

This Checklist is taken with permission from the document, *“Being Fire-Wise in the Garden Route”*, A resource compiled by Sue Swain of the Garden Route Initiative with contributions from and edited by Lorena Pasquini: Media and Community Liaison Officer: Working on Fire

The checklist appears on page 21 – 23. The whole document is well worth reading and can be downloaded here: <http://edentoaddo.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2011/02/Being%20Fire-Wise%20Edited%20Final%20for%20Landowners%20Mar%2009.doc>

Be FireWise Appendix 1a

A Guide for Landowners

Wildfire Hazard and Risk Identification Form

Assign a value to the appropriate element, and add all points to determine degree of risk

ELEMENT	POINTS	Your score
A. Means of Access		
1. Ingress and Egress		
a) Two or more roads in/out	0	
b) One road in/out	7	
2. Road Width		
a) Greater than 6m wide	0	
b) Less than 6m wide	4	
3. Road Condition		
a) Tarred road, gradient less than 5% (3°)	0	
b) Tarred road, gradient greater than 5% (3°)	2	
c) Gravel road, gradient less than 5% (3°)	2	
d) Gravel road, gradient greater than 5% (3°)	5	
4. Municipal Fire Brigade Service Access		
a) Shorter than 90m with turnaround	0	
b) Longer than 90m with turnaround	2	
c) Shorter than 90 with no turnaround	4	
d) Longer than 90m with no turnaround	5	
5. Road Signs		
a) Present, 10cm in size and reflectorised	0	
b) Not present	5	
B. Vegetation (Fuel Models)		
1. Characteristics of dominant vegetation adjacent to property		
a) Indigenous forest and/or coastal fynbos	5	
b) Short shrub and fynbos, gum, pine and wattle plantations	10	
c) Tall grass, mature mountain fynbos, dense woody alien plants	20	

d) Percentage of dead wood present amongst indigenous wood (5-10%)= 5 points ; (10-30%)= 10 points ; > 30%= 20 points		
2. Defensible Space		
a) 30m of vegetation treatment from the property	1	
b) 20 to 30m of vegetation treatment from the property	3	
c) 10 to 20m of vegetation treatment from the property	10	
d) 10m of vegetation treatment from the structure(s)	25	
C. Dominant Topography within 90m of Structure(s)		
a) Slope less than 9% (6°)	1	
b) Slope 10% to 20% (6° to 12°)	5	
c) Slope 20% to 30% (12° to 17°)	10	
d) Slope 30% to 40% (17° to 22°)	20	
e) Slope greater than 40% (22°)	25	
D. Additional Factors (Score 5 for any that apply, 0 for those that do not apply)		
1. Topographical features that adversely affect wildfire behaviour i.e. hot and dry northern slope aspects, gullies, kloofs	0/5	
2. Sources of possible ignition that occur within the area assessed		
a) Lightning	0/5	
b) Railways (sparks from trains a danger)	0/5	
c) Mountain passes (cigarettes from cars a danger)	0/5	
d) Power-lines	0/5	
e) Picnic and camping sites (cigarettes/braais a danger)	0/5	
3. Areas periodically exposed to unusually severe fire weather & strong dry winds	0/5	
4. Neighbour boundary density factor (or potential sources of accidental ignition) - add the no of properties or neighbours (per km ²) in the area surrounding your property		
a) Less than 1 per km ²	1	
b) 2-4 per km ²	2	
c) 5-7 per km ²	3	
d) 7-10 per km ²	5	
e) More than 10 per km ²	10	
E. Dominant Roofing Assembly		
1. Tin, slate or tile roof	3	
2. Asbestos roof	15	
3. Thatch	25	

F. Dominant Building Construction Type		
1. Dominant Materials		
a) Noncombustible/fire-resistant siding, eaves and deck	0	
b) Noncombustible/fire resistant siding, combustible deck	5	
c) Combustible siding and deck	10	
2. Building Setback Relative to Slopes of 30% or More		
a) Greater than 10m to slope	1	
b) Less than 10m to slope	5	
G. Available Fire Protection		
1. Water Source Availability		
a) Pressurized water source (hydrants) availability	0	
b) Non-pressurized water source availability (off-site)		
- continuous for 2 hours	3	
- continuous for 1 hour	5	
c) Water unavailable	10	
2. Organised Response Resources		
a) Fire Station less than 8km away	1	
b) Station more than 8km away	3	
3. Fire Detection Facility		
a) National Emergency Number/Camera Monitored 24 hours	1	
b) Manned lookout	2	
c) Fire Danger Index warning – boards available or SMS messaging	4	
d) None	10	
4. Personal Fire Fighting Equipment		
a) Fire fighting equipment available and in good working order	0	
b) Fire fighting equipment not available	20	
TOTAL		
Total Points	Hazard Assessment	
Less than 50	Low Hazard	
50-74	Moderate Hazard	
75-120	High Hazard	
Greater than 120	Extreme Hazard	