

FireSmart BC Plant Guide: Trees





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10m to 30m



1.5 m to 10 m

IMMEDIATE ZONE

0 m to 1.5 m

HOME IGNITION ZONE



Pri	Priority Zones						
•	Immediate 0-1.5 m	No plant material is recommended in this zone.					
	Intermediate 1.5-10 m						
	Extended 10-30 m						
	Extended & Beyond 21-30+ m						
•	Generally considered fire-resistant, however more research is required to determine which zone is appropriate Use with caution as some may pose more risk than others.	for use.					

Irrigation requirements during growing season:		Water Use Category						
		Low	Medium	High				
Less than 350 mm (14")								
About 350-450 mm (14-18")		•						
About 450 mm+ (18"+)			•					
About 500 cm+ (20"+)				•				

Some plants fit into more than one water use category as they are more adaptable. For greatest success and efficient water use, group plants together with similar water requirements. Not all plants are suitable for every area. Check plant specific requirements.

Typical turfgrass using Kentucky Bluegrass (Poa pratensis) is in a category all itself - it uses 890-1020 mm (35-40 inches) per year.

Fire Hazards					
Common Name	Scientific Name	High Risk	Higher Risk	Highest Risk	Comments
Arborvitae (Cedar)	Thuja spp.				
Cedrus	Cedar spp.				
Douglas Fir	Pseudotsuga menziesii				
Firs	Abies spp.				
Juniper	Juniperus spp.				
Pine	Pinus spp.				
Ponderosa Pine	Pinus ponderosa				Thicker bark helps to protect this tree.
Spruce	Picea spp.				
Larch	Larix spp.				Higher moisture content of foliage makes this tree slighlty less risky.
Yew	Taxus spp.				

No plants are fire-proof and this legend is meant to be a general guide. Please take into consideration the risk of wildfire for your individual property and follow all FireSmart landscaping best practices Scan the QR code on the front page to learn more.

		Water Use Category					
Common Name	Scientific Name	Very Low	Low	Medium	High		
Alders							
Mountain Alder*	Alnus tenuiflolia *			•			
Red Alder*	Alnus rubra *			•			
Amur Cherry	Prunus maackia			•		*	
Amur Corktree	Phellodendron amurense				•		
Amur Maackia	Maackia amurensis			•			
Ash							
Green Ash	Fraxinus pennsylvanica			•	•		
White Ash	Fraxinus americana			•			
Bittler Cherry*	Prunus emarginata*			•		*	
Black Cherry	Prunus serotina			•		*	
Black Walnut	Juglans nigra			•			
Blackgum / Black Tupelo	Nyssa sylvatica				•		
Butternut	Juglans cinerea			•			
Cascara	Rhamnus purshiana			•			
Catalpa	Catalpa speciosa			•			
Chokecherry	Prunus virginiana					*	
Common Hackberry	Celtis occidentalis						
Crab Apple - Ornamental	Malus spp.						
Eastern Redbud	Cercis canadensis						
European Beech	Fagus sylvatica				•		
Flowering Dogwood	Cornus florida				•		
Flowering Plum	Prunus cerasifera		•			Å	
Ginkgo / Maidenhair Tree	Ginkgo biloba			•			
Golden Chain Tree	Laburnum watereri						
Golden Raintree	Koelreuteria paniculata						
Hawthorn	Crataegus spp.						
Honeylocust	Gleditsia triacanthos						
Hornbeam	Carpinus betulus				•		
Horsechestnut	Aesculus hippocastanum			•			
Japanese Pagoda Tree	Sophora japonica			•			
Kentucky Coffee Tree	Gymnocladus dioicus			•			
Linden	Tilia spp.			•	•		

		Water Use Category				
Common Name	Scientific Name	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	
London Planetree	Platanus acerifolia			•		
Madrone*	Arbutus menziesii *					
Maples						
Amur Maple	Acer ginnala			•		*
Bigleaf Maple	Acer macrophyllum				•	*
Japanese Maple	Acer palmatum				•	*
Norway Maple	Acer platanoides			•	•	*
Red Maple	Acer rubrum				•	*
Rocky Mountain Maple*	Acer glabrum *			•		*
Silver Maple	Acer saccharinum			•	•	*
Vine Maple*	Acer circinatum *			•	•	*
Mayday Tree	Prunus padus commutata			•		
Mulberry	Morus alba			•		*
Oaks						
Bur Oak	Quercus macrocarpa			•		
Garry Oak*	Quercus garryana *				•	
Pin Oak	Quercus palustris			•		
Red Oak	Quercus rubra			•		
White Oak	Quercus alba				•	
Pear	Pyrus spp.			•		
Pin Cherry*	Prunus pennsylvanica*		•	•		*
Poplars						
Cottonwood*	Populus spp. *			•		
Quaking Aspen / Trembling Aspen	Populus tremuloides			•	•	
Purple Robe Locust (other Black Locusts are invasive)	Robinia pseudoacacia 'Purple Robe'		•			
Sassafras	Sassafras albidum				•	
Schubert Chokecherry	Prunus virginiana 'Schubert'			•	-	*
Staghorn Sumac	Rhus typhina		•	•		
Sweetgum	Liquidambur styraciflua		-	•		
Tulip Tree	Liriodendron tulipifera				•	
Water Birch*	Betula occidentalis *				•	
Weeping Willow	Salix babylonica				•	*



