



# East to West, North to South: NFPA Resources for Fire Safety

Presentation to Wildland Fire Canada

October 9, 2014

Shayne Mintz, National Fire Protection Association

# What is the National Fire Protection Association?

- Nonprofit life safety codes and standards organization
- 70,000+ members worldwide
- 300+ consensus codes and standards documents



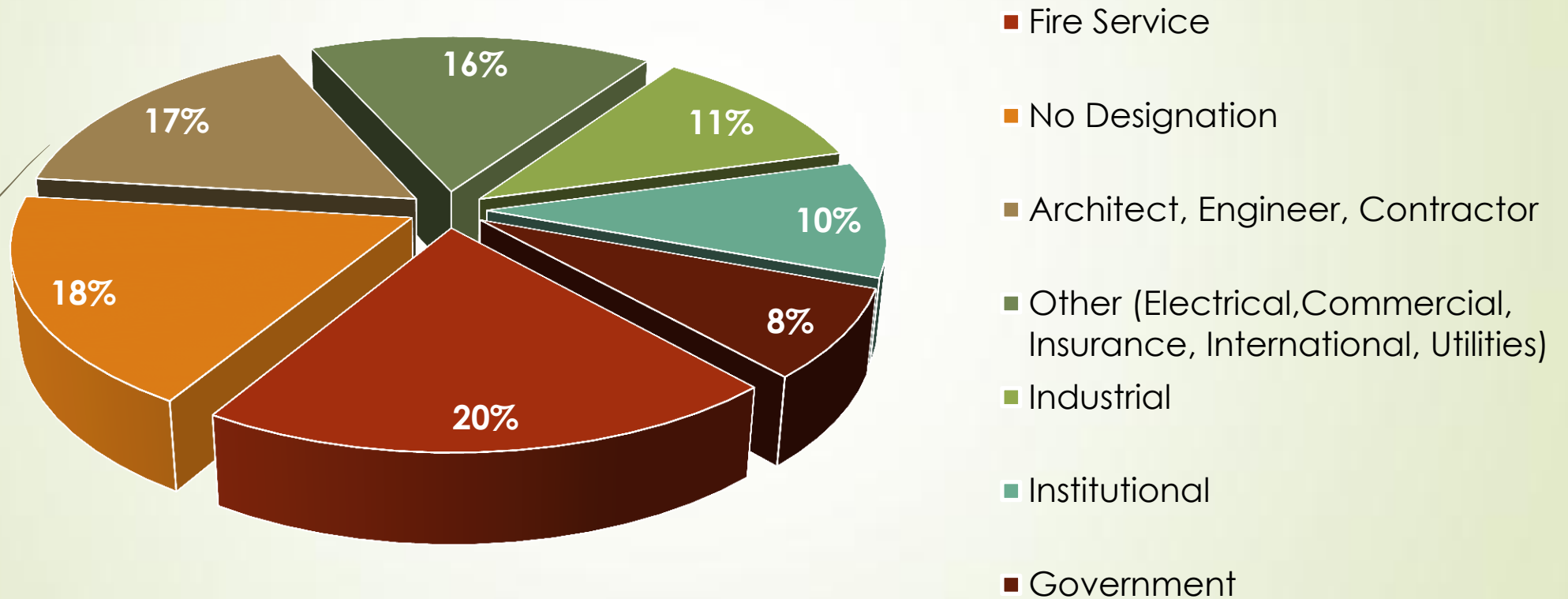


# NFPA's Mission

- Mission - "...to **reduce the worldwide burden of fire** and other hazards on the quality of life by providing and advocating scientifically-based consensus codes and standards, research, training, and education.
- Focus - Fire Safety, Electrical Safety, and other Related Hazards
- Additional Role in Canada for WUI
  - Access and facilitation to local fire protection agencies across Canada

# National Fire Protection Association

## NFPA Membership Categories



# NFPA and the WUI

NFPA born 1896

Wildfire safety standards  
date back to the 1930s

Standard for Fire Protection  
and Prevention for “Summer  
Homes in Forested Areas -  
1935

