# WORKING WITH NATURE AT HOME

# **HEAT AND FLOOD PROTECTION** For areas not at risk of wildfire

# **Complete simple upgrades**

### Do-it-yourself, for under \$250



Maintain existing shade trees.



Grow plants climbing up your walls.



Green your balcony or deck with potted or hanging plants.



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Join or start a community greening program.

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# **Complete more complex upgrades**

### Work with a contractor, for over \$250



Plant new shade trees, along south, east, and west facing walls.



Convert paved areas to vegetation which absorbs less heat and more water.



Install a rain garden to collect stormwater (at least 5 m from the foundation).



Install a green (vegetated) roof.

Note: Seek local advice on appropriate native species that will tolerate future climate conditions, and, in places at risk of wildfire, consider the FireSmart<sup>TM</sup> quidance below.

## WILDFIRE PROTECTION For areas at risk of wildfire



Remove all combustible ground cover (mulch and plants) within 1.5 m of the house perimeter.



Remove conifer trees that are within 10 m of the house.



Mow the lawn to <10 cm and plant low-growing, well-spaced shrubs and other fire-resistant plants.



Prune trees to create a 2 m clearance from the ground to the lowest tree branches.

Note: Not all actions will be applicable to each home. Completing these steps does not guarantee the prevention of fire.