FireSmart BC Plant Guide: Shrubs







10m to 30m



1.5 m to 10 m

IMMEDIATE ZONE

0 m to 1.5 m

HOME IGNITION ZONE



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	Extended & Beyond 21-30+ m						
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About 500 cm+ (20"+)				•				

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Fire Hazards							
Common Name	Scientific Name	High Risk	Higher Risk	Highest Risk	Comments		
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Broom	Genista spp.						
Cedrus	Cedar spp.						
Holly	llex spp.						
Juniper	Juniperus spp.						
Yew	Taxus spp.						

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Sh		Water Use Category					
Common Name	Scientific Name	Very Low	Low	Medium	High		
Alpine Currant	Ribes alpinum		•	•		*	
Antelope Bitterbrush*	Purshia tridentata *			•		*	
Barberry	Berberis sp.		•				
Beaked Hazelnut / Filbert*	Corylus cornuta *		•				
Blueberry, Huckleberry	Vaccinum spp.			•		*	
Blue-mist Spirea	Caryopteris x clandonensis		6				
Bog Labrador Tea / Indian Tea / Labrador Tea*	Rhododendron groenlandicum*				•		
Buffaloberry / Indian Ice Cream / Soapberry / Soopalallie	Shepherdia spp.	•					
Burning Bush	Euonymus alatus 'Compactus'				•		
Ceanothus	Ceanothus ovatus						
Chokeberry	Aronia spp.			•			
Cinquefoil, Potentilla	Potentilla fruticosa		(
Common Lilac	Syringa vulgaris		6	•			
Cotoneaster, Cranberry	Cotoneaster apiculatus			•			
Cotoneaster, Peking	Cotoneaster acutifolius		(•			
Cranberry Bush	Viburnum trilobum			•			
Cranberry, High-bush*	Viburnum edule *			•			
Creeping Holly	Mahonia repens			•			
Daphne, Carol Mackie	Daphne x burkwoodii			•			
Devil's club*	Oplopanas horridus*				•		
Double Flowering Plum / Flowering Almond	Prunus triloba		(•		*	
Elderberry	Sambucus spp.		•				
Firethorn / Pyrcantha	Pyracantha coccinea			•			
Grey Lavender / Lavender Cotton / Santolina	Santolina chamaecyparissus		6				
Forsythia	Forsythia spp.		•	•			
Heather	Calluna vulgaris			•		1	
Japanese Kerria	Kerria japonica			•			
Mahala Mat*	Ceanothus prostratus *		•				
Mock Orange	Philadelphus sp.		.	•		*	
Nanking Cherry	Prunus tomentosa			•		*	
Ninebark	Physocarpus opulifolius		.	•			
Oakleaf Hydrangea	Hydrangea quercifolia			•		1	

		Water Use Category					
Common Name	Scientific Name	Very Low	Low	Medium	High		
Oceanspray	Holodiscus discolor			•		*	
Orchid Rockrose	Cistus purpureus						
Oregon Boxwood	Paxistima myrtifolia						
Oregon Grape	Mahonia aquifolium			•		*	
Pacific Rhododendron*	Rhododendron macrophylum *						
Point Reyes Ceanothus	Ceanothus gloriosus						
Privet	Ligustrum spp.			•			
Purple-Leaf Sand Cherry	Prunus cistena			•		*	
Quince	Chaenomeles spp.			•			
Rabbitbrush / Rabbitbush	Ericameria nauseosa	•				*	
Raspberry	Rubus sp.			•		*	
Red-flowering Currant*	Ribes sanguineum*		•	•		*	
Redosier Dogwood / Red-twig Dogwood	Cornus sericea		•	•	•		
Rock Daphne	Daphne cneorum			•			
Rose of Sharon	Hibiscus syriacus			•			
Rose, Rugosa	Rosa rugosa 'Hansa'		•	•			
Rose, Wood's*	Rosa woodsii *			•			
Salal	Gaultheria shallon				•		
Saskatoon /Serviceberry	Amelanchier sp.			•			
Siberian Peashrub	Caragana arborescens		•	_			
Silverberry	Elaeagnus commutata						
Smoke Tree	Cotinus coggygria						
Snowberry	Symphoricarpos albus		•			Å	
Spirea	Spiraea spp.						
Spirea, Hardhack / Western	Spiraea douglasii						
Sumac, Fragrant	Rhus aromatica						
Sumac, Oakleaf	Rhust trilobata						
Sumac, Smooth	Rhus glabra		•				
Tallhedge Glossy Buckthorn	Rhamnus frangula			•			
Tatarian Honeysuckle	Lonicera tatarica			•			
Western Azalea	Rhododendron occidentale				•		
Western Chokecherry*	Prunus virginiana*			•		*	
Western Mountain Ash*	Sorbus scopulina *				•	+ -	

