

A FireSmart yard includes making smart choices for your plants, shrubs, grass and mulch. Selecting fire resistant plants and materials can increase the likelihood of your home surviving a wildfire. Ensure there is a 1.5 metre horizontal non-combustible surface perimeter along the outer walls of the primary structure (house).

Landscaping within 10 metres

Plant a low density of fire-resistant plants and shrubs. Avoid having any woody debris, including mulch, as it provides potential places for fires to start.

Characteristics **of fire-resistant plants**

- Moist, supple leaves
- Accumulates minimal dead vegetation
- Water-like sap with little odour
- Low amount of sap or resin material

Characteristics **of highly flammable plants**

- Leaves or needles are aromatic
- Accumulates fine, dry, dead material
- Contain resin or oils
- Loose papery or flaky bark

Plants to avoid

- Cedar
- Juniper
- Pine
- Tall grass
- Spruce

Grass

A mowed lawn is a fire resistant lawn. Grasses shorter than 10 centimetres in height are less likely to burn intensely.