



# COUNTY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE No. 1

**News Release** – For Immediate Release Thursday, February 28, 2013

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## **Fire Season starts Friday, March 1st**

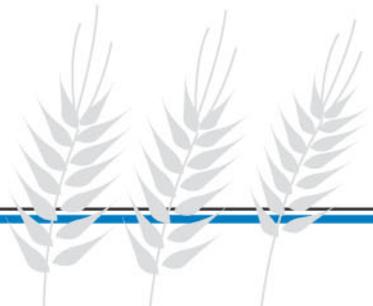
The County Fire Service is reminding residents that fire season starts tomorrow.

“The fire season normally begins April 1, but the provincial government is starting it a month early this year, as it was in 2012” said Fire Marshal Mark Whelpton. “Ratepayers will need to request a permit where required and ensure that they follow safe burning practices.”

The County has 4 different Fire Burning Areas (White, Yellow, Red and Green). Residents can obtain an annual permit to burn in burn barrels, firepits and approved incinerators. If you live in the County White area, verbal notification is required during Fire Season (March 1st to October 31st). In the Yellow area, an inspection is needed during Fire Season. If you reside in a hamlet/subdivision or are in the Red area, a written fire permit is required year round. To request an inspection or permit from the County Fire Service please call 780-532-9727. In the Green area, call SRD to obtain a written permit from a Forestry Fire Guardian during Fire Season as this area is designated as the Forest Protection Area.

If residents are unsure which Burning Area they reside in, or who their fire guardian is, they are encouraged to go online, [www.countygp.ab.ca](http://www.countygp.ab.ca), and click on fire permits under the quick links section, or call Fire Services.

Residents are reminded that there is no burning of household garbage within hamlets or listed residential subdivisions (an area of land divided up into building lots containing more than five adjoining residences). It now requires an inspection and permit and must be done within an approved incinerator or burn barrel.





In addition, if a Fire Ban is issued, all burn permits will be void until the ban is lifted. Notifications will be made through local media.

Permits are free of charge and can be requested by calling Fire Services at 780-532-9727, or you can go online [www.countygp.ab.ca](http://www.countygp.ab.ca) to request a permit.

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