
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Campfire Ban Implemented in Kamloops Fire Zone Including North Okanagan Region

The RDNO will be implementing the same restrictions as per the Provincial Government Kamloops Fire Centre ban on campfires, in accordance to the below message from BC Wildfire.

BC Wildfire Message:

Effective noon on Thursday, July 26, 2018, campfires will be prohibited throughout the Kamloops Fire Centre's jurisdiction, which includes the North Okanagan.

BC Wildfire Service is battling several fires in the Kamloops Fire Centre as a result of lightning storms that passed through the Okanagan last week. Fire danger ratings are now generally "moderate" or "high", but these ratings are expected to increase.

Prohibited activities will also include the use of:

- fireworks (including firecrackers)
- sky lanterns
- burn barrels or burn cages of any size or description
- binary exploding targets (pre-packaged or homemade explosives, such as Tannerite, Thundershot, Gryphon, Firebird SS65, Sure Shot, or similar products)
- tiki torches or similar kinds of torches
- chimineas, outdoor stoves and other portable campfire apparatuses that are not CSA-approved or ULC-approved

These prohibitions apply to all public and private land unless specified otherwise. Please check with local government authorities for restrictions before lighting any fire. Prohibitions do not apply to CSA-rated or ULC-rated cooking stoves that use gas, propane or briquettes, or to a portable campfire apparatus that uses briquettes, liquid or gaseous fuel, so long as the height of the flame is less than 15 centimetres. Prohibitions on Category 2 and Category 3 open burning remain in effect throughout the Kamloops Fire Centre's jurisdiction. The campfire prohibition will remain in effect until Oct. 15, 2018, or until the public is otherwise notified.

Anyone found in contravention of an open fire prohibition may be issued a ticket for \$1,150, required to pay an administrative penalty of \$10,000 or, if convicted in court, fined up to \$100,000 and/or sentenced to one year in jail. If the contravention causes or contributes to a wildfire, the person responsible may be ordered to pay all firefighting and associated costs.

For the latest information on current wildfire activity, burning restrictions, road closures and air quality advisories visit www.bcwildfire.ca “

For further information, please call 250.550.3700 or email communityservices@rdno.ca.