Modern involvement in “the  
WUI” – 1986

## **Fire Protection and Prevention for Summer Homes in Forested Areas**

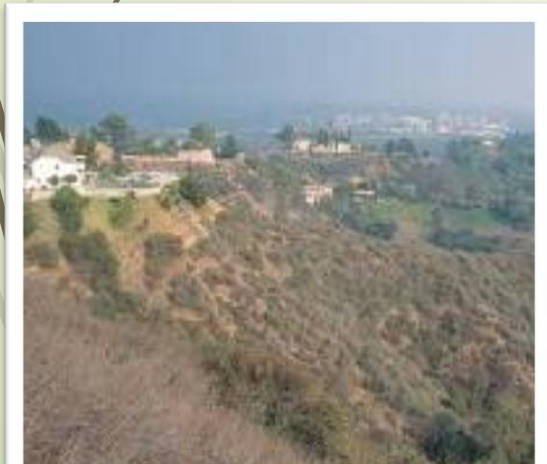
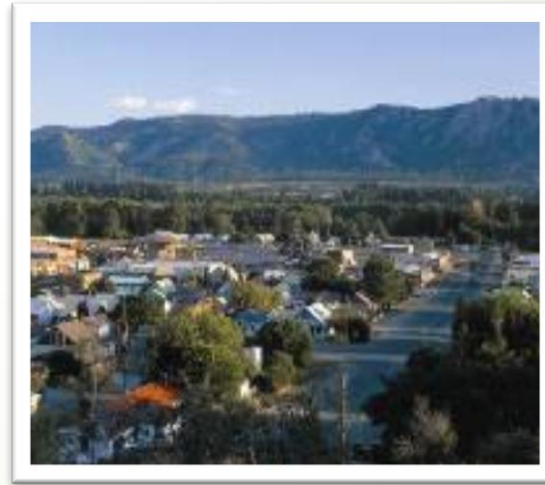
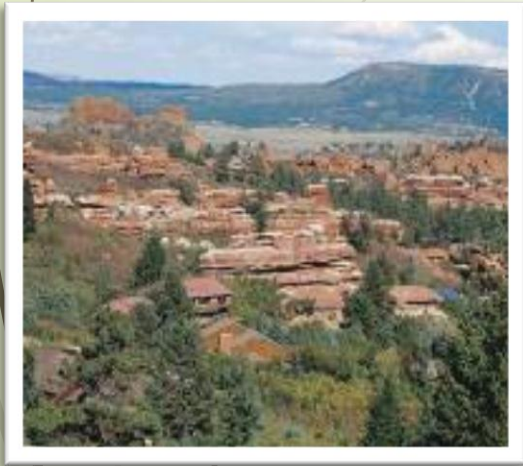
**Prepared by the Forest Committee  
of the National Fire Protection Association  
Adopted 1935**

*Price: Ten Cents*

**National Fire Protection Association  
International  
60 Batterymarch Street  
Boston, Mass., U.S.A.**

# Wildland/Urban Interface

- Set of conditions under which a wildland fire reaches beyond trees, brush, and other natural fuels to ignite homes and their immediate surroundings.



# Why do we care?



- Billions spent annually on suppression
- Threats to public health, safety, and property, community assets and amenities
- Overburdened local & state governments
- Challenged ecosystems

# WUI Fires in Canada with property loss

- 2003 – Okanagan Mountain Park, British Columbia
  - 27,000 evacuated
  - 240 homes destroyed



*Photo credit: BC Government*

*From GlobalNews.CA , "10 Years Later, Remembering the Okanagan Mountain Park Fire," by Amy Judd, August 16, 2013*



# WUI Fires in Canada with property loss

- ▶ May 2009 – Halifax, Nova Scotia – May 2012
- ▶ 1200 evacuated, 8 homes destroyed – 10 damaged



*Photo credits: Tim Krochak, The Canadian Press, May 1, 2009; CBC News, May 1, 2009*

# WUI Fires in Canada with property loss

- 2011 – Slave Lake, Alberta
  - 430+ homes destroyed, 700+ left homeless
  - \$700 million (Canadian dollars) in insured losses



*Photo credit: Shane O'Brien, National Post*

# NFPA Wildfire Safety Resources for You

- Codes and Standards
  - NFPA 1141, 1142, 1144
- Best Practices for Local Regulation
- 2015 Backyards & Beyond Conference
- [www.nfpa.org/wildfire](http://www.nfpa.org/wildfire)

