

**Town of St. James - Firewise Program Progress Through October 2020
Based on Information Submitted in November 2020 Firewise Recertification**

Category	Action Plan Element	Achievements Through October 2020
Public Education and Awareness	Present Firewise display at the annual Town of St. James Severe Weather Seminar including maps/posters, literature, staffing by Firewise Committee members	Due to the COVID pandemic, this event was virtual for 2020. Firewise materials, including fact sheets and Self-Assessment Form were included in information packets prepared by the St. James Emergency Management team and disseminated to over 400 residents.
	Maintain and update Firewise literature for residents at the information rack in St. James Town Hall	Firewise posters, brochures, and other materials have been kept stocked at the Town Hall and referenced in multiple Cat-Tales articles along with updated information on Town of St. James Firewise web site
	Send letters to property owners who have not yet begun construction, describing Firewise program and linking to Town of St. James website resources for construction and landscaping.	Firewise Committee worked with the Property Owners Association (POA) and the Town of St. James and mailed letters to 76 "new construction" property owners and 187" property resale" owners for a total of 263 residents.
	Continue Firewise Community outreach to and benchmarking with other local Brunswick County Firewise communities	Due to COVID pandemic, plans to meet with outside groups were deferred.
Risk Reduction Actions	Continue and expand the Town of St. James residential yard waste removal program that provides curbside pick-up of leaves, branches, clippings, pine cones, used mulch and other yard debris.	The Town of St. James Yard Debris Collection Service collected approximately 1,125 cubic yards of yard waste were removed by Town contractors from October 2019 through September 2020; see below for associated expenditures and cost impact of storm event debris removal.
	Continue quarterly St. James POA vacant lot mowing program that clears dead braches, pine cones, and other debris on undeveloped residential lots	The St. James POA Vacant Lot Maintenance program included 629 undeveloped lots located throughout St. James. See below for associated expenditures.
Metrics	Document Town of St. James volume statistics and associated costs for residential yard waste removal	From October 2019 through September 2020, expenditures totaled \$400,756 for removal of approximately 6,600 cubic yards of vegetative debris and special collection events for Hurricane Isaias, Hurricane Dorian, and an unnamed storm.
	Document POA number of lots and associated costs for vacant lot maintenance program	St. James POA Vacant Lot Maintenance annual expenditures for 2020 are estimated at \$113,220.
	Summarize level of effort data and costs for submittal to North Carolina Forest Service in conformance with Firewise program requirements	Grand Total of Town of St. James risk reduction expenditures = \$513,976
Recertification	Complete annual Firewise program recertification through Firewise on-line portal.	Recertification completed on November 6, 2020 and approved on November 20, 2020 by North Carolina Forest Service.
	Number of Dwelling Units = 4,028	Expenditure per dwelling unit = \$127.60

Firewise Program Goal = \$25.43 per dwelling unit
Town of St. James Risk Reductions achieved 5 time this goal