Shi		Attracts Pollinators				
Common Name	Scientific Name	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	
Western Sandcherry	Prunus besseyi			•		*
Willow	Salix spp.				•	*
Witchhazel	Hamamelis spp.			•		



FireSmart BC Plant Guide: Vines & Groundcovers







10m to 30m



1.5 m to 10 m

IMMEDIATE ZONE

0 m to 1.5 m

HOME IGNITION ZONE



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	Extended & Beyond 21-30+ m						
	Generally considered fire-resistant, however more research is required to determine which zone is appropriate Use with caution as some may pose more risk than others.	for use.					

Irrigation requirements during growing season:	Water Use Category						
inigation requirements during growing season:	Very Low	Low	Medium	High			
Less than 350 mm (14")							
About 350-450 mm (14-18")		•					
About 450 mm+ (18"+)			•				
About 500 cm+ (20"+)				•			

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Fire Hazards					
Common Name	Scientific Name	High Risk	Higher Risk	Highest Risk	Comments
Broom	Genista spp.				

Vines & Groundcovers *NOTE* Where vines are used is an important factor as they have the potential to act as ladder fuels.			Water Use Category				
Common Name	Scientific Name	Very Low	Low	Medium	High		
Beach Wormwood / Dusty Miller	Artemisia stelleriana		•				
Bishop's Weed / Goutweed	Aegopodium podagraria		•				
Carpet Bugle	Ajuga reptans			•			
Clematis	Clematis spp.				•		
Climbing Rose	Rosa setigera			•			
Cotoneaster, Horizontal	Cotoneaster horizontalis			•			
Cottoneaster, Bearberry	Cotoneaster dammeri			•			
Creeping Potentilla / Spring Cinquefoil	Potentilla neumanniana 'Nana'			•			
Dead Nettle	Lamium sp.			•			
Hardy Kiwi Vine	Actinidia kolomikta			•			
Honeysuckle	Lonicera sp.		6				
• Hops	Humulus lupulus		(
Climbing Hydrangea	Hydrangea anomala petiolaris				•		
Japanese Spurge	Pachysandra terminalis			•			
Kinnickinnick	Arctostaphylos uva-ursi		•			*	
Lily-turf	Liriope spicatum			•			
Perrenial Sweet Pea	Lathyrus latifolius		•				
Pussytoes	Antennaria rosea		•	•			
Sedum / Stonecrop (creeping)	Sedum sp.					ě	
Silver Spreader	Artemisia caucasica		•				
Snow-In-Summer	Cerastium tomentosum		•				
Thrift	Armeria maritima		•				
Thyme	Thymus spp.		•				
Trumpet Vine	Campsis radicans			•			
Virginia Creeper	Parthenocissus quinquefolia		•	•			
Grapes	Vitis spp.			•			
Wintercreeper	Euonymus fortunei			•			
Wintergreen	Gaultheria procumbens			•			
Wisteria	Wisteria spp.			•			



FireSmart BC Plant Guide: Grasses





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Fire Hazards					
Common Name	Scientific Name	High Risk	Higher Risk	Highest Risk	Comments
Fountain Grass	Pennisetum spp.				
Pampas Grass	Cortaderia selloana				