## WILDLAND FIRES



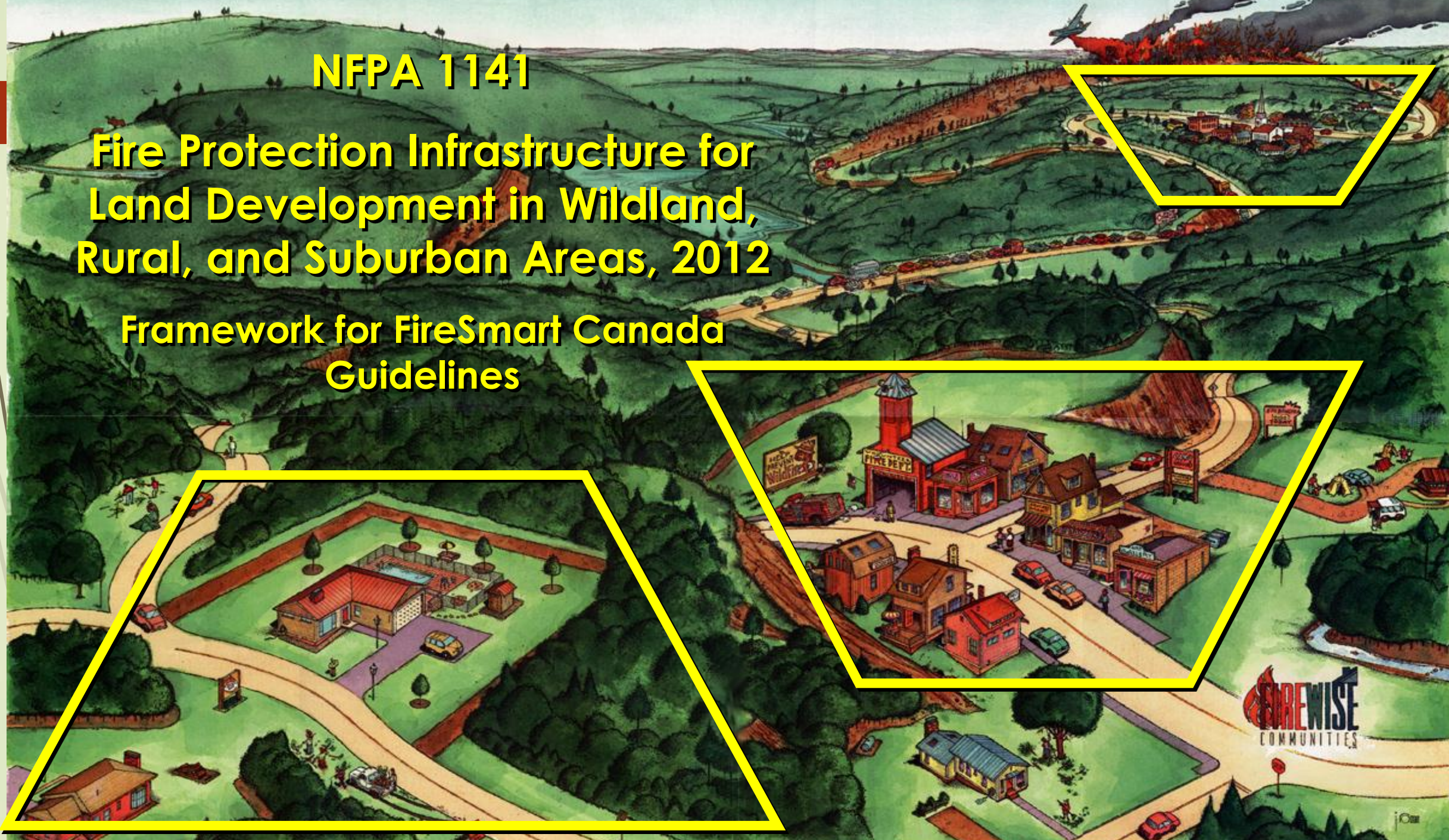
Wildland fires are a serious threat to lives and property in the U.S. The combination of drought, warmer temperatures, high winds and an excess of dried vegetation in forests and grasslands has made fire seasons progressively worse over the past 50 years. In the past decade, wildfires have burned over 59 million acres of these lands. According to the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC), 2012 saw one of the worst fire seasons in decades, with over nine million acres burned.



