FireSmart Canada

FireSmart Home Partners App

Laura Stewart, President
Partners in Protection Association
Introduction

Laura Stewart
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FireSmart Engagement Specialist, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
Overview

• History
• FireSmart Home Partners App introduction
• The Need
• Current Assessment Options
• FireSmart Home Partners Program Overview
• Mobile App and Program Website
History

- FireSmart Home Partners App is modelled after the Wildfire Partners program in Boulder County, Colorado.
- Funding from the Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA) has allowed Partners in Protection to develop and pilot the program for Canada in Whitecourt and the MD of Lesser Slave River.
The Need in Canada

- Currently there is no standardized system in place that offers defendable, detailed and customized measurable wildfire risk assessments and tracked measurable risk reductions for individual properties.

- Growing interest and need for relating risk assessments to economic impacts of wildfire (insurance, real estate)

- Individual properties (Home Ignition Zone) are where the risk can be effectively reduced.
### Structure and Site Hazard Assessment Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Page reference</th>
<th>Characteristics and point ratings</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Roofing material</td>
<td>2-6</td>
<td>Metal, tile, asphalt, IIC-rated shakes or non-combustible material</td>
<td>Unrated wood shakes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Roof sheathing</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>No combustible material</td>
<td>Scattered combustible material, &lt;1 cm in depth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Building exterior</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>Non-combustible shingles or metal siding</td>
<td>Log, heavy timbers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Eaves, vents and openings</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>Closer eaves, vents screened with a minimum of a 1/8 inch mesh and accessible</td>
<td>Closed eaves, vents not screened with a non-mesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Balcony, deck or patio</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>None, or fire-resistant material not shingled</td>
<td>Combustible material, washed in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Window and door glazing</td>
<td>2-10</td>
<td>Tempered Double Pane Single Pane</td>
<td>Small Medium Large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Location of nearby combustibles</td>
<td>2.11</td>
<td>None or &gt;10 metres from structure</td>
<td>≤10 metres from structure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Setback from edge or slope</td>
<td>2-12</td>
<td>Adequate Inadequate</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Forest vegetation (excess)</td>
<td>2-13</td>
<td>Deciduous Mixed wood Coniferous</td>
<td>Separated Continuous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Surface vegetation</td>
<td>2-15</td>
<td>Leaf or non-combustible material Wild grass or shrubs</td>
<td>Dead and even weedy material</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Ladder fuels</td>
<td>2-16</td>
<td>Absent Scattered Abundant</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Total Score for Factors 1 – 11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hazard Level</th>
<th>Low ≤11 points</th>
<th>Moderate 12-25 points</th>
<th>High 26-35 points</th>
<th>Extreme &gt;35 points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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# Current FireSmart Area Assessment

## Area Hazard Assessment Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Page Reference</th>
<th>Characteristics and Point Ratings</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 Forest vegetation (ancillary)</td>
<td>2-18</td>
<td>Deciduous</td>
<td>Mixed wood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Surface vegetation</td>
<td>2-18</td>
<td>Litter or non-combustible material</td>
<td>Wild grass or shrubs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Ladder fuels</td>
<td>2-18</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>Scattered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Slope</td>
<td>2-19</td>
<td>0 - 10%</td>
<td>10 - 25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Position on slope</td>
<td>2-20</td>
<td>Valley bottoms or lower slopes</td>
<td>Mid-slope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Score for Factors 12 – 16

Area Hazard Level:

- Low <21 points
- Moderate 21-25 points
- High 26-35 points
- Extreme >35 points

Remarks:
# FCCRP Community Wildfire Hazard Assessment Form

This Community Wildfire Hazard Assessment form provides a written evaluation of the overall community wildfire hazard – the prevailing condition of structures, adjacent vegetation and other factors affecting the FireSmart status of a small community or neighborhood. This hazard is based on the hazard factors and FireSmart recommended guidelines found in FireSmart: Protecting Your Community from Wildfire (Partners in Protection, 2003) and will assist the Local FireSmart Representative in preparing the FireSmart Community Assessment Report. NOTE: Mitigation comments refer to the degree to which the overall community complies or fails to comply with FireSmart recommended guidelines with respect to each hazard factor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Name:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessor Name:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accompanying Community Member(s):</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hazard Factor</th>
<th>Ref</th>
<th>Mitigation Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Roof Assemblies</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Type of roofs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ULC rated (metal, tile, asphalt, rated wood shakes)</td>
<td>2-5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrated (unrated wood shakes)</td>
<td>3-21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Roof cleanliness and condition</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Debris accumulation on roofs/ in gutters, curled damaged or missing roofing materials, or any gaps that will allow ember entry or fire impingement beneath the roof covering</td>
<td>2-6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2. Building Exteriors</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1. Materials</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Siding, deck and eaves</td>
<td>2-7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Window and door glazing (single pane, sealed double pane)</td>
<td>2-8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Ember Accumulator Features (scarce to abundant)</td>
<td>2-9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Structural features such as open eaves, gutters, unscreened soffits and vents, roof valleys and unvented chimneys, and under-deck areas</td>
<td>2-10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Nearby Combustibles – firewood, fences, cut buildings</td>
<td>2-11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Current Insurance Assessment Options

- **ISO** – Insurance Service Officer/ Underwriters
  - All aspects of fire protection at the community level (theoretical)
  - Focused on response – not very relevant to wildfire
- **Actual Losses**
  - Not enough wildfire losses to impact insurance (until 2016)
- **Landscape level assessment**
  - Does not recognize the ability to change risk at the Home Ignition Zone level
More than just an app – the next step in FireSmart!

