



News Release – For Immediate Release Thursday, May 20, 2010

Fire Ban Remains in Effect

A fire ban will remain in effect for the County of Grande Prairie over the long weekend. Campers will still be able to enjoy the use of recreational firepits.

The fire ban includes the Towns of Beaverlodge, Sexsmith, Wembley and the Village of Hythe.

“Overall, residents have been very cooperative,” stated Fire Chief Everett Cooke. “Unfortunately, not everyone has complied with the ban and we have had to issue 6 tickets and will begin proceedings to recoup costs for fire suppression activities on two recent blazes.”

Anyone caught violating the fire ban could face fines up to \$500. If their activity leads to a wildfire, they may be held accountable for the loss of timber and the costs associated with the suppression of the wildfire.

Although the use of a recreational firepit is permitted, the public is encouraged to keep a constant watch for any stray sparks or embers.

For industries, open pit flaring is suspended and fires contained in facilities or on sites must be approved by a fire guardian.

All outstanding burning permits are revoked and no new permits will be issued until the ban is lifted.

Please check www.countygp.ab.ca for updates or call the Fire Services office at 780-532-9727.

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