# NFPA 1141

## Fire Protection Infrastructure for Land Development in Wildland, Rural, and Suburban Areas, 2012

### Framework for FireSmart Canada Guidelines

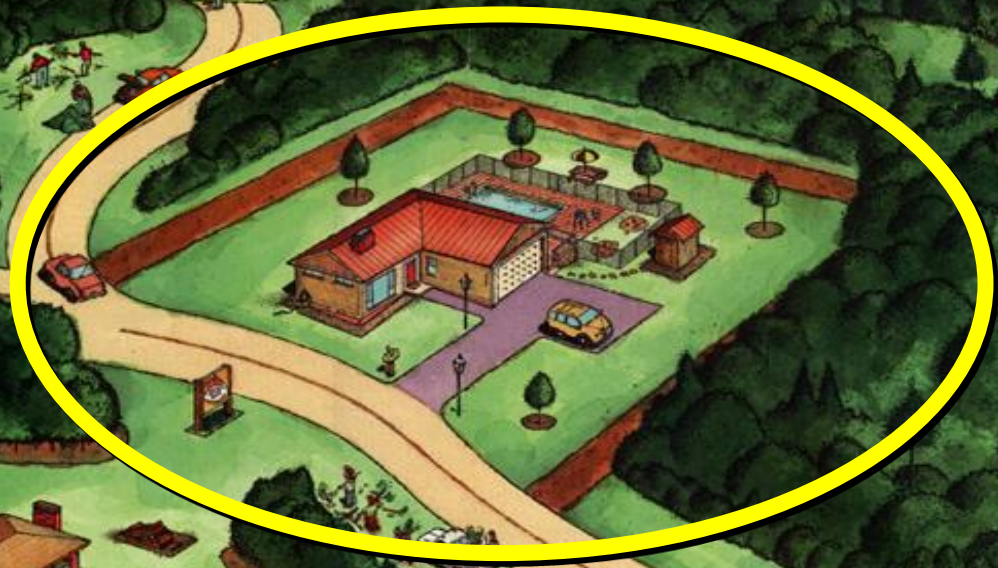


**FIRESMART**  
COMMUNITIES

**NFPA 1144**

**Standard for Reducing Structure  
Ignition Hazards from Wildland Fire,  
2013**

**Framework for FireSmart Canada  
Guidelines**



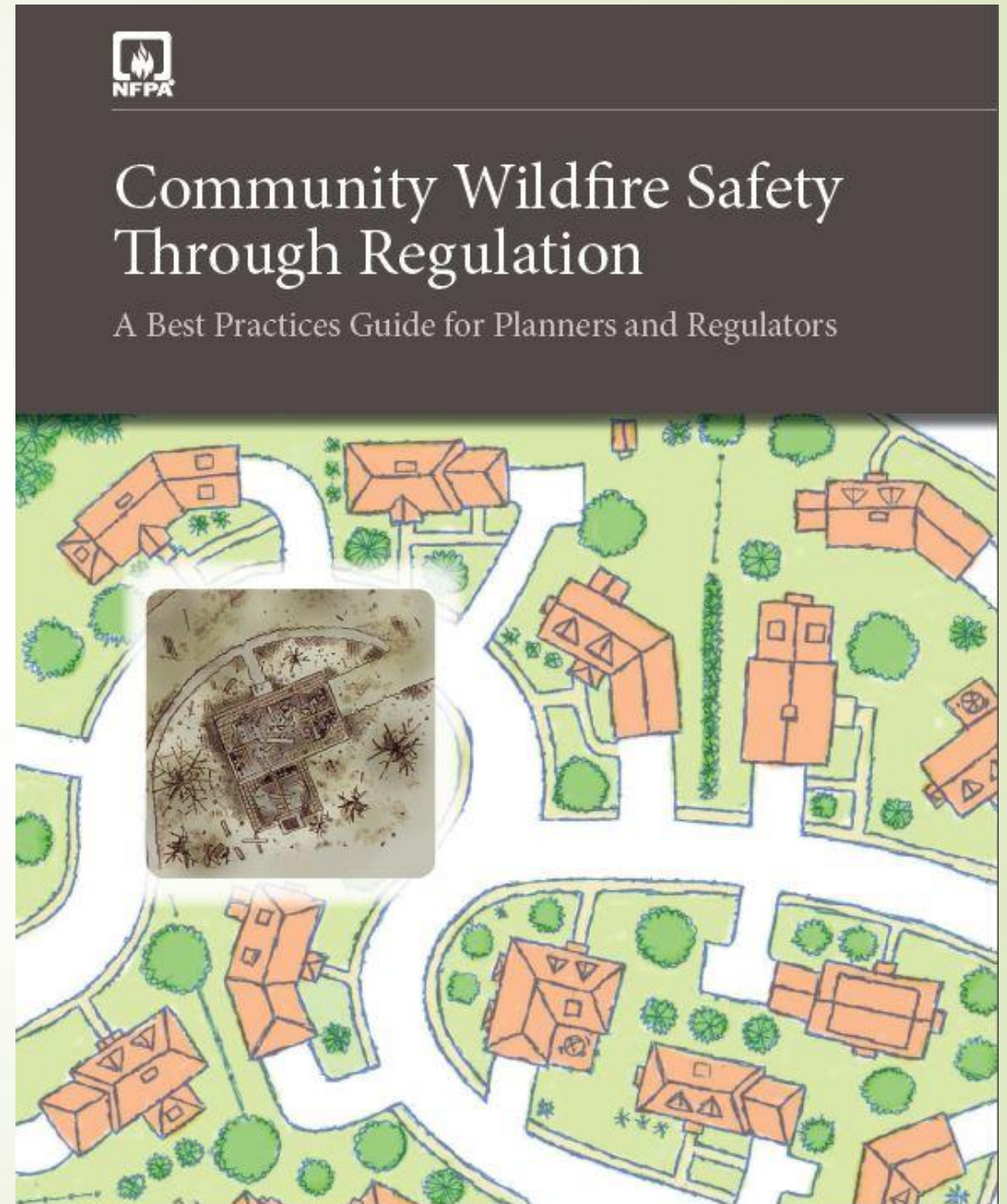
# NFPA 1142, Standard on Water Supplies for Suburban and Rural Fire Fighting, 2012 Referenced by FireSmart Canada



