



## Bowen Island Fire Department – Fall Update



PHEW! The rain is certainly welcome for our dry forests! Bowen only had a couple of fire events over the summer that had potential for spreading in to the brush. Lightning, careless human activity and accidents can all result in a spreading wildfire. While we are fortunate in not having huge tracts of standing, dead timber as in the interior, there are areas of our island that experience extreme fire hazard conditions throughout the summer months. The 'perfect storm' could occur on Bowen . A small fire, not detected early, in an extremely dry area, coupled with a strong wind would have the potential to spread fairly aggressively. Bowen Island is very typical of the concern associated with Wildland/Urban Interface Fires.

NOW is the time to think about next summer. Being aware of wildfire risks starts at home. There are many things we can do as individuals to minimize the risk of wildfire. It all starts in our own backyard. Take a look at the FireSmart information on the Bowen Island Municipality website at [http://www.bimbc.ca/departement\\_fire\\_department](http://www.bimbc.ca/departement_fire_department). The information is listed in the Fire Department section. We are also available to meet you at your property to discuss prevention measures. Please leave a message at 604-947-9324 to arrange an appointment.

### OUTDOOR BURNING ON BOWEN

Land clearing and yard clean up fires are possible from October 15<sup>th</sup> through to April 15<sup>th</sup>. To obtain a permit and information on the regulations that apply, please call 604-947-9324. Alternatives, such as utilizing suitable material for wood stoves, chipping, mulching etc. should be explored.

