

Extracts from the Forest and Prairie Protection Act of Alberta RSA 2000, Chapter F-19 2003.

19(3) A fire permit is valid only for the period for which it is issued.

(4) A forest officer or fire guardian issuing a fire permit may endorse on the permit any special fire control conditions with which the applicant must comply in addition to this Act and the regulations.

RSA 1980 cF-14 s19

20 A fire permit may be suspended or cancelled at any time by a forest officer or a fire guardian and on receiving notice of the suspension or cancellation the person concerned shall immediately extinguish any fire set pursuant to the person's permit.

RSA 1980 cF-14 s20

21(1) For the purpose of fire control the Minister may, by order,

(a) suspend or cancel within any part or all of Alberta all fire permits, or

(b) prohibit the lighting or require the extinguishing of a fire set other than under the authority of a fire permit.

(2) An order made pursuant to subsection (1) must be immediately published at least twice a day for not less than 2 consecutive days by the radio and television stations or through such other means of communication that are considered by the Minister most likely to bring the matter to the attention of the public.

(3) In an area affected by an order made pursuant to subsection (1), every person shall immediately proceed to extinguish every open outdoor fire lit by the person or under the person's authority and every fire located on land occupied or owned by the person.

RSA 2000 cF-19 s21;2003 c20 s17

22 No person shall

(a) light an outdoor fire without first taking sufficient precautions to ensure that the fire can be kept under control at all times,

(b) light an outdoor fire when any fire hazard or burning hazard is conducive to a fire readily escaping out of control,

(c) fail to take reasonable steps to control a fire for the purpose of preventing it from spreading onto land other than the person's own,

(d) deposit, discard or leave any burning matter or substance in a place where it might ignite other matter and result in a fire, or

(e) conduct in a forest protection area any activity that involves the use of fire or that might reasonably be expected to cause a fire, unless the person exercises reasonable care to prevent a fire from occurring.

RSA 2000 cF-19 s22;2003 c20 s18

## What you need to know

In the forest protection area, fire permits are required during the fire season, (April 1<sup>st</sup> - October 31<sup>st</sup>). The fire season may be extended if the risk or danger of wildfire exists.

## What you can't burn

- Preserved wood
- Material from automobile bodies and tires
- Rubber or plastic and any material that contain rubber or plastic
- Used oil
- Animal manure
- Pathological waste

## Safe Burning Practices

- A fire permit is a legal document that authorises a person to burn at a time specified on the permit. By obtaining a fire permit, you have indicated your intention to burn and are responsible for conducting the burn in a safe manner.
- Check all burning for hold-over fires.
  - o Walk the burn area.
  - o Probe the burned area to ensure there are no hot spots.
  - o Spread and/or stir the debris.
  - o Water down and extinguish hot spots.
  - o Cold trail the site. A process by which one carefully inspects for hold-over fires with hand and/or probe for heat and/or embers. If any are found, extinguish and ensure perimeter and burnt areas are cold to touch.

## Fire bans

When conditions are extremely hot and dry, a fire ban can be issued. When this occurs your fire permit will be suspended or cancelled and your fire must be extinguished.

**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.**

## Preparation and maintenance of burn barrels and incinerators

1. Always cover your burn barrel/incinerator with 6 mm (1/4") or smaller metal mesh screen.
2. Clear away any debris for at least 3 meters (10 feet) around your burn barrel/incinerator and work up the area to expose the soil.
3. Position your burn barrel/incinerator at least 30 meters (100feet) away from any structures or standing timber.

