

# Wildland Fire



## What are wildland fires?

Wildland fires are fires that burn in treed or forested areas. In a natural ecosystem, wildland fires can be a necessary aspect of natural regeneration and ecosystem health. Wildland fire hazards are created when development encroaches in areas containing hazardous forest types for wildland fire.

## What is the Region doing?

- Requiring new development to be located, landscaped and designed in a way that prevents or minimizes wildland fires and fire risk
- Reviewing, updating and adding to existing policies that implement environmentally-appropriate mitigation measures for wildland fire hazards
- Introducing policies and mapping to ensure wildland fire mitigation measures are required

## Why are wildland fire policies important?

- Wildland fires are a potential cause of harm to humans and property damage
- Land use planning can assist in preventing wildland fire threats
- Land use planning decisions contribute to reducing the loss of life or injury or property damage due to wildland fire

## Regional Official Plan policies will...

- Direct the local municipalities to avoid locating development near hazardous forest type or implement mitigation solutions to protect persons and property
- Require the local official plans to provide detailed direction that implements these protective measures
- Propose new mapping that identifies potential locations of hazardous forest types for wildland fire in accordance with Provincial requirements



### How can I stay involved?

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## Key proposed policies and mapping



- Land use planning can assist in preventing wildland fire threats
- Land use planning decisions contribute to reducing the loss of life or injury or property damage due to wildland fire

- Direct local municipalities, in consultation with conservation authorities, to incorporate requirements to generally direct development outside of areas with forest types that are hazardous for wildland fires.
- Identify where hazardous forest types for wildland fire may be located, based on a municipal-led “broad-level” assessment.
- Support local municipalities to ensure site-level risk assessment and environmentally appropriate mitigation measures are implemented.

