

OUT OF TOWN FIRE RESILIENCY POLICY

Article 1.0 Effective Date

Section 1.1 This Policy takes effect on August 4th, 2026.

Article 2.0 Purpose

Section 2.1 This Policy establishes requirements to improve fire resiliency outside the Town of Jasper.

Article 3.0 Scope

Section 3.1 This Policy applies outside the Town of Jasper and within Zones I, II, III and IV of Jasper National Park, as defined in the Jasper National Park of Canada Management Plan.

Section 3.2 This Policy applies to new development and major renovations. It does not apply to minor renovations, maintenance, or repairs.

Section 3.3 This Policy does not apply to federally-designated heritage buildings, although designated buildings should follow this Policy where possible, as determined by the Superintendent, with advice from Cultural Heritage where required.

Article 4.0 Context

Section 4.1 Land use and development outside the Town of Jasper is regulated by the *Impact Assessment Act*, the *National Parks of Canada Land Use Planning Regulations*, the *Jasper National Park of Canada Management Plan*, and applicable land use agreements. Depending on location, the *Jasper National Park Lake Edith Cottage Policy* or the *Redevelopment Guidelines for Outlying Commercial Accommodations and Hostels in the Rocky Mountains* may also apply. Following the 2024 Jasper Wildfire, many buildings and other structures were destroyed or damaged. Since then, there is interest in improving the fire resiliency of development. This Policy provides a framework to enhance fire resiliency through building material requirements, buffers, and landscaping.

Article 5.0 Definitions

Section 5.1 For the purposes of this Policy capitalized words shall have the following meanings:

“Heavy Timber” means wood with a minimum dimension of 150 mm on all sides.

“Class 1 Structure” means a Structure with a roof that is fully enclosed and is routinely occupied by people for habitation, employment, or public assembly. This includes, but is not limited to, hotels, cabins, huts, staff accommodation, office and administrative buildings, commercial day-use facilities (such as restaurants or shops), and indoor educational or interpretive facilities. This does not include privies, storage buildings, or utility buildings.

“Class 2 Structure” means any Structure with a roof that is not fully enclosed, and is routinely occupied by people for habitation, employment, or public assembly. This includes, but is not limited to, picnic shelters, roofed pavilions or viewing decks, and roofed outdoor educational or interpretive facilities.

“Structure” means any physical work, such as any building, facility, fence, or sign.

“Temporary Structure” means a Structure that lasts less than 6 months or has no permanent foundation.

“Town of Jasper” means the Town of Jasper as described in Schedule 4 of the Canada National Parks Act.

Article 6.0 General Requirements for Zones I, II, III, and IV

Section 6.1 Wood shingle or shake roofs are not permitted.

Section 6.2 Coniferous species shall not be planted within 10 m of a Class 1 or Class 2 Structure.

Section 6.3 Coniferous species located within 10 m of a Class 1 or Class 2 Structure shall be removed, except for Douglas Firs or where authorized by the Superintendent. The removal area may extend into adjacent parkland but shall not extend onto abutting leaseholds.

Section 6.4 The following Structures shall have roof materials that meet a Class A fire-resistance standard (CAN/ULC S107 or equivalent):

- a) Class 1 Structures;
- b) Class 2 Structures; and
- c) Any roofed Structure that is:
 - (1) higher than 2.0 m in height; and
 - (2) within 30 m of a Class 1 or Class 2 Structure

Permitted materials include metal, cementitious tile, slate, and certain types of asphalt.

Article 7.0 Additional Development Requirements in Zone IV

Section 7.1 The following requirements shall apply to Class 1 Structures and any fully enclosed, roofed structure that is higher than 2.0 m and located within 10 m of a Class 1 Structure:

- a) Exterior wall materials shall be non-combustible. Permitted materials include stone, traditional stucco, brick, certain metals, and fibre cement board. Heavy Timber is permitted. Vinyl, acrylic stucco, aluminum siding, and wood siding are not permitted.
- b) Trim boards and fascia shall be non-combustible. Trim made of Heavy Timber is permitted.
- c) Window frames, trim, and mullions shall be constructed of non-combustible materials or fire-resistant materials including metal clad wood, metal clad fibreglass, aluminum, steel, and uPVC. Wood window frames and mullions are not permitted.
- d) Exterior doors shall be finished with non-combustible material. The core material of the door must have a fire protection rating of not less than 20 minutes.
- e) A minimum 1.5 m non-combustible landscaping buffer shall be provided around the perimeter of the Structure.

Section 7.2 The following requirements shall apply within the 1.5 m non-combustible buffer required under section 7.1 (e):

- a) Non-combustible landscaping materials include materials such as gravel, stone, concrete, or brick. Grass, shrubs, or wood mulch are not permitted. Low-combustibility plantings such as flowers and garden beds are permitted.
- b) Decks, stairs, and similar attachments shall be surfaced with materials that meet a Class A standard for fire resiliency (CAN/ULC S102, ASTM E84 or equivalent).
- c) Canopies shall be constructed of non-combustible materials. Materials that meet a CAN/ULC-S109 standard are permitted beyond the 1.5 m buffer.
- d) Fencing shall be constructed of non-combustible materials, such as metal or stone. Wooden fences are permitted beyond 1.5 m buffer.

Section 7.3 The following requirements shall apply to Structures within 10 m of a Class 1 Structure:

- a) Canopies shall be constructed of non-combustible materials or from material that meet a CAN/ULC-S109 standard.
- b) Signs shall be non-combustible. A wood sign mounted on a non-combustible surface or on Heavy Timber is permitted.

Article 8.0 Exceptions

Section 8.1 When a Temporary Structure cannot comply with these requirements, the Superintendent may accept alternative materials, provided the Structure is located at least 1.5 m away from any Structure required to comply with these requirements.

Section 8.2 When a Structure's materials are essential to its purpose and cannot comply with these requirements, the Superintendent may consider requests for alternative materials, provided the Structure is located at least 10 m from any Structure required to comply with those requirements.

Article 9.0 Conflict with Other Regulation or Policy

Section 9.1 In the event of a conflict between this Policy and the Canada National Parks Act (S.C. 2000, c. 32), or regulation made thereunder, the legislated requirements will prevail.

Section 9.2 In the event of a conflict between this Policy and the Jasper National Park of Canada Management Plan, the Park Management Plan will prevail.

Section 9.3 In the event of a conflict between this Policy and other policies or guidelines, the most recent Policy will prevail.

Article 10.0 Policy Amendments

Section 10.1 No person other than the Superintendent may initiate amendments to this Policy.

Article 11.0 Approval

I approve: Geneviève Caron
 Superintendent
 Jasper National Park

Signed in the Town of Jasper,
in the Province of Alberta,
this 28 day of July, 2026