

**2015-2016  
Information Package**



**FireSmart  
Community  
Grant  
Program**

**Alberta Agriculture and Forestry  
Forestry Division  
Wildfire Prevention Officer Contact Information**

<b>Contact</b> (click on name to access email address)	<b>Location</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
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<a href="#">Kevin Freehill</a>	Edson Wildfire Management Area	(780) 723-8373
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<a href="#">Todd Lynch</a>	Peace River Wildfire Management Area	(780) 624-6334
<a href="#">Mike Kingsbury</a>	Grande Prairie Wildfire Management Area	(780) 538-8982
<a href="#">Kevin Topolnicki</a>	Calgary Wildfire Management Area	(403) 297-3132
<a href="#">Michelle Shesterniak</a>	High Level Wildfire Management Area	(780) 926-5432
<a href="#">Paul St. John</a>	Fort McMurray Wildfire Management Area	(780) 743-7209
<a href="#">Mike Milner</a>	Whitecourt Wildfire Management Area	(780) 778-7106

You may also contact the FireSmart Community Grant Program Coordinator:

- [Geoffrey Braid](#) – (780) 644-8454

## Program Purpose

The FireSmart Community Grant Program is an initiative sponsored by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry to assist communities in reducing the risk of wildfire within their respective jurisdictions. This program aims to:

- Support community involvement and ownership of the wildland/urban interface issues within municipal jurisdictions.
- Provide financial assistance to those communities that wish to reduce the threat of wildfire.

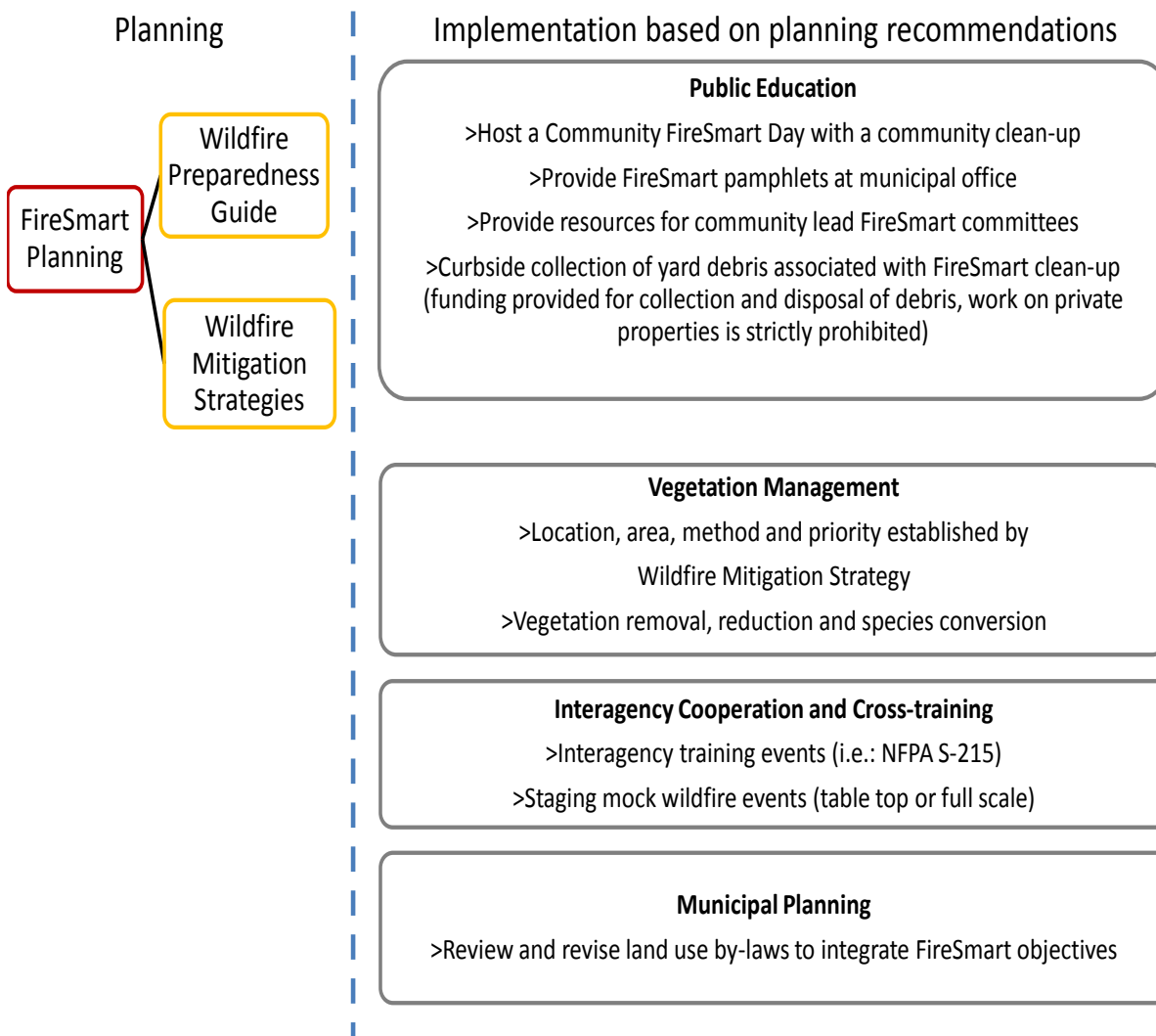
## Who is eligible?

