



## **POLICY**

**Effective Date:** June 27, 2022

**POLICY TITLE:** FireSmart Homeowner Incentive Program

**POLICY NUMBER:** 23-012

**POLICY PURPOSE:**

To establish terms of reference for the FireSmart Homeowner Incentive Program.

**POLICY:**

1. The FireSmart Homeowner Incentive Program (the Program) encourages homeowners to adopt and conduct recommended FireSmart practices to mitigate wildfire risks on private property. The Program offers financial incentive to property owners who complete eligible FireSmart activities, as recommended by a FireSmart Home Assessment.
2. Town of Whitecourt property owners that complete eligible and recommended FireSmart activities on their own private land are qualified to apply for funding. Strata properties within the Town of Whitecourt are also eligible to apply for funding.
3. Areas of higher wildfire risk will be prioritized for funding. Properties located adjacent to Blocks 13 through 16 as indicated in Schedule "A" – Whitecourt Forest Area FireSmart Map will be prioritized for funding over applications received by property owners outside this area.
4. Based on funding availability, applications to the Program will be accepted in two funding rounds:
  - a) Round 1 – Applications will be accepted until October 1, 2022.
  - b) Round 2 – Applications will be accepted until August 31, 2023.
5. Only those that have a required FireSmart Home Assessment completed by the Whitecourt Fire Department (as of 2022), and that have completed recommended improvement(s) per the Assessment will be eligible for funding. All applicants must submit a completed Schedule "B" – FireSmart Homeowner Incentive Program Application Form by the stated application deadline dates to be considered for funding.
6. The Whitecourt Fire Department will review and prioritize all applications to the Program, and allocate funding.



## Town of Whitecourt

Policy Manual  
Section: **Protective Services**

7. Funds will be available for the following residential property improvements:

<b>Improvement</b>	<b>Allocation Summary</b>	<b>Program Budget</b>
Roof upgrade to Class A ignition resistant roof material	10 rebates of \$1,000	\$10,000
Sheath or screen beneath deck	20 rebates of \$500	\$10,000
Convert Zone 1A from mulch to rock or non-combustible	20 rebates of \$500	\$10,000
Zone 1 and 2 Arborist to cut and remove conifer trees	15 rebates of \$1,000	\$15,000
Eaves troughs cleaned and covered	25 rebates of \$200	\$5,000
		Total: \$50,000

8. Only activities that are recommended in the completed FireSmart Home Assessment and that are identified in the table outlined in Point 7 are eligible for funding.
9. Funding is limited to a maximum of \$1,000 per property for activities identified in the table outlined in Point 7 over the term of the Program.

**REFERENCE:**

Schedule "A" Whitecourt Forest Area FireSmart Map

Schedule "B" FireSmart Homeowner Incentive Program Application Form