



LOCAL FIRESMART REPRESENTATIVE TRAINING WORKSHOP



(A Component of the FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program)

WORKSHOP BACKGROUND / SYLLABUS AND AGENDA

(Date / Town / and facility name and address TBA here)

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Workshop Sponsor:.....Manitoba Natural Resources (MNR), FireSmart Program

MNR Workshop Liaison:.....Department Head, FireSmart Coordinator
Manitoba Natural Resources (MNR), FireSmart Program

For Workshop Enquiries:.....Department Head, LFR Workshop Coordinator - (222) 222-2222

For FCCR Program Enquiries:Contact Kelly O’Shea, Partners in Protection - (780) 435-7338

TARGET AUDIENCE:

Fire response and land or municipal managers familiar with wildland/urban interface (WUI) issues and FireSmart principles that wish to implement the FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program (FCCRP) in their jurisdiction by serving as Local FireSmart Representatives (LFR`s) are the primary target audience.

Specifically:

- Wildland fire management agency / Municipal fire department staff
- Emergency Management agency staff
- Rural or urban planners or managers
- Office of the Fire Commissioner/Fire Marshall agency staff
- WUI specialists (e.g. RPF's, RFT's, other land specialists with wildland fire responsibilities)

Note: A shorter duration (1/2 day) 'FireSmart Community Champion' workshop is also offered as a component of the FCCRP and will be delivered subsequently by LFR's in their respective jurisdictions. Persons wishing to be involved in the FCCRP but who do not have a professional affiliation with WUI fire protection / prevention / planning are advised to enroll in the Community Champion workshop when offered in their community.



WORKSHOP PURPOSE:

This workshop has been developed to assist community leaders and fire professionals to become familiar with and implement all components of the FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program. The training provided in this two-day workshop will also equip you – the Local FireSmart Representative - with an understanding of current wildland/urban interface concepts and wildfire hazard assessments, with tools and skills to recruit and motivate volunteer community leaders, and mentoring abilities to work with self-organized groups of citizens as they plan and implement wildfire mitigations in their own neighbourhoods.

GENERAL BACKGROUND:

This workshop has been developed by the Partners in Protection Association - an association of municipal, provincial/territorial and federal agencies, organizations and individuals dedicated to reducing the risk of wildfire losses in Canada's wildland/urban interface areas.

In 1999 Partners in Protection published a comprehensive manual - *FireSmart: Protecting Your Community from Wildfire* and has been on the leading edge of interface fire protection in Canada ever since. The FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program is the second major component of the FireSmart Canada Initiative being promoted by the Association, and has been developed for presentation across Canada.

Local FireSmart Representatives are the key facilitators of the FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program. They are the primary catalyst for achieving its greater goal of motivating and engaging citizens to plan and take action towards reducing wildfire losses. The FCCRP is “grassroots”, and especially effective on private land in the wildland/urban interface, beyond the reach of agency driven wildfire hazard mitigation programs on public lands. This workshop evolved from a prototype delivered at Kamloops, B.C. in April, 2012.

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES:

The FCCRP – LFR workshop will:

1. Enhance participant understanding of wildland fire behavior, how homes and structures are threatened by wildfire - and ignite, how to systematically recognize wildfire hazards in the WUI, and the full range of FireSmart mitigations for reducing wildfire risk to the WUI.
2. Enable participants to apply or at least understand the wildland fire hazard assessment process and appropriate mitigation measures available to individual or small groups of homes in ways that will aid residents in working together to reduce wildfire risks at the neighbourhood scale.
3. Provide an overview of FCCRP components, step-by-step procedures for implementing the FCCRP, and examples and exercises that develop the skills required to make it work effectively in your jurisdiction.
4. Prepare you to fulfill all LFR duties, or contract assistance in support of the FCCRP and agency wildfire protection goals in the greater community.
5. Provide you with the communication tools required (i.e. a delivery ready mini-workshop) to recruit, inform and motivate area residents and assist Community Champions to take the lead in organizing their neighbours to take collective actions that reduce the potential for wildfire losses.



ORGANIZATION:

The workshop consists of a series of thirteen interactive classroom modules with exercises that cover critical WUI background information, the 8-step FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program, and material to facilitate and deliver future Community Champion workshops.

This workshop spans two full days with sessions running each day from approximately 0800 to 1630 inclusive of breaks and lunch.

JOINING INSTRUCTIONS:

Known LFR workshop dates will be posted on the FireSmart Canada website:

<https://www.firesmartcanada.ca> Follow the links to: /FireSmart Communities/Community Recognition Program/Local FireSmart Representative Workshops.

Specific joining instructions, accommodation, transportation options, and other relevant information will be provided by the hosting agency or organization.

Prior to arriving at the LFR Workshop, participants are encouraged to review Chapters 1 to 3 of the FireSmart manual (i.e. *FireSmart: Protection Your Community from Wildfire*) and the brochure “*Becoming a Recognized FireSmart Community*” (both available for download on the FireSmart Canada website).

