

# Fire permits

Safe burning practices



## Forest Protection Area of Alberta

Alberta's Forest Protection Area (FPA) covers approximately 60 per cent of the province's landmass. The province is responsible for managing wildfires in this area. Wildfire protection in Alberta is shared between Alberta Wildfire (inside the FPA) and the municipalities and counties outside the FPA.

For more information:  
[wildfire.alberta.ca/wildfire-maps/administrative-boundaries.aspx](http://wildfire.alberta.ca/wildfire-maps/administrative-boundaries.aspx)

## Forest and Prairie Protection Act

If you're responsible for starting a wildfire, you can be charged under the Forest and Prairie Protection Act (FPPA), fined and held liable for all costs associated with fighting the wildfire. All Alberta legislation, including the FPPA, can be found at the Queen's Printer.

For more information:  
[qp.alberta.ca](http://qp.alberta.ca)

## Wildfire safety and prevention:

[wildfire.alberta.ca](http://wildfire.alberta.ca)  
Report wildfires: 310.FIRE

## Current fire bans:

[albertafirebans.ca](http://albertafirebans.ca)

## Questions?

[wildfireinfo@gov.ab.ca](mailto:wildfireinfo@gov.ab.ca)  
1.866.FYI.FIRE



# Fire permits

Fire Permits ensure safe burning practices and allow staff to know where burning is approved so firefighters and aircraft are free to fight wildfires.

## Getting a permit

A fire permit explains safe burning practices that will help prevent your fire from becoming a wildfire. It is required for all fires, except campfires, in the Forest Protection Area of Alberta. Fire permits are free and can be requested from Alberta Wildfire. To locate your nearest office go to [firepermits.alberta.ca](http://firepermits.alberta.ca) or call 310-0000. Fire permits are required from March 1 to October 31.

## Permit cancellations

Fire permits may be suspended or cancelled if the fire hazard in the area changes. In these situations, the permit holder will be notified and must immediately extinguish all fires. In the event of a fire ban, all fire permits can be suspended.

## Prepare your burn site

Alberta Wildfire can advise you on constructing your burn site so it meets the guidelines required for your fire permit. Talking to your local patrolman or fire guardian before you start constructing your burn site will save you time and money. Once the burn site has been prepared, call your local Alberta Wildfire office and a staff member will meet you and inspect the site. If the site meets the guidelines, you will be issued your fire permit.



### Safe burning practices

- All fires require adequate supervision to ensure controlled burns.
- Only burn what you can control and follow the conditions of your permit.
- Have your fire permit ready to present if requested.
- Watch for sparks and burning material that may result in smaller fires. Larger fires can send these sparks over several kilometres, especially when burning in the wind.
- If the wind is gusting over 15 km/hour or increases beyond the limit on your permit, immediately extinguish your fire.
- Have the tools and equipment listed in your permit available to put out any spot fires that may occur.

### Allowable burning materials

- Brush and fallen trees
- Straw, stubble, grass, weeds, leaves and tree prunings
- Used power and telephone poles that do not contain preservatives
- Wood or wood products not containing preservatives
- Solid wood waste from tree harvesting
- Solid wood waste from post and pole operations not containing wood preservatives
- Cardboard and paper products

### Restricted burning materials

- Preserved wood
- Material from automobile bodies and tires
- Rubber
- Plastic
- Used oil and other petroleum-based products (i.e. styrofoam)
- Manure
- Pathological waste
- Asphalt shingles
- Materials prohibited by the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act (EPEA)