FUELS AT LEAST 10 METRES AWAY FROM YOUR HOME.

[WWW.BCWILDFIRE.CA](http://WWW.BCWILDFIRE.CA)







Your emergency program staff and your FireSmart Champions have worked hard to decrease the risk of wildfire to our community and as a result Homalco is a

## Recognized FireSmart Community!

For more information on recognition see <https://firesmartbc.ca/firesmart-canada-neighbourhood-recognition-program-fcnrp/>

One requirement for recognition is to have in place a FireSmart Community Plan. You can download a copy of the Homalco Community FireSmart Plan at this link:

<https://www.homalco.com/emergency-management/firesmart/>

## Accomplishments

Our community as a whole, and 14 individual homes, have been assessed for opportunities to reduce wildfire risk through FireSmart treatments. This has allowed us to prioritize treatments. Some properties were treated by our summer students last year. They removed brush and cut grass to reduce the intensity of wildfire if it were to happen.

## This Summer's Program

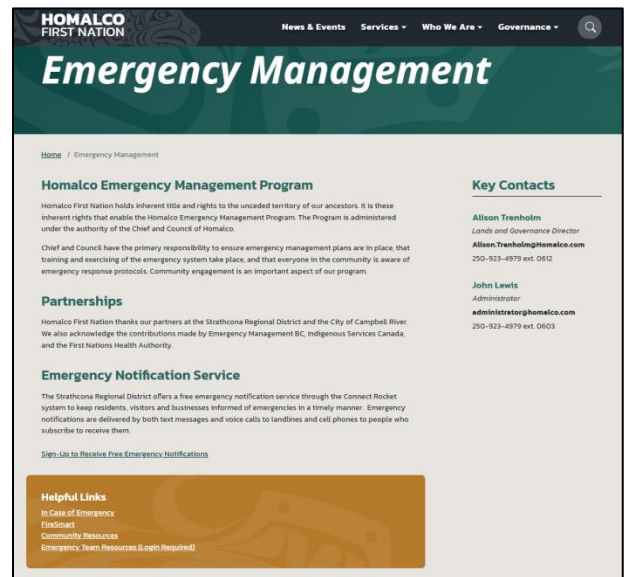
We have identified 33 homes or properties within the community which would benefit from treatment. More home assessments will be undertaken, during which residents will receive tips on house maintenance that will reduce risk from wildfire.

We have secured funding, and with your collaboration, we will undertake a range of treatments including brushing, rooting out of brush, removing or pruning trees, broom pulling, removal of debris, and seeding of disturbed areas. Our FireSmart Champions will be reaching out to residents and CP Holders whose properties are identified.



Did you know that Homalco has an emergency management page on our website? Take a look, including for information on FireSmart!

<https://www.homalco.com/emergency-management/>



## Coming Up: Homalco Fire Safety Day!

This summer we will hold another community FireSmart and fire safety day. Watch for an announcement and details.

