



# PUBLIC NOTICE

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For Immediate Release  
August 27, 2009 – 0900 Hours

City of Parkville  
Parkville Fire Department

## CAMPFIRE BAN UPDATE CITY OF PARKSVILLE FIRE PROTECTION AREA

**PARKSVILLE FIRE PROTECTION AREA:** Effective at noon on August 27, 2009 and until further notice, campfires are now permitted within *supervised* public and private campgrounds/resorts at the discretion of the campground/resort managers. The fire ban for all other areas remains in effect at this time.

### What is a supervised campground/resort?

A supervised campground/resort is one with 24 hour caretakers, who will ensure that campfires are legal, and will monitor the area frequently.

### What type of campground/resort is acceptable?

The campground/resort must have engineered fire pits for the use of campers. The fire pit must provide for a legal campfire, and be safe and established, far enough from any flammable material including logs, stumps, snags, standing trees and wooden structures to not pose a threat of escape. The campground/resort must have a source of adequate water to extinguish campfires.

### What are the responsibilities of the supervisor?

- The campground/resort supervisor must undertake regular patrols to ensure that all campfires are legal. They must ensure when campers leave the area the campfires are extinguished.
- The supervisor must monitor weather conditions, and if local wind is strong enough to carry sparks to combustible material, the campfires must be extinguished. The campsites must be regularly monitored, and the supervisor must ensure the campfire is legal and conducted in a safe manner.
- The campground/resort owner or land manager will be liable in the event of an illegal campfire escape.

### What is a legal campfire?

A legal campfire is:

- In an area that restrictions do not apply;
- Not burning when windy conditions can carry sparks into flammable material;
- Burning in a safe, established fire pit;
- A reasonable distance away from any flammable materials, including logs, stumps, snags, standing trees and wooden structures;
- Small, not beyond 1 meter x 1 meter in size;
- Has adequate hand tools and water nearby in case the fire escapes;
- Attended;
- Extinguished when the camper leaves the area. Extinguished means that water has been stirred into the ashes until it is cold to the touch. Hot coals are not extinguished, and can reignite the campfire.



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This update to the fire ban has been implemented by the Fire Chief in conjunction with the recent updates implemented by the BC Forest Service covering the South Coast.

The fire danger rating is currently extreme throughout the area. Hot weather is forecasted and with drying trends continuing it is predicted that the danger rating will remain extreme.

To report an open fire call 250 248-3242. To report a fire emergency call 911.

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**Team up for Fire Safety!  
Install working smoke alarms in your home.  
Practice Fire Safety Everyday.**