

Fire-Safe Construction



TOWN OF
GRIMSBY



Common Fire Risks Throughout Construction Operations

Construction sequencing risks

incomplete fire separations, exposed structures, or temporary openings that allow rapid fire spread.

Hot work activities

tasks such as welding, cutting, or grinding that generate heat and sparks.

Electrical hazards

conditions including overloaded circuits, damaged wiring, or unsafe use of electrical equipment.

Lack of training

situations where workers lack awareness of fire hazards or safe handling procedures for flammable materials.

Flammable materials

combustible items such as wood, paint, solvents, fuels, cardboard, and packaging that can ignite when exposed to heat or sparks.



Key Tips to Reduce Fire Risk During Construction

Enforce no-smoking policies

limit smoking to designated safe areas away from combustible materials.

Maintain housekeeping

routinely remove waste and combustible materials and keep all work areas orderly.

Store flammable materials properly

clearly label and segregate flammable liquids and solvents, using approved storage practices.

Provide fire safety training

educate workers on fire risks, prevention methods, and the correct use of firefighting equipment.

Ensure accessible firefighting equipment

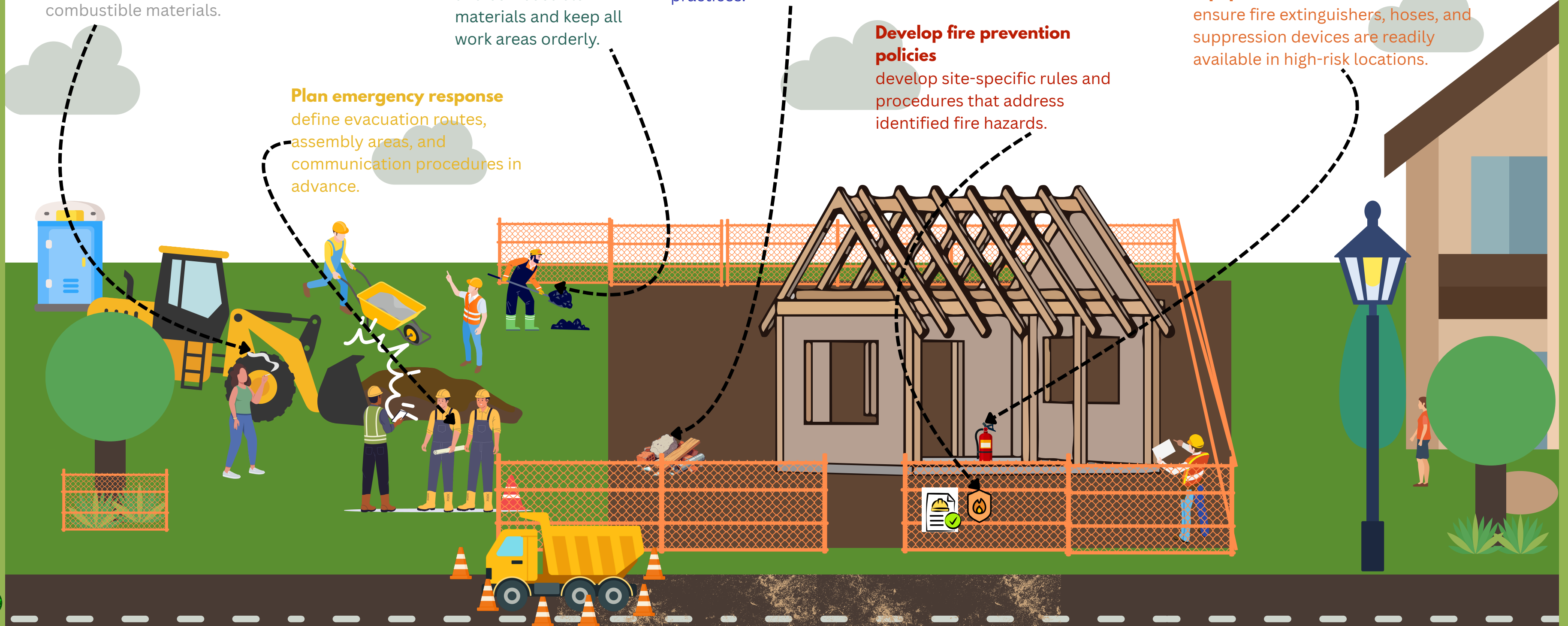
ensure fire extinguishers, hoses, and suppression devices are readily available in high-risk locations.

Plan emergency response

define evacuation routes, assembly areas, and communication procedures in advance.

Develop fire prevention policies

develop site-specific rules and procedures that address identified fire hazards.



Structure Ignition Zone

IMMEDIATE ZONE

0m to 1.5m

The immediate zone is a non-combustible area that starts at the house and extends 1.5m around the home. Reduce the chance of wind-blown embers igniting your home by starting with these proactive steps.

- 🔥 Use non-combustible materials for building or renovations
- 🔥 Clear vegetation to mineral soil and cover with gravel, brick, or concrete
- 🔥 Avoid woody shrubs and trees, or prune and maintain them regularly

INTERMEDIATE ZONE

1.5m to 10m

Proper management of the Intermediate Zone helps prevent fire spread and protect your home. Consider the following actions:

- 🔥 Use fire-resistant plants and non-combustible landscaping, avoiding mulch or woody debris.
- 🔥 Keep all combustible items (firewood, furniture, tools, materials) out of this zone.
- 🔥 Move or separate combustible structures to the Extended Zone, or protect them with non-combustible ground cover like gravel.

EXTENDED ZONE

10m to 30m

In the Extended Zone, fire can't be eliminated, but its intensity can be reduced. If your property includes this area, consider these actions:

- 🔥 Space evergreen tree crowns at least 3 m apart and remove lower branches up to 2 m from the ground.
- 🔥 Regularly clear fallen branches, dry grass, and needles to reduce surface fuels.
- 🔥 Apply these practices beyond 30 m where applicable, coordinating with neighbours and seeking professional guidance when needed.



Reducing Ignition Zone on Structure