- **Advocacy** – community outreach, homeowner education, real estate and insurance industry training

- **Collaboration** – community stakeholders, local fire department staff, insurance providers, business and development community members and Alberta Wildfire Management Branch staff.

- **Measurable wildfire risk reduction** – tested science and research, customized recommendations for homeowners to take action.
FireSmart Home Partners
Program Goals

• Provide wildfire outreach and education that results in long term behaviour change.

• Provide individual home and property specific advice, empowering homeowners to measurable reduce wildfire risk to their property.

• Provide the economic benefits of measurably wildfire risk reduced homes (insurance, real estate, etc)

• Reduce the overall wildfire risk and cumulative effects of multiple structure losses on the community.
FireSmart Home Partners
Program Components

- Program Management
- Wildfire Mitigation Specialists
- Data Management Mobile App
- Recognition
- Communications
- Marketing and homeowner recruitment
- Public relations
Wildfire Mitigation Specialists

- Local fire department staff with wildfire experience
- Provincial Wildfire Management Branch staff
- Consultants/Contractors
Data Management
Mobile App
Mobile App

Sign Out  Assessments  New Assessment

Cancel  Basics - (0%)  Save

Client’s Name
The client’s name

Client’s Email
The client’s email (This will be used to si...

Address

Address of the property being inspected

Town / City / Village
The town or city in which the property is l...

Province
Alberta
Tap here to set

Conducted On
October 24, 2016
Tap here to set

Property Photo
Take a Photo  Select a Photo

Include Submitted  Download Assessments

Jump to Page

FireSmart Canada
### Mobile App

1) **Is there a minimum 1.5m distance between any wood fences and the closest**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>N/A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

2) **Deck Materials**

Response

3) **Deck Connection: Is there protection at combustible siding to deck junction?**

| Yes | No | N/A (No... |
Mobile App

1) Is there a minimum 1.5m distance between any wood fences and the closest
   - Yes
   - No
   - N/A

2) Deck Materials
   - Response

3) Deck Connection: Is there protection at combustible siding to deck junction?
   - Yes
   - No
   - N/A (No...)

[Images of mobile app screens showing options and checkboxes for Fire-Rated Wood, Fire-Rated Composite, Heavy Timber, Non-Combustible, Non-Rated Wood, Non-Rated Composite, and N/A]
Mobile App

1) Is there a minimum 1.5m distance between any wood fences and the closest

- Yes
- No
- N/A

2) Deck Materials

- Response

3) Deck Connection: Is there protection at combustible siding to deck junction?

- Yes
- No
- N/A (No...)

Check all that apply:
- Fire-Rated Wood
- Fire-Rated Composite
- Heavy Timber
- Non-Combustible
- Non-Rated Wood
- Non-Rated Composite
- N/A

Done
2) Firewood: Are firewood piles stored at least 10 m from all structures and are there

- Yes
- No
- N/A

Assessor's Comments
Move firewood pile away from structure. Suggest...

Take a Photo
Select a Photo

3) Propane Tanks: Are propane tanks properly mitigated?
### Basics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Client Name</td>
<td>Laura Stewart (<a href="mailto:laura.a.stewart@gov.ab.ca">laura.a.stewart@gov.ab.ca</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>295, 52343 Range Road 211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td>Ardrossan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Province</td>
<td>Alberta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conducted By</td>
<td>Laura Stewart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Updated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Status</td>
<td><img src="New" alt="New" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Firewood: Are firewood piles stored at least 10 m from all structures and are there at least 3 m of clearance between the piles and the closest conifer branches?

No

Move firewood pile away from structure. Store in fire resistant structure or move to priority zone two or three and break into smaller piles.

3. Propane Tanks: Are propane tanks properly mitigated?

Yes
Accessory Structures & Personal Property

Firewood: Are firewood piles stored at least 10 m from all structures and are there at least 3 m of clearance between the piles and the closest conifer branches?

Move firewood pile away from structure. Store in fire resistant structure or move to priority zone two or three and break into smaller piles.
Next Steps

- Marketing and homeowner recruitment in the MD of Lesser Slave River and Town of Whitecourt
- Communications
- Assessments!
Thank You!

Questions?

Laura Stewart
587-985-2095 (phone)
laura.a.stewart@gov.ab.ca (email)