

Tlichog Cabin Fire Safety Guidelines

You can reduce the risk of damage to your cabin from fire by following these basic FireSmarting steps:

- **Prepare your property** → Create fuel-free zones (see image below to see the different zones). Remove deadfall, woodpiles and combustible trees and bushes, such as pine, spruce and juniper, from within 10 meters of your buildings. Trimming and pruning trees also helps to reduce fire risk. Trees and bushes can be removed from inside your lease boundary.
- **Prepare your cabin and other structures** → Keep a fire separation distance between your structures to prevent fires from jumping from one building to another. Use fire-resistant building materials. Asphalt shingle and metal roofs, cement-fiber siding, drywall and closed eaves help to reduce damage caused by fire. Several **ABC dry chemical fire extinguishers** should be conveniently located for use inside the cabin.
- **Do not cause a wildfire** → Ensure chimneys have an approved **spark arrestor**. Fire pits and approved burn barrels should be located well away from buildings, woodpiles and other combustible materials. Never leave a burning fire pit or campfire unattended.
- **Be ready in the event of a wildfire** → Purchase portable water pumps and hoses. These can be shared between neighbours but must be readily accessible at all times.
- **Register your cabin with the Department of Culture and Lands Protection** → Knowing about your cabin means fire fighters can make the right decisions in trying to protect it should a wildfire occur. When your cabin is registered, this will mean that DCLP can ensure the right procedures are followed through to protect your cabin if a wildfire were to occur nearby.

You should burn unwanted trees, bushes, untreated lumber and other burnable construction materials only when it is safe to do so. To prevent the fire from spreading, the burning site must be as far away as possible from buildings and the surrounding forest. Open fires must be monitored at all times. Proper water buckets should be readily available in the case that your fire gets out of control.



Protect your Home KNOW YOUR ZONES

Zone 1
zero – 10 metres

- Aim for a non-combustible buffer around your house
- Avoid landscaping with woody plants, evergreens, and bark mulch
- Plant a low-density of moist shrubs and plants
- Store firewood, construction materials, RVs, and fuel away from your house.
- Clear accumulations of debris regularly
- Consider non-combustible materials when upgrading your siding, fence, roof, or shed

Zone 2
10 – 30 metres

- Thin and prune evergreens to 3 metres at the widest
- Remove branches to a height of 2 metres
- Clear dry branches, grass, needles, and leaves regularly to avoid surface fuels

Zone 3
10 – 30 metres

- Thin and prune evergreens
- Remove branches to a height of 2 metres
- Increase tree spacing if your house is at the top of a slope
- Work with neighbours to pursue neighbourhood FireSmart projects

Visit the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) to obtain a FireSmart home assessment to ensure you are following the proper recommendations when FireSmarting your cabin.

Call 1-877-NWT-FIRE (1-877-698-3473) to report smoke or fire in the forest.

Information collected from:

GNWT, ENR Division

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