

Guidelines For Use Of Recreational Fire Pits & Burning Barrels

BURNING BARRELS & FIRE PITS

1. Burning barrels or recreational fire pits must be installed on a non-combustible base extending at least 24" from the sides.
2. A minimum of 3 metres (10 feet) clearance shall be maintained from any buildings, property lines, overhead wires, trees or any combustible materials.
3. Installations shall be made of bricks, concrete blocks, heavy gauge metal or other suitable non-combustible components.
4. Burning barrels or recreational fire pits are to be fitted with a tight meshed spark arrester screen (suggest 7 mm mesh, 1/4")
5. Do not place installation within 1m of gas lines. Contact Alberta One Call for free line locate toll free at 1-800-242-3447.
6. Burning is not permitted when winds exceed 12 km/hr or are gusting.
7. A means of extinguishing the fire must be on site during operation.
8. The person lighting or allowing any fire is responsible for its safe operation. If in doubt, contact the Foothills Fire Department at 403-603-3575.

AGRICULTURAL LAND

Special regulations must be followed by those who have a burning permit to burn brush or debris after land clearing or other agricultural activities.

THESE ARE:

A burning permit must be obtained from the Fire Department (403-603-3575), before a fire may be ignited for broadcast burning of grass or stubble. To prepare for burning of debris or windrows, they must be no more than 60 metres in length. The area being burned must be completely surrounded by a guard cleared of combustible material to a width of not less than 15 metres. No windrow shall be closer than 25 metres to uncleared land or standing combustible fuels. Parallel windrows must be separated by not less than 15 metres. Every fire must be supervised and controlled by a responsible person or persons.

The minimum amount of equipment required on site:

- cultivation equipment as directed in permit
- one barrel of at least 200 litres of water
- one water backpack and hand pail or four heavy sacks
- 2 round mouth shovels and one axe.

Reduce your chances of having a fire get out of control by checking these precautions:

- Ensure that your fire guards are wide enough to prevent sparks spreading from your fire. Large fires can carry sparks over a considerable distance.
- Have required tools ready at the fire site with enough portable water to control fire. Even for a small pile you should have a shovel and water available. If you have several piles, burn only as much as you can keep under control.
- Check to see if any neighbors will be available to assist you if you require emergency assistance.
- Do not start a fire under windy or gusty conditions.
- Whenever possible, plan your burn for early in the day. You will get good burning time if you start at 7:00 am and burn through until 10:00 pm.
- When your burn is completed, wet and stir up any smoldering ash or accumulation of burned debris. Fires can remain dormant in large piles for long periods and usually surface when fire hazard conditions are extreme. Persistent hot spots must be extinguished. Continue to check completed burning projects to be sure no holdover fires are present.

One of the most serious burning problems is caused by hold over fires when it is assumed they are out.

Think Fire Safety



Foothills Fire Department

403-603-3575

www.foothillscountyab.ca

Burning Permits & Regulation Information & Safety Tips Fire Department



Valid burning permits required for all open fires - year round!

Burning Permits available online at www.foothillscountyab.ca

BURNING PERMITS

A valid burning permit is required if you are lighting an outdoor fire for any purpose other than an enclosed Municipality approved recreational fire pit. Exceptions are permitted if burning is to take place in a burning barrel fitted with a screen, or a BBQ in or outside of a pit.

Get your Burning Permit at www.foothillscountyab.ca. Burning permits are valid for 5 days from the date of issue. If conditions warrant, permits may be cancelled at any time. Extensions may be granted under a new permit number, provided the required conditions can be met.

As a condition of the burning permit you must inform the 911 Dispatch Centre @ 1-888-808-3722 one (1) hour prior to commencing burning.

When disposing of a building or structure by burning, the building or structure must first be demolished. The burning of tires, plastic wastes or other toxic noxious materials or substances is not permitted.

The Fire Chief may suspend or cancel all permits, and prohibit the lighting of fires in Foothills County with a Fire Ban. The general public is notified of Fire Bans via local news media, the County's website - www.foothillscountyab.ca, Facebook and Twitter. When permits are suspended or cancelled and fires are prohibited, all fires ignited under the authority of a burning permit must be extinguished immediately.



REGULATIONS FOR BURNING PERMITS

1. Fire permits are required year round in Foothills County.
2. The fire must be set at the time and place indicated on the permit.
3. The number of fires set at one time and minimum equipment needed may be specified on the permit.
4. A fire permit is a legal document which conditionally authorized a person to burn Class A materials (wood/paper) at a time specified on the permit. By obtaining a fire permit you have simply indicated you wish to burn.
5. The responsibility for conducting a safe burn is yours. Anyone who sets a fire under authority of a permit must comply with the following requirements and conditions.

BURNING PERMIT CONDITIONS

1. Fire must be supervised at all times by a responsible adult.
2. No burning is permitted when winds exceed 12 km/hr or are gusting.
3. Suitable fire extinguishing equipment to be located at site.
4. The 911 Dispatch Centre @ 1-888-808-3722 must be notified one (1) hour prior to burn taking place.
5. No burning is permitted between the night hours of 10:00 pm and 7:00 am unless a special permit has been issued by the Foothills Fire Department.
6. Only Class A combustibles are to be burned.
7. An accurate description of the size and the type of combustibles must be given to the Foothills Fire Department or Fire Guardian when applying for a permit.
8. Any breach of the above conditions renders the permit null and void.

CALL BEFORE YOU BURN!

1-888-808-3722

(DISPATCH CENTRE)

Fire Department responses to an uncontrolled fire or a breach in permit conditions will result in an invoice for the costs.



You are NOT ALLOWED TO BURN:

- Tires
- Plastics
- Household Garbage
- Paint Cans
- Used Motor Oil
- Furniture
- Treated Products.

Prohibited debris includes but is not limited to the above items.