





## COMMUNITY INFORMATION

# **FIRESMART** Wildfire season is here, are you ready?

## WILDFIRE SEASON IS UPON US! HERE ARE SOME FIRESMART TIPS FOR OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS ON THE COOPERATIVES AND ENTERPRISES

Consider these guidelines when planning updates to your yard and as part of your ongoing property maintenance:

- a 1.5 meter non-combustible surface should extend around the entire home and any attachments such as decks, to reduce the chance of wind-blown embers igniting materials near your home
- Use non-combustible materials such as gravel, brick, or concrete in this critical 1.5 meter area adjacent to your home. Woody shrubs, trees, or tree branches should be avoided in this area, any that are present should be properly mitigated.
- A mowed lawn is a fire resistant lawn. Grasses shorter than 10 centimeters in height are less likely to burn intensely.
- Move firewood piles, stored trailers/recreational vehicles, storage sheds and other combustible materials a minimum of 10 metres from your home.
- Regularly clean up accumulations of fallen branches, dry grass, and needles from the ground to eliminate potential surface fuels
- Remove all branches to a height of 2 meters from the ground on evergreen trees that are within 30 meters.

## STAY INFORMED!

VOYENT**ALERT!**

Emergency Awareness: Stay informed! Sign up for emergency alerts and notifications from local authorities to receive timely updates about potential hazards or emergencies in your area. Knowledge is key to staying safe and prepared.



**THERE ARE MANY FACTORS THAT INCREASE YOUR COMMUNITY'S RISK OF WILDLAND FIRE.**  
Check out the *FireSmart Begins at Home* Guide for an in-depth look at how you can build wildland fire resiliency.

**IMMEDIATE  
ZONE**  
0–1.5 metres

The Immediate Zone is an area that is clear of flammable materials, starting with the house and extending out to a 1.5 metre perimeter around the home and attached structures, including decks.

**Reduce the chance of:**  
wind-blown embers igniting  
your home by starting with  
these proactive steps:

- Choose non-combustible building materials when constructing or renovating your home.

- Clear vegetation and flammable materials down to mineral soil and cover with fire-resistant materials like gravel, brick, or concrete.
- Avoid planting woody shrubs or trees. If any are present, prune and maintain them regularly.

**INTERMEDIATE  
ZONE**  
1.5–10 metres

Elements in the Intermediate Zone are managed so they don't carry fire to your home. Here are a few actions you can take to reduce your home's vulnerability:

- Plant fire-resistant vegetation and select non-flammable landscaping materials.
- Avoid the use of woody debris, including mulch.

- Keep flammable items like firewood piles, construction materials, patio furniture, tools, and decorative pieces out of this zone.
- Move trailers, recreational vehicles, storage sheds, and other flammable structures into the Extended Zone. If that's not possible, store firewood inside your fire-proofed

- Use non-flammable ground cover, like a gravel pad, underneath and 1.5 metres around trailers, recreational vehicles, propane tanks, and sheds.

**EXTENDED  
ZONE**  
10–30 metres

The goal in the Extended Zone is not to eliminate fire, but to reduce its intensity. If your community extends into this zone, a few important steps you can take include:

- Selectively remove overgreen trees to create space between them (at least 3 metres of

- Remove all branches to a height of 2 metres from the ground.
- Regularly clean up fallen branches, dry grass, and needles to eliminate potential surface fuel.

- Continue to apply these principles if your property extends beyond 30 metres. Work with your community in overlapping zones and seek guidance from a forest professional if affected by other conditions like steep slopes.

Get started on your FireSmart™ journey! [FIRESMARTCANADA.CA](http://FIRESMARTCANADA.CA)









# Susa Creek School

## OPEN HOUSE



**SMALL CLASSES. BIG OPPORTUNITIES. ALL ARE WELCOME**



Thursday, May 29th



1:00 - 4:30 p.m.

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR!**

## WHY CHOOSE SUSA CREEK SCHOOL?

- Small class sizes – About 16 students per class
- Daily literacy and numeracy support
- Student wellness and therapy services
- Breakfast and lunch for all students
- Busing across the region
- Land-based learning – Gardening, shelter-building, elk hide preparation, rabbit snaring
- Hands-on science and technology – Robotics, remote control airplanes, electronics, experiments
- Cultural learning with Elders – Medicine walks, storytelling, beading, sewing, drum-making
- Community connections – After-school programs, local partnerships, field trips
- Open to all families – Indigenous and non-Indigenous



780-827-3366



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## RECENT ACTIVITIES

We can tell you about the amazing time we had at the very first Canadian Ecological Connectivity Conference held in Banff April 22<sup>nd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>. To be in a room with 200+ wildlife connectivity experts, hearing presentations on all the great ways people are trying to keep wildlife populations connected and moving, was truly inspiring.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

We are also talking with Jasper National Park about attending their National Indigenous Peoples Day celebration on June 21<sup>st</sup>. More details to come.

## THE CARIBOU

## CARIBOU TIDBIT: MIGRATION

A La Peche, Redrock-Prairie Creek and Narraway are the only migratory mountain caribou herds under Alberta Protection. The fourth local herd, the Little Smoky herd, are boreal caribou, which are non-migratory. Boreal caribou live in small, dispersed, bands throughout the year that are relatively sedentary. They wander in small territories throughout the year, but their habitat use does not change with the seasons.

