



HARRISON HOT SPRINGS

*Naturally Refreshed*

# Village of Harrison Hot Springs



**FireSmart Annual Report  
2025**

Thank you to the Union of British Columbia  
Municipalities (UBCM): FireSmart Community  
Funding and Supports Program for their  
financial contributions to the Village.



# Table of Contents

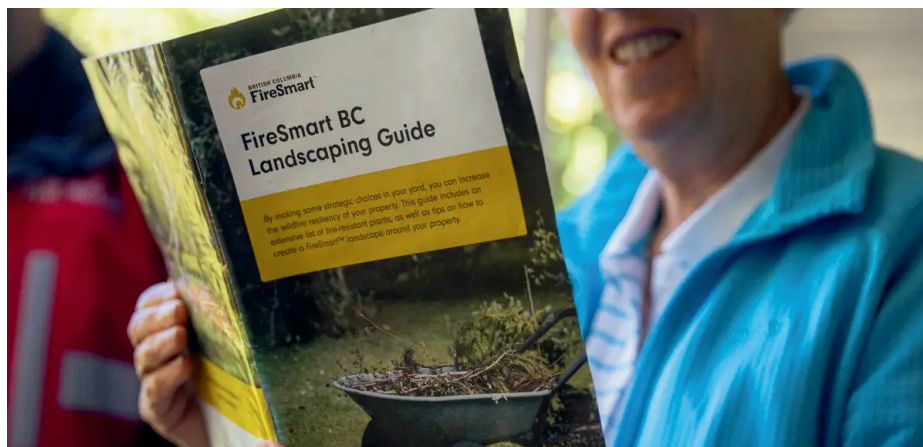
<b>FireSmart Annual Report</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Legislation &amp; Planning</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Education</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Development Considerations</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Vegetation Management</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Emergency Planning</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Training</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Inter-Agency Cooperation</b>	<b>10</b>

## FireSmart Annual Report 2025

FireSmart is founded on seven disciplines (**legislation & planning, education, development considerations, vegetation management, emergency planning, training, and inter-agency cooperation.**)

These disciplines shaped the layout of the Village's Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan (CWRP) completed in 2024 and will be how we highlight accomplishments and work completed in the Village's Annual Report.

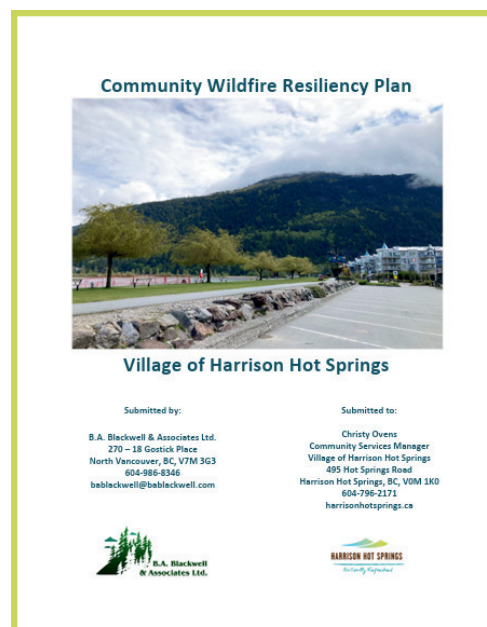
*FireSmart is based on foundational scientific evidence that suggests changes to the built environment are the best and most cost-effective way to increase a home's survivability from wildfire.*



*FireSmart standards are adopted to decrease the likelihood of losses from wildfire events. It is recognized that there is an urgent need to increase and improve the scientific basis for FireSmart approaches to increase wildfire resiliency of communities.*  
(FireSmart BC website)

# Legislation & Planning

- The Village recently adopted the 2024 Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan (CWRP)
  - Scheduled to be updated in 2029
  - \*Pending FireSmart Funding & Supports Program impacts, the Village may need to look at including this budgetary item in its capital plan to be funded by the Village, instead of relying on grant funding.
- The Village will be reviewing its Tree Management and Preservation Bylaw No. 1015 with recommended changes to support FireSmart principles
- Additional recommendations from the 2024 CWRP will be reviewed when the Village undertakes its next Official Community Plan process



# Education

Building community awareness is key to reducing wildfire risk. Here we showcase initiatives that educate residents, youth, and visitors on FireSmart practices and how they can take action at home.