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Grasses *NOTE* Species maintained as irrigated turf are lower risk. As height increases, risk increases. Once mature and dry, grasses become more flammable and have lower fire resistance and should only be considered further from a structure.			Water Use Category				
Common Name	Scientific Name	Very Low	Low	Medium	High		
Blue Grama Grass / Mosquito Grass	Bouteloua gracilis	•	•				
Buffalograss	Buchloe dactyloides		•	•	•		
Bulrushes*	Scirpus spp.*				•		
Fescue, Blue	Festuca glauca		•				
Fescue, Creeping Red	Festuca rubra				•		
Fescue, Sheep	Festuca ovina		•				
Fescue, Creeping Red	Festuca rubra				•		
Fescue, Tall	Festuca arundinacea			•	•		
Junegrass	Koeleria macrantha			•			
Muttongrass*	Poa fendleriana *		•				
Needle-and-thread Grass / Porcupine Grass*	Hesperpostipa comata *						
Orchardgrass	Dactylis glomerata		•				
Ryegrass	Lolium spp.		•	•			
Sand Dropseed*	Sporobolus cryptandrus *		•				
Sandberg Bluegrass*	Poa secunda *		•	•			
Sedges	Carex spp.				•		
Squirreltail Grass*	Elymus elymoides *		•				
Wheatgrass, Crested	Agropyron cristatum	•					
Wheatgrass, Western*	Pascopyrum smithii *		•				



FireSmart BC Plant Guide: Perennials & Biennials







10m to 30m



1.5 m to 10 m

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Pereni		Water Use Category				
Common Name	Scientific Name	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	
Alfalfa	Medicago sativa		•			
Aster	Aster spp.			•		*
Balloon Flower	Platycodon grandiflorus			•		
Basket of Gold	Aurinia saxatilis		•	•		
Beardtongue / Penstemon	Penstemon spp.		•			
Beebalm (Native) / Wild Bergamot	Monarda fistulosa		•			*
Bergenia	Bergenia cordifolia				•	
Brown-eyed Susan	Rudbeckia fulgida			•		*
Black-eyed Susan	Rudbeckia hirta			•		
Blanket Flower	Gaillardia sp.		•			*
Blue Vervain	Verbena hastata			•		
Boneset	Eupatorium perfoliatum			•		
Canadian Violet*	Viola canadensis *				•	
Candytuft	Iberis sempervirens			•		
Catmint	Nepeta faassenii			•		
Catmint (Short-Stalked)	Nepeta subsessilis		•	•		ě
• Chives	Allium sp.			•		
Columbine	Aquilegia sp.					*
Common Harebell	Campanula rotundifolia					
Coneflower	Echinacea spp.			•		*
Coral Bells / Heuchera	Heuchera sanguinea		•	•		
Coreopsis, Dwarf Mouse Ear	Coreopsis auriculata var. Nana		•			
Coreopsis, Tickseed	Coreopsis sp.		•			
Cranesbill, Blood-red	Geranium sanguineum			•		
Cranesbill, Grayleaf	Geranium cinereum		•	٥		
Cranesbill, Wild Geranium	Geranium maculatum			•		
Cushion Spurge	Euphorbia polychroma		•			
Daylily	Hemerocallis hybrids		•	•		
Delphinium	Delphinium sp.			•		
Dianthus / Garden Carnation / Pinks	Dianthus sp.			•		
False Lupine	Thermopsis montana			•		
False Rockcress	Aubrieta deltoidea		•			
Fireweed*	Epilobium angustifolium *		•			

Perennials & Biennials			Water Use Category				
Common Name	Scientific Name	Very Low	Low	Medium	High		
Fleabane	Erigeron hybrids		•				
Fringed Sage / Pasture Sage*	Artemisia frigida *	•					
Gayfeather	Liatris sp.						
Goldenrod*	Solidago canadensis*					*	
Hen-and-chicks	Sempervivum sp.	•					
Hollyhock	Alcea rosea			•	•		
Hosta / Plantain Lily	Hosta sp.				•		
lce Plant - Purple	Delosperma cooperi		•				
lce Plant - Yellow	Delosperma nubigenum		•				
 Indian Potato, Spring Beauty* 	Claytonia lanceolata *				•		
lris	Iris hybrids			•			
Jacob's Ladder	Polemonium spp.			•			
Joe Pye Weed	Eupatorium maculatum			•			
Lady's Mantle	Alchemilla sp.			•	•		
Lamb's Ears	Stachys byzantina			•			
Lavender	Lavandula sp.			•		*	
Leopard's Bane	Doronicum sp.			•			
Lily-of-the-valley	Convallaria majalis				•		
Lupine, Bigleaf*	Lupinus polyphyllus*			•		*	
Lupine, Russell Hybrids	Lupinus hybrids			•			
Mariposa Lily*	Calochortus macrocarpus*					ě	
Mexican Hat / Prairie Coneflower	Ratibida columnifera			•		*	
Missouri Goldenrod / Prairie Goldenrod / Smooth Goldenrod*	Solidago missouriensis *			•		*	
Monkshood*	Aconitum spp. *				•		
Moss Phlox	Phlox subulata			•			
Nepal Cinquefoil	Potentilla nepalensis			-			
Northern Bedstraw*	Galium boreale *				•		
Old Man's Whiskers / Prairie Smoke*	Geum triflorum *			•			
Oriental Poppy	Papaver orientale			•			
Painted Daisy	Tanacetum coccineum						
Pasque Flower	Pulsatilla patens			•	•		
Pearly Everlasting	Anaphalis margaritacea						