# Research into Zoning and Regulatory Tools

Fire Protection Research Foundation study on community wildfire regulation found:

- Few adopt model codes
- Fewer enforce consistently
- One size does not fit all
- Planning and zoning tools have great potential to be effective in risk reduction
  - Siting, Design, Landscaping, Maintenance



# 2015 Backyards & Beyond Wildfire Safety Education Conference

- October 22-24, 2015
- Myrtle Beach, South Carolina
- International presence welcome!
- Session submittals due December 15



2015 Wildland Fire Education Conference  
October 22-24, 2015

**SAVE THE DATE**

SUBMIT A PRESENTATION  
DEADLINE IS: DECEMBER 15, 2014

Five Educational Tracks  
SHERATON CONVENTION CENTER HOTEL  
MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA

October 20-21, 2015  
Pre-Conference Workshop

 **nfpa**  
WILDLAND FIRE CONFERENCE

**Backyards & Beyond**



[www.nfpa.org/backyardsandbeyond](http://www.nfpa.org/backyardsandbeyond)  
Use a QR Reader App on your Smartphone to go directly to the website!



# Fire Adapted Communities

## Tied to policy in the US in partnership with FireSmart Canada



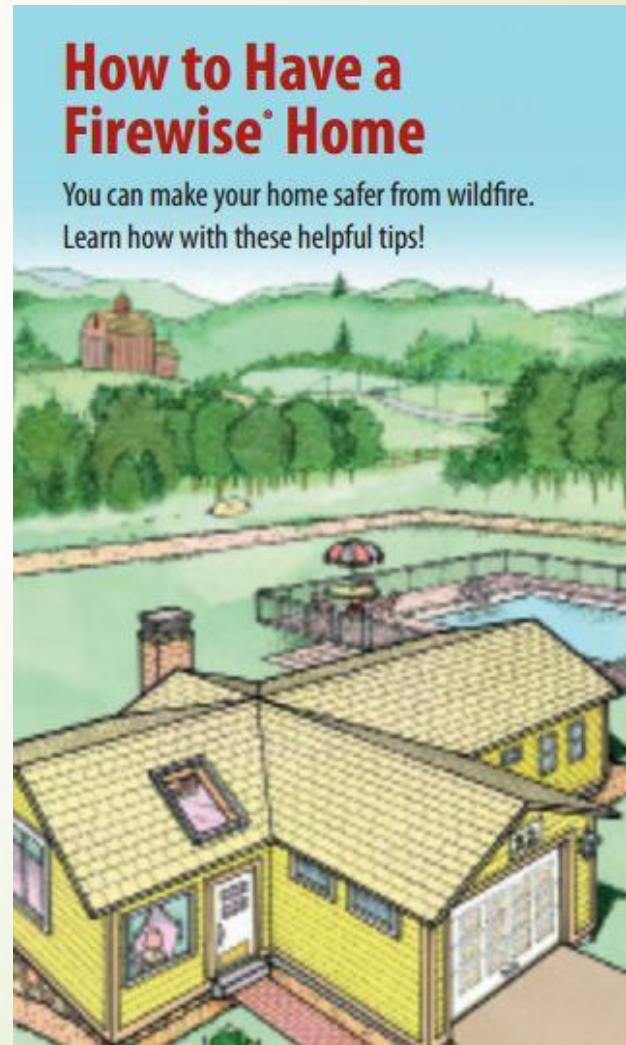
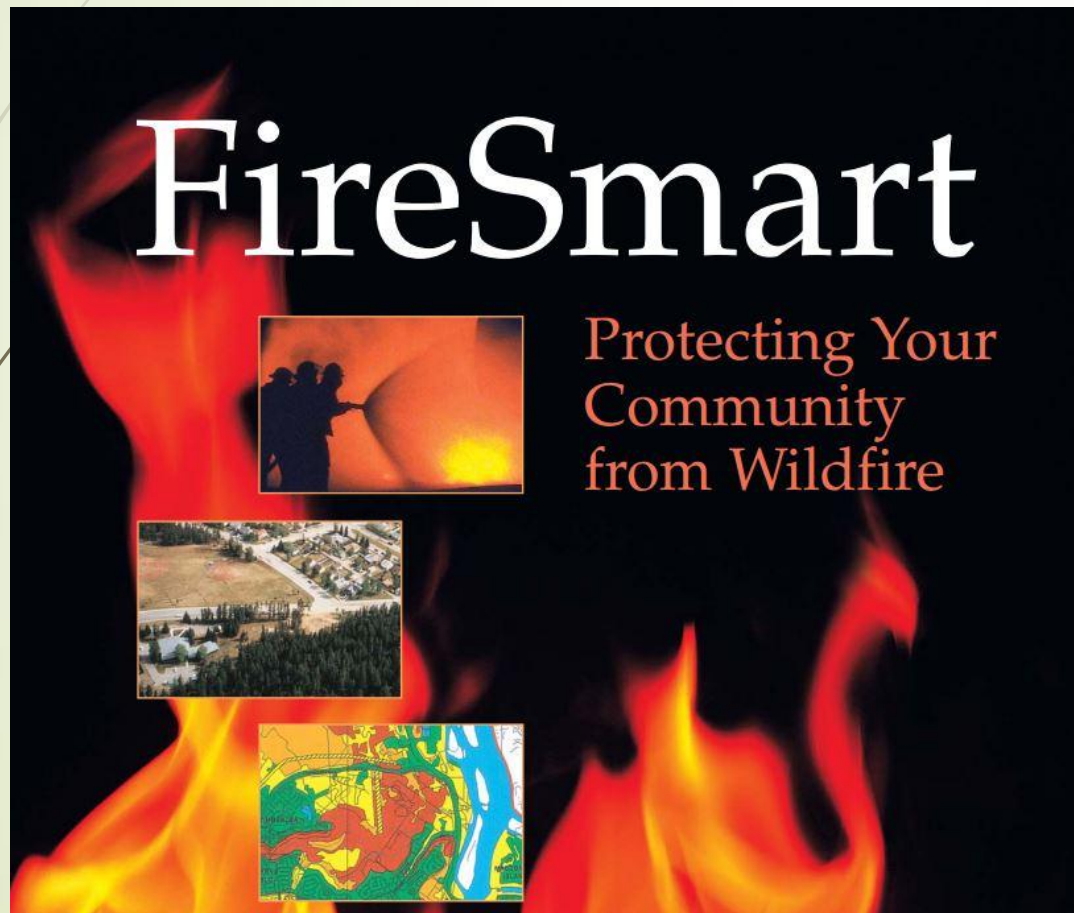
What does a fire adapted community look like?

Fire is a natural part of our environment. As we choose to live in areas where wildfires occur, we must adapt the way we design, build and live within these areas to prepare our communities for wildfire. A fire adapted community understands its risks and takes actions

that minimize harm to residents, homes, businesses, parks, and other community assets. These collective actions empower all community members to be safer in their environment. To learn more about making your community fire adapted, visit [www.fireadapted.org](http://www.fireadapted.org).



# FireSmart and Firewise



# Memorandum of Understanding – 2011 NFPA and Partners in Protection (PiP)



# Adopting a community recognition model for wildfire safety action

[www.FireSmartCanada.ca](http://www.FireSmartCanada.ca)



## Become a FireSmart Community



How can my community become a Recognized FireSmart Community?

# 2015 International Wildfire Community Preparedness Day

*Save the Date*

**WILDFIRE COMMUNITY  
PREPAREDNESS DAY**

**Saturday, May 2, 2015**

**WildfirePrepDay.org**



Thank you

Questions?

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