

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY
WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAM
WOODLAND HOME WILDFIRE HAZARD ASSESSMENT

Homeowner Name(s): _____

Location: _____

Tax Map Id.: _____

Latitude: _____ Longitude: _____

Fire Department Jurisdiction: _____

No. Acres: _____ Date Evaluated: _____

CALCULATING THE WILDFIRE HAZARD RATING

SITE HAZARD RATING	+	STRUCTURE HAZARD RATING	-	HAZARD MITIGATION HAZARD RATING	=	OVERALL WILDFIRE HAZARD RATING
	+		-		=	

SITE HAZARD RATING:	Rating		
SURROUNDING TREES: How many and what type trees are next to your home?			
Select the ONE which best describes the type of trees surrounding your home to use for rating your home's fire risk (do not rate on all three).	Hardwoods (trees with leaves) No trees within 30 feet 10 trees within 30 feet 10-20 trees within 30 feet 20+ trees within 30 feet	0 2 3 4	
	Conifers (trees with needles) No trees within 30 feet 10 trees within 30 feet 10-20 trees within 30 feet 20+ trees within 30 feet	0 3 6 10	
	Mixed Hardwoods and Conifers No trees within 30 feet 10 trees within 30 feet 10-20 trees within 30 feet 20+ trees within 30 feet	0 3 4 6	
	Ladder Fuels (underbrush and low branches) No Yes	0 5	
	TYPE OF GROUND COVER: What is the primary type of ground cover within 30 feet of the structure?		
	Sand, Gravel, etc (Non-combustible) Grasses up to 6" tall Grasses 6"-12" tall Grasses greater than 12" tall Shrubs with leaves Shrubs with needles	0 2 4 6 3 5	
	FIREWOOD OR FUEL STORAGE: Where are firewood or fuel storage such as propane or oil tanks stored?		
	None Located 0 to 3 feet from structure Located 3' to 30' from structure Located more than 30 feet from structure	0 5 3 1	

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BRUSH PILES: Where are brush piles located on your property?		
None	0	
Located 0 to 3 feet from structure	6	
Located 3' to 30' from structure	3	
Located more than 30 feet from structure	2	
FLAMMABLE MATERIALS STORAGE: Where are flammable materials such as gas cans, paint, etc. stored?		
None	0	
Located 0 to 3 feet from structure	3	
Located 3' to 30' from structure	2	
Located more than 30 feet from structure	1	
OPEN BURNING: Do you practice open burning on your property site?		
Yes	3	
No	0	
OUTBUILDINGS: Do you have outbuildings within 20 feet of your home structure?		
Yes	3	
No	0	
TOTAL SITE HAZARD RATING		

STRUCTURE HAZARD RATING:	Rating
ROOFING MATERIALS: What materials were used for the roof of your home?	
Metal or Tile	0
Asphalt Shingles or Rolled Roofing	3
Wood (cedar shingles)	6
FOUNDATION: What type of foundation does your home have?	
Enclosed (Fireproof, i.e., concrete, metal)	0
Enclosed with wood sheeting	3
Open	5
EXTERIOR WALL MATERIALS: What are the exterior walls of your home made of?	
Brick, Stone or Metal	0
Vinyl or Wood	4
DECKS OR OVERHANGS: Do you have decks or overhangs?	
Yes	4
No	0
TOTAL STRUCTURE HAZARD RATING	

HAZARD MITIGATION (REDUCTION) FACTORS: (choose all that apply)	Rating
SITE	
Trees pruned up to 6 feet within 30 feet of your home	-2
Lot cleared of brush within 30 feet of your home	-2
Grass kept watered and short within 30 feet of your home	-2
Leaves/Needles raked within 30 feet of your home	-2
3 feet of gravel or non-flammable material adjacent to structure	-1
STRUCTURE	
Regularly cleaned roof	-2
Non-flammable skirting on decks	-2
Clear of flammable material against structure (firewood etc)	-1

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OTHER		
Useable water supply nearby	-1	
Fire fighting equipment available (hose, ladder, shovel, rake etc)	-1	
Telephone or radio available to call for help	-1	
Knowledge of phone number to call to report a fire	-1	
Burn barrel/incinerator to standard	-1	
Outbuildings hazard-free	-2	
TOTAL HAZARD MITIGATION (REDUCTION) FACTORS		

What does the Wildfire Hazard Rating number mean?

Using the Wildfire Hazard Assessment, the highest possible rating is 60 points. Woodland homes can be divided into the following four risk categories:

Low Risk:

Total Wildfire Risk Rating is 0 - 10 points

The chances of your home surviving a wildfire are GOOD. Little is needed to improve your situation. Keep up the good work!

Moderate Risk:

Total Wildfire Risk Rating is 11 - 20 points

The chances of your home surviving a wildfire are FAIR. Some Minor improvements will make your home more fire resistant. Check the areas on the form in which you scored poorly.

High Risk:

Total Wildfire Risk Rating is 21 - 40 points

The chances of your home surviving a wildfire are NOT GOOD. Improvements are necessary. Some improvements in structure and site are necessary.

Extreme Risk:

Total Wildfire Risk Rating is Over 40 points

Your home MAY NOT SURVIVE if a wildfire passes through the area. In fact, a fire could even start on your property. Take a serious look at your property and make improvements. If you don't, you may be facing disaster. You'll find that even small changes could make the difference between losing or saving your home.

HAZARD is defined as the potential fire behavior based on physical fuel characteristics.

RISK is defined as the probability of fire occurrence determined by the number, presence and activity of potential ignition sources.

This form may be used to evaluate your individual home and determine the level of wildfire risk. It covers roughly one-half of the hazards normally taken into account in calculating fire risk, but does provide an approximate indication of true risk. For more information on your home's fire risk, or for a more complete evaluation of your property, contact your local Department of Forestry office.