Municipalities, municipal districts and counties, Métis Settlements, and registered non-profit societies (community associations and organizations) may apply for funding. **Only projects within the Forest Protection Area of Alberta are eligible.** Visit the map below to view the Forest Protection Area boundary.

- [Wildfire Management Area Map with Sections](#)

## What types of projects are eligible?

Planning is a priority for this grant program. Initiate planning and base your future FireSmart projects on the recommendations of the plan. Education programs can be implemented parallel to the planning process.



## FireSmart Community Grant Standards

- The maximum allowance *per community* is \$100,000 for the 2015/16 grant year.
- Projects must be completed two years from contract start date. A final report including invoices shall be submitted to the Alberta government.
- The *Alberta Roadbuilders and Heavy Construction Association Equipment Rental Rate Guide* ([www.arhca.ab.ca](http://www.arhca.ab.ca)) can be used as a guide for standard equipment rates.
- The grant recipient is responsible for maintenance of the project.
- The following guidebooks should be used as a guide for building a Fire Smart community:
  - [FireSmart Guidebook for Community Protection \(2013\)](#)
  - [FireSmart – Protecting Your Community from Wildfire, Second Edition \(2003\)](#) – FireSmart Canada Partners in Protection
- Projects should incorporate the seven disciplines of wildland/urban interface.
  - [Focus Areas for FireSmart Community Planning](#)
- Vegetation management projects should be prioritized based on wildfire hazard and risk and community values.
- Emergency planning projects should improve emergency response to a wildfire threatening the community.
- Salary dollars for municipal staff are not eligible for funding. However, hiring of temporary project specific personnel is acceptable.
- Capital equipment purchases are not eligible for funding.
- Funding will be prioritized to programs that demonstrate a commitment to FireSmart.
- For technical advice contact the local Wildfire Prevention Officer.
- Project inspections may be performed throughout the project and upon project completion.

## Application Instructions

1. Submit applications using the application template. Please ensure all questions are answered as completely as possible. Additional information about your proposal may also be included.
2. Registered non-profit societies must include their Corporate Access Number with the application.
3. The project should not compete with any local, private-sector initiatives.
4. Funding will be considered only for expenses directly related to the project.
5. Public education is a critical part of any FireSmart program. Even if you are not applying for education funding, share with us how you are encouraging community members to implement FireSmart on their properties.
6. Submit application and all attachments digitally **October 23, 2015 by 4:30 PM**.
7. If a municipality is applying for more than one community, a separate application must be completed for each proposed project.

Applications are due on **October 23, 2015 by 4:30 PM**. A technical expert in the local Wildfire Management Area will provide comments which will be considered by the review panel. If you have any questions about the application process you are encouraged to contact:

- [Geoffrey.Braid@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Geoffrey.Braid@gov.ab.ca) - (780) 644-8454.

## Funding Priorities

Communities with high to extreme wildland/urban interface wildfire hazards and demonstrated commitment to the following:

- On-going financial support within the community to wildland/urban interface program initiatives,
- Community support of wildland/urban interface and FireSmart Community programs,
- Financial partnerships, and
- Commitment to maintenance of project areas.

For further program information, please visit our website:

- [FireSmart](#)

Additional information on FireSmart and the wildland/urban interface can be obtained at:

- [FireSmart Canada](#)