Perennials & Biennials			Water Use Category				
Common Name	Scientific Name	Very Low	Low	Medium	High		
Perennial Flax	Linum perenne		•				
Perennial Salvia / Sage	Salvia spp.		•	•		*	
Prickly Pear Cactus*	Opuntia polycantha *	•					
Primrose	Oenothera spp.		•				
Red Valerian	Centranthus ruber		•				
Red-Hot Poker	Kniphofia uvaria		•	•			
Rockcress	Arabis sp.			•			
Russian Sage	Perovskia atriplicifolia		•	•		*	
Saxifrage	Saxifraga hirsuta		•	•	•		
Scarlet Gilia*	Ipomopsis aggregata *	•					
Sea Pinks	Armeria maritima			•			
Sea-lavender / Statice	Limonium latifolium			•			
Sedum / Stonecrop (upright)	Sedum spectabile					*	
Sensitive Fern	Onoclea sensibilis				•		
Shasta Daisy	Leucanthemum x superbum		•	•			
Shooting Star	Dodecatheon meadia				•		
Silver Lupine*	Lupinus argenteus *		•				
Soapwort	Saponaria sp.		•				
Strawberry, Wild*	Fragaria sp. *			•			
Sulphur Buckwheat / Sulphur Flower*	Eriogonum umbellatum*	•				*	
Speedwell / Veronica	Veronica spicata			•			
Sun Rose	Helianthemum nummularium		•				
Swamp Milkweed	Asclepias incarnata			•			
Virginia Bluebells	Mertensia virginica				•		
Wild Ginger, Winterfat*	Asarum caudatum *			•			
Windflower	Anemone blanda			•			
Yarrow	Achillea sp.					*	
Yucca	Yucca filamentosa	•					



FireSmart BC Plant Guide: Annuals







10m to 30m



1.5 m to 10 m

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		Water Use Category				
Common Name	Scientific Name	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	
Dusty Miller	Senecio cineraria		•	•		
Gazania	Gazania ringens			•		
Geranium	Geranium sp.		•	•		
Lantana	Lantana sp.					
Pansy	Viola sp.			•	•	
Рорру	Papaver rhoeas*		•			*
Salvia	Salvia spp.			•		*
Snapdragon	Antirrhinum majus			•	•	
Sweet Alyssum	Lobularia maritima		•			*
Sweet Pea	Lathyrus odoratus			•		



FireSmart BC Plant Guide: Bulbs







10m to 30m



1.5 m to 10 m

IMMEDIATE ZONE

0 m to 1.5 m

HOME IGNITION ZONE



Pri	ority Zones	
•	Immediate 0-1.5 m	No plant material is recommended in this zone.
	Intermediate 1.5-10 m	
	Extended 10-30 m	
	Extended & Beyond 21-30+ m	
	Generally considered fire-resistant, however more research is required to determine which zone is appropriate Use with caution as some may pose more risk than others.	for use.

Irrigation requirements during growing accepts	Water Use Category					
Irrigation requirements during growing season:	Very Low	Low	Medium	High		
Less than 350 mm (14")						
About 350-450 mm (14-18")		•				
About 450 mm+ (18"+)			•			
About 500 cm+ (20"+)				•		

Some plants fit into more than one water use category as they are more adaptable. For greatest success and efficient water use, group plants together with similar water requirements. Not all plants are suitable for every area. Check plant specific requirements.

Typical turfgrass using Kentucky Bluegrass (Poa pratensis) is in a category all itself - it uses 890-1020 mm (35-40 inches) per year.

Bulbs				Water Use Category				Attracts Pollinators
Common Name	Sc	ientific Name		Very Low	Low	Medium	High	
Crocus	Cr	ocus sp.			•			
Daffodil	No	ırcissus sp.			•			
Lily	Lili	um sp.				•		
Nodding Onion	All	ium cernum				•		*
Society Garlic	Tu	baghia violacea				•		
Tulip	Tu	ipa sp.				•		

No plants are fire-proof and this legend is meant to be a general guide. Please take into consideration the risk of wildfire for your individual property and follow all FireSmart landscaping best practices Scan the QR code on the front page to learn more.