

JUNE 22, 2021**SUMMER FIRE SAFETY**

It's heating up out there, and with COVID-19 restrictions easing, gathering outside is something to enjoy again. Having a campfire, a barbecue, or a beach fire is a great way to re-connect outdoors.

The Campbell River Fire Department reminds residents to make fire safety a priority while enjoying these activities with friends and family, and follow all local and provincial open burning regulations.

"Please use common sense and extreme caution with fires during dry summer conditions," says fire chief Thomas Doherty. *"Making sure your campfire or beach fire is fully extinguished before you leave the area is one of the most important ways to prevent a fire from getting out of control. Human caused wildfires are entirely preventable."*

Follow these recreational fire rules and keep Campbell River safe:

- Ensure you follow your local bylaws and provincial regulations on open burning.
- Check to ensure there are no current fire bans prior to having a fire.
- Do not light a fire or keep it burning in windy conditions. The wind may carry embers and spread the fire.
- Beach fires are not allowed on parkland or private property (other than your own). Always light beach fires below the high tide line.
- Recreational fires must not exceed 24 inches (60 centimetres) in diameter.
- Maintain a fireguard around the fire – a fuel-free area where all flammable materials (grass, kindling, driftwood, etc.) have been removed.
- Never leave a fire unattended.
- Always supervise young children near the fire. Teach kids how to stop, drop and roll should their clothing catch fire.
- Keep a bucket of water nearby for extinguishing the fire.
- Make sure the fire is completely extinguished and the ashes are cold to the touch before leaving the area.

In addition to recreational fire safety, the fire department has some important barbecue and propane safety guidelines available at campbellriver.ca/outdoor-fire-safety.

Although recreational fires are currently permitted, the Campbell River Fire Department may restrict or ban them at any time. Always check local and provincial fire restrictions before lighting a fire. As of noon on June 23 category 2 and 3 open fires are banned in the coastal fire centre. Learn more at campbellriver.ca/current-fire-restrictions.

Campbell River's Clean Air Bylaw can be found at campbellriver.ca/your-city-hall/bylaw-search

Please report abandoned fires by calling the fire department's non-emergency line at 250-286-6266. In an emergency, dial 9-1-1.

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Contact: Thomas Doherty, Fire Chief

250-286-6266

COVID-19

Please note: We have new procedures in place to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

For the most recent information on City services, please see our website campbellriver.ca/COVID-19
Reach us with general inquiries by email: info@campbellriver.ca or telephone 250-286-5700.