## In 2025, the Village:

- Packaged FireSmart Landscaping packs and dispersed them to 19 residents.
- Ensured FireSmart educational materials, including FireSmart Begins at Home and FireSmart Landscaping Guides were made readily available at the Village Office.
- Continued to share FireSmart messaging via the Electronic Messaging Board and Village social media.
- Organized an elementary school tour highlighting FireSmart practices.



# Development Considerations

Safe development and property design are essential for wildfire resilience. This section highlights efforts to assess homes and critical infrastructure, ensuring new and existing structures are FireSmart compliant.

## In 2025, the Village:

- Completed its Parks & Trails Master Plan which included considerations for FireSmart principles and referenced the CWRP
- Continued to offer Home Ignition Zone Assessments.
- Reviewed completed Critical Infrastructure Assessments and updated those that required them.
- Began projects to implement recommendations highlighted in the Critical Infrastructure Assessments
  - Fire Hall mitigation work completed



# Vegetation Management

Managing vegetation and fuels around homes and public spaces reduces wildfire intensity and spread. Here we describe Village-led projects, resident support programs, and targeted landscaping improvements.

## In 2025, the Village:

- Completed fuel management project along Spirit Trail loop
- Removal of trees at Fire Hall to increase wildfire resiliency
- Supported residential scale vegetation management through FireSmart landscaping kits
- FireSmart plantings and landscaping improvements at the Village Office
- Focused on targeted fuel management at the Village's critical sites and public spaces.

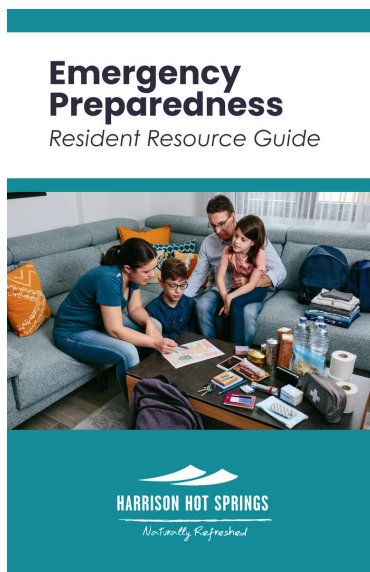


# Emergency Planning

Preparedness saves lives and property during wildfire events. This section details exercises, equipment upgrades, and planning initiatives to ensure Village staff and emergency responders are ready.

## In 2025:

- Village staff conducted a tabletop Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) exercise with the support of the Kent Harrison Joint Emergency Program (KHJEP) Coordinator and Harrison Hot Springs Fire Department (FD).
- \$50,000 in Structure Protection Unit equipment was added to the Harrison Hot Springs Fire Department



Emergency Preparedness  
Resident Resource Guide (2025)



# Training

Knowledgeable and skilled personnel are critical for effective wildfire response. This section highlights training programs and certifications completed by Village staff and fire department members.

## **In 2025, the Village:**

- Expanded the Village's FireSmart team (CWRP #21) to include a Crew Member (FireSmart Horticulture Technician), who completed the Local FireSmart Representative training course
- Wildfire Mitigation Specialist Training was attended by the FireSmart Coordinator
- 2 Team Members Attended the Wildfire Resiliency and Training Summit
- 4 FD Members participated in Engine Boss Training
- 6 FD Members participated in Task Force Leader
- 14 members completed annual refresher of Wildland Firefighter Level 1

# Inter-Agency Cooperation

Wildfire resilience is strengthened through collaboration. Here we highlight partnerships with regional organizations and neighbouring communities to share resources and best practices.

## In 2025, the Village:

- Participated in the Fraser Valley Wildfire Resiliency Collaborative regional meetings
  - Hosted by District of Hope and S.A.Y. Lands Office

