

Camping on Crown Lands



Serviced Camping

Provincial Parks (PPs) and Provincial Recreation Areas (PRAs) with camping amenities such as washrooms, showers, firewood, lake access and maintained trails can be found all over Alberta.

Online reservations at Reserve.AlbertaParks.ca or get information at albertaparks.ca.

Got Questions? Check the extensive FAQs at albertaparks.ca/FAQs or call 1-877-537-2757.



For specific rules related to a PLUZ in your area, visit www.alberta.ca/public-land-use-zones.aspx

©2020 Government of Alberta | Published September 2020



KnowB4UGo

- Plan ahead. Make reservations up to 90 days in advance. Check for advisories such as fire bans.
- Maximum stay is 16 consecutive nights. Maximum of 6 persons per site unless all are members of the same non-extended family.
- Maximum of 3 vehicles and equipment per site. Up to 2 of these can be accommodation units.



Be Lawful

- Keep pets on a leash no more than 2 metres in length. Pick up after your pets.
- Campfires are only permitted in the facilities provided.
- Alcohol is permitted in your campsite and in specific designated picnic areas.
- Use of fireworks is prohibited.



Be Respectful

- Quiet hours are from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m.
- Avoid excessive noise such as loud partying or excessive generator use, at all times.
- Camping permit owners are responsible for the actions of all camping party members as well as visitors to their campsite.

Random Camping

Random camping, sometimes called no service, rustic or dispersed camping, refers to camping outside of designated campgrounds. This type of camping occurs primarily on Crown land and is user-maintained, with minimal or no services available. After 14 days of camping on provincial Crown land, you and your camping unit must leave the area for at least 72 hours, or you may be fined. Please plan accordingly and know your location-specific regulations (see Section 3 of this Guide for details).



KnowB4UGo

- Camp in open areas away from game trails, berry bushes, clover patches, streams, rivers and lakeshores.
- Choose areas that minimize damage to vegetation.
- Do not camp where you will block or restrict trail access or in an area where there is industrial land use.
- Do not camp where gas lines are present (look for signs).
- Camp at least 100 metres (330 feet) away from oil and gas well sites or facilities.



Be Lawful

- Camp 30 metres (100 feet) away from waterbodies to avoid nutrients and sediments impacting water quality.
- Staying longer than 14 days is prohibited. Ensure your camping facilities are temporary and portable, as camping too long on one site limits vegetation regeneration and impacts others' future enjoyment of that site.
- In a PLUZ, no camping or open fires are allowed within one kilometre of a PLRA or PRA.
- No exploding targets or fireworks are permitted in a PLUZ, PRA or PLRA.
- Campfires must be attended at all times and extinguished before leaving your site.
- Keep your campsite clean, take all garbage with you – leave nothing behind.

For specific rules related to a PLUZ in your area, visit www.alberta.ca/public-land-use-zones.aspx

©2020 Government of Alberta | Published September 2020



Be Respectful

- Use portable fire receptacles for your campfire.
- Camp or park on surfaces that are resistant to impact.
- Cook food and dispose of dishwater at least 100 metres (330 feet) from your sleeping area.
- Ensure food and cooking equipment are safely stored in a vehicle or hanging out of reach, as food smells attract wildlife. Avoid disposing of dishwater in any waterbody as soap may harm fish and other aquatic species.
- Where there are no outhouses, select a spot away from trails, campsites and at least 70 metres (230 feet) from water sources. Dig a 12-16 centimetres hole to reach the dark-coloured biologically active soil layer. When filling the hole with soil, do not pack it down. Pack out any paper products.

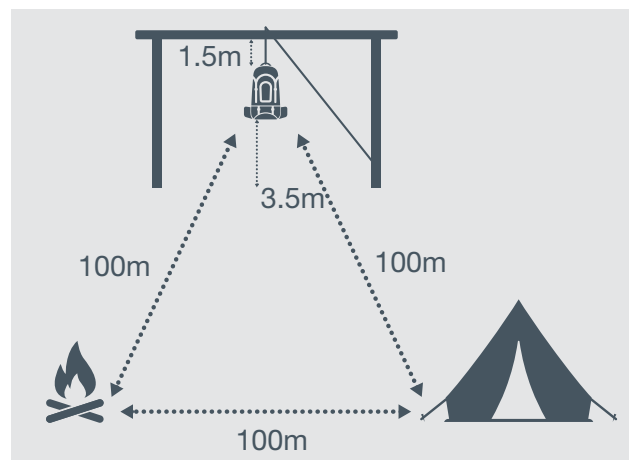


Figure 1: Recommended distances between camping, campfires and food storage when random camping.

Did You Know?



Some PLRAs offer overnight camping with varying levels of services. If camping in a PLRA, after 14 days, you must vacate the PLRA for at least 24 hours.