WORKSHOP MATERIALS:

Upon arrival at the workshop, participants will receive a complete binder package with printed copies of all workshop documents and materials required for the course (pens and/or pencils excepted).

WORKSHOP SYLLABUS:

The Workshop Syllabus features 13 Workshop Modules each with a specific set of Learning Objectives as outlined on the following page.

These modules are divided into three major workshop sections. In order of presentation, these are:

1. WUI Primer – Workshop Modules 2 – 6 – addresses Workshop Objective #1
Content: Wildfire and WUI fire, FireSmart mitigations
2. FCCRP – Workshop Modules 7 – 11 – addresses Workshop Objective #2 - 4
Content: FCCRP structure and details
3. Champion program – Workshop Module 12 – addresses Workshop Objective #5
Content: FCCRP Community Champion program



LOCAL FIRESMART REPRESENTATIVE TRAINING WORKSHOP
Workshop Modules (WM) and Learning Objectives (LO)
Introduction of trainer / facilitators; Workshop housekeeping and safety rules
WM 1: Workshop Introduction
LO 1-1 Understand the purpose, objectives and organization of this workshop.
LO 1-2 Awareness of workshop materials and resources.
LO 1-3 Awareness of the FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program.
LO 1-4 Familiarity with Partners in Protection, it’s vision, and evolution of the FireSmart Canada Initiative.
SECTION A: WILDLAND/URBAN INTERFACE PRIMER
WM 2: Where is the Wildland/Urban Interface and What are the Issues?
LO 2-1 Describe the general characteristics of the WUI.
LO 2-2 Explain the major issues contributing to WUI fire losses in Canada.
LO 2-3 Explain some of the key realities and myths about wildfire in the WUI.
LO 2-4 Discuss wildfire as an essential (ecological) natural occurrence in Canadian landscapes.
WM 3: The Behavior and Implications of Wildland Fire in the Wildland/Urban Interface
LO 3-1 Describe the WUI disaster cycle and lessons learned from wildfire disasters.
LO 3-2 Understand the mechanisms of structural ignition.
LO 3-3 Outline recent research findings that are helping refocus WUI mitigation efforts.
LO 3-4 Discuss the shifting approach to fire management in the WUI.
WM 4: Recognizing Wildfire Hazards to Individual Homes
LO 4-1 Outline 3 distinct scales for assessing wildland fire hazards in the WUI.
LO 4-2 Describe the importance of the home and Priority Zones 1, 2, 3 in breaking the WUI disaster cycle.
LO 4-3 Describe the basic approach for assessing wildfire hazards in the Ignition Zone.
LO 4-4 Explain hazards associated with home ignition in the WUI.
WM 5: Assessing Wildfire Hazards to Individual Homes
LO 5-1 Describe a new strategy for reducing wildfire risks and losses in the WUI.
LO 5-2 Explain approaches for conducting wildfire hazard assessments.
LO 5-3 Familiarize LFR’s with FireSmart Hazard Assessment forms.
WM 6: FireSmart Solutions for Mitigating Ignition Risk
LO 6-1 Understand responsibility for risk mitigation in the WUI.
LO 6-2 Describe wildfire risk mitigation solutions to reduce ignitability of structures.
LO 6-3 Explain wildfire risk mitigation solutions relevant to vegetation in the Ignition Zone.
LO 6-4 Explain wildfire risk mitigation solutions relevant to infrastructure.
LO 6-5 Discuss the effectiveness of FireSmart solutions in reducing home losses.



SECTION B: ALL ABOUT THE FIRESMART CANADA COMMUNITY RECOGNITION PROGRAM
WM 7: Introduction to the FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program
LO 7-1 Identify situations and locations where the FCCR Program can be applied.
LO 7-2 Explain the general duties of the <i>Local FireSmart Representative</i> .
LO 7-3 Describe the steps leading to <i>FireSmart Community Recognition Status</i> .
LO 7-4 Understand key benefits of the FCCRP approach.
WM 8: Working with Residents to Achieve FireSmart Community Recognition Status
LO 8-1 Understand how residents make initial contact with the FCCR Program.
LO 8-2 Understand the roles of the <i>FireSmart Community Champion</i> and the <i>FireSmart Board</i> .
LO 8-3 Explain how to arrange and conduct a successful site visit to a community or neighbourhood.
WM 9: Preparing for Action: Wildfire Hazard Assessment and Preparing a Plan
LO 9-1 Become proficient at using the <i>Community Wildfire Hazard Assessment Form (CWHAF)</i> .
LO 9-2 Describe the purpose and content of the <i>FireSmart Community Assessment Report (FSCAR)</i> .
LO 9-3 Understand how to develop recommendations to include in the FSCAR.
LO 9-4 Understand how to present the FSCAR, and its use by the <i>FireSmart Board</i> .
LO 9-5 Describe the production of the <i>FS Community Plan</i> .
WM 10: Getting on with the Work: Implementing Solutions
LO 10-1 Describe potential <i>FireSmart Events</i> and activities.
LO 10-2 Identify potential <i>FireSmart Events</i> suited to communities in your jurisdiction.
LO 10-3 Outline how grants and other external assistance may be applied to gaining <i>FireSmart Status</i> .
WM 11: Applying for Recognition
LO 11-1 Outline the 5 criteria for achieving <i>FireSmart Community Recognition Status</i> .
LO 11-2 Describe the <i>FireSmart Community Recognition Application</i> process - applying, approval, renewal.
LO 11-3 Describe roles of the <i>FireSmart Board</i> , <i>LFR</i> , <i>P/T Liaison</i> , and <i>PIP</i> in the <i>FCCRP application</i> process.
LO 11-4 Understand the purpose of the <i>FireSmart Community Protection Achievement Certificate</i> .
LO 11-5 Describe the benefits of achieving <i>FireSmart Community Recognition Status</i> .
SECTION C: DELIVERING YOUR OWN COMMUNITY CHAMPION WORKSHOPS
WM 12: Fostering Community Champions
LO 12-1 Explain how local leaders (<i>FireSmart Community Champions</i>) can be found and encouraged.
LO 12-2 Describe how to organize a <i>FireSmart Community Champion (FCC) Workshop</i> .
LO 12-3 Enable LFR's to conduct a FCC Workshop using prepared instructional materials
WM 13: LFR Workshop Review and Wrap-up
LO 13-1 Provide a summary overview of workshop achievements.
LO 13-2 Discuss your plans for implementing the FCCRP in your own jurisdiction.
LO 13-3 Understand where to look for support, further information, and advice.
LO 13-4 Provide constructive feedback to Partners in Protection on this workshop



CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION:

Participants who complete the two-day LFR workshop will be issued a *Local FireSmart Representative* “Certificate of Completion” by Partners in Protection and their Provincial/ Territorial FireSmart Liaison. Local FireSmart Representatives are invited and encouraged to engage with Partners in Protection through their Provincial/ Territorial FireSmart Liaison to commence implementation of the FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program within their respective jurisdictions. Local FireSmart Representatives perform a variety of essential duties, and are vital catalysts in assisting residents to establish and maintain FireSmart Community recognition status and reduce the potential for wildfire losses in rural and forest communities across Canada.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Partners in Protection gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the following for support in the development of this workshop and instructional materials:

- Canadian Council of Forest Ministers - Wildland Fire Management Working Group,
- Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre – Wildfire Prevention Community of Practice,
- National Fire Protection Association and Firewise Communities USA,
- Thompson-Okanagan Interface Society,
- B.C. Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations - Wildfire Management Branch,
- City of Kamloops, B.C.,
- Alberta Sustainable Resource Development – Wildfire Management Branch
- Alberta Municipal Affairs - Alberta Emergency Management Association
- Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction

WORKSHOP SUGGESTIONS:

Materials developed and presented for this workshop are the copyright of Partners in Protection Association. Suggestions for improvements to workshop materials are appreciated and should be submitted by e-mail to the Association’s Executive Director: execdirector@firesmartcanada.ca



LOCAL FIRESMART REPRESENTATIVE WORKSHOP - AGENDA

Sponsored by: Manitoba Natural Resources (MNR), FireSmart Program

Location: TBA

DAY ONE

Welcome - Introductions0800 - 0815

WM 1: Workshop Introduction..... 0815 – 0845

Section A: Wildland/Urban Interface Primer

WM 2: Where is the WUI and What are the Issues? 0845 - 1000

Coffee.....1000 - 1015

WM 3: The Behavior + Implications of Fire in the WUI 1015 – 1145

WM4: Recognizing Wildfire Hazards to Individual Homes 1145 – 1200

Lunch.....1200 - 1300

WM4: Recognizing Wildfire Hazards to Individual Homes (cont)..... 1300 – 1400

WM 5: Assessing Wildfire Hazards to Individual Homes 1400 – 1430

Coffee.....1430 - 1445

WM 5: Assessing Wildfire Hazards to Individual Homes (cont)..... 1445 – 1530

WM 6: FireSmart Solutions for Mitigating Ignition Risk 1530 – 1630

DAY TWO

Summary of Day 1/ Exercise 6-2..... 0800 - 0830

Section B: All About the FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program

WM 7: Introduction to the FCCRP 0830 – 0900

WM 8: Working with Residents to Achieve FireSmart Recognition Status 0900 - 0920

WM 9: Preparing for Action: Hazard Assessments and FireSmart Plan..... 0920 - 1000

Coffee.....1000 - 1015

WM 9: Preparing for Action: Hazard Assessments and FireSmart Plan (cont)..... 1015 - 1045

WM 10: Getting on with the Work: Implementing Solutions..... 1045 - 1145

WM 11: Applying for Recognition – Firesmart Community Status..... 1145 - 1200

Lunch.....1200 - 1300

WM 11: Applying for Recognition - Firesmart Community Status (cont)..... 1300 - 1330

Section C: Delivering Your Own Community Champion Workshops

WM 12: Fostering Community Champions..... 1330 - 1430

Coffee.....1430 - 1445

WM 12: Fostering Community Champions (cont) 1445 - 1600

WM 13: Workshop Review and Wrap-up 1600 – 1630