

BURNING CHECKLIST

You can reduce the chance of a fire getting out of control by taking these easy precautions:

- Be sure your fireguards are wide enough and free of burnable material. Watch for spot fires that start from sparks from your fire. Large fires can carry sparks over a considerable distance.
- Have tools ready at the fire site and enough portable water to handle the size of the fire. Even when burning a small single pile you should have a shovel and water nearby.
- If you have several brush piles, light only as much as you can keep under control. Check to see if any neighbors will be available in case you need extra help and equipment.
- Don't burn under windy, gusty conditions. Whenever possible plan your burn for late in the day (after 6:00pm) You still have adequate time and should help you regain control.
- When your burn is completed, speed up final extinguishing by dispersing 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, left to burn out, must be well guarded. When the weather gets dry, any holdover fire must be put out. (continue to check any completed burns to ensure no holdover fires are present.) Probe and stir burned areas to ensure they are out.



Agricultural Land

Those who have a fire permit to burn brush or debris after land clearing or other agricultural activities on private property must follow special regulations.

- No fire can be lit for broadcast burning of grass or stubble without first obtaining a fire permit.
- In preparation for burning, debris or windrows from land clearing must be no more than 60 meters long with an 8 meter break between each 60 meter length.
- The area being burned must be completely surrounded by a 15 meter fireguard consisting of mineral soil.
- No windrow may be closer than 25 meters to un-cleared land or standing hazardous fuels.
- Windrows must be separated from other parallel windrows by at least 15 meters.
- Every fire must be controlled by a responsible person or persons that have been approved by a forest officer or fire guardian.
- Have adequate equipment at the fire site, including:

One axe, two round mouth shovels, one water back pack and hand pail or four heavy sacks, one barrel of at least 200L of water.



WILDFIRE PREVENTION

**10001 - 84 Avenue
Clairmont, AB**

TOH 0W0

www.countygp.ab.ca

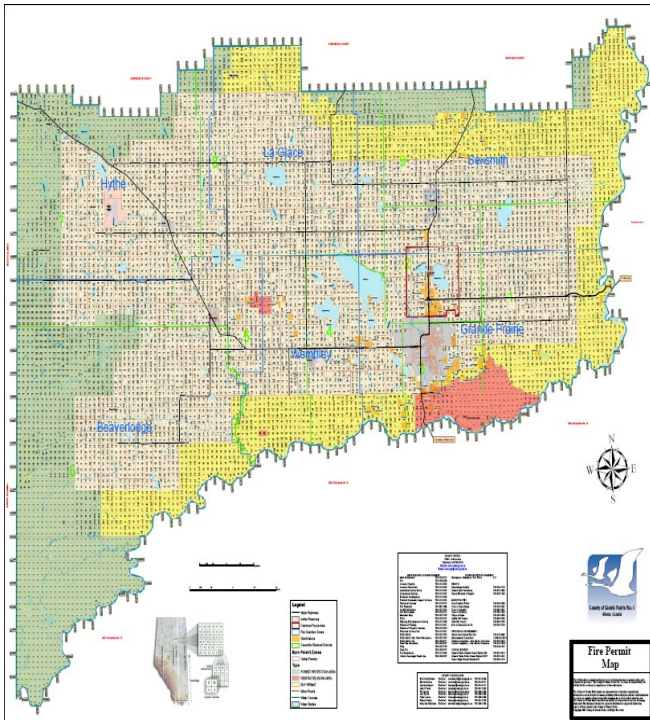
Phone: 780-532-9727

Fax: 780-567-5578

Other than an approved campfire, any open fire must have a valid fire permit. Permits are available from the County Fire Services Office. Fire Permits are free and are issued for a specific period of time. They may be cancelled before the expiry date if the fire hazard makes such action necessary.

Where to get your permit:

To obtain a permit within the County of Grande Prairie No. 1 contact the Fire Services Office at (780)-532-9727 Monday-Friday 8:30am—4:30pm.



Green—Forest Protection Area

Red—Restricted Burn Area

Yellow—Written Permit

What you need to know

Within the County of Grande Prairie No.1, fire permits are required during the fire season, which starts April 1st and end October 31st. The fire season can be extended if the risk or danger of wildfire exists.

Before lighting any fire, a permit holder must take precautions to ensure that the fire is kept under control at all times. The following rules apply to all permits issued in the County of Grande Prairie No.1:

- A fire permit is valid only for the period that it is issued for.
- Upon issuing a permit a Fire Guardian may specify any special fire control condition that is important to the safety of the forest and surrounding area.
- The fire must be set at the time and place indicated on the permit.
- The number of fires set at one time and min. equipment needed may be specified on the permit.
- Anyone who sets a fire under the authority of a permit must:
 - Have the fire permit at the site;
 - Produce their permit upon request;
 - Keep the fire under control;
 - Extinguish fire before explanation or upon cancellation of the permit or obtain renewal.

For more information and regulations please access www.countygp.ca and select Fire Permits.

Safe Burning Practices

A fire permit is a legal document that authorizes a person to burn debris at a time specified on the permit. By obtaining a fire permit, you have indicated your intention to burn and are responsible for conducting a safe burn.

Fires must not be lit when weather conditions are conducive to fires escaping or getting out of control. Contact the County Fire office at 780-532-9727 for advice.

No one may deposit, discard or leave any burning material in a place where it may ignite and result in a fire.

Check all burning carried out in the winter for hold-over fires, prior to April 1st every year.

Walk the burn area.

Roll the debris over to check for hot spots.

Probe the burned area to ensure there are no hot spots.

Stir the debris.

Water down and extinguish hot spots.

Permit Cancellations

The County of Grande Prairie No 1 may suspend or cancel all permits within our jurisdiction.

General Public may be notified of suspension through print, radio or TV.

Adhere strictly to the conditions stated on your fire permit. Under the Forest and Prairie Protection Act, you may be held responsible for fire suppression costs or any penalties that occur as a result of burning without a permit, or failing to comply with the conditions stated on your fire permit.