



## NEWS RELEASE

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### Campfire Ban to be Implemented on July 17, 2014 Parksville Fire Protection Area

**PARKSVILLE, BC** – Effective at noon on Thursday, July 17, 2014, and until further notice, all open burning, including campfires, is banned in the City of Parksville and the surrounding fire protection area. The fire protection area encompasses the City of Parksville, French Creek areas bordering the City of Parksville to the edge of the fire protection area at Johnston and Drew Roads, San Paniel, and Fourneau Road and Martindale Road areas.

This ban applies to open fires of any size, campfires, fireworks, tiki torches and burning barrels. The ban does not apply to cooking stoves that use gas, propane or briquettes, or to portable campfire apparatus with a CSA or ULC rating using briquettes, liquid or gaseous fuel that are not capable of producing a flame longer than 15 centimetres. Portable campfire apparatus that do not meet these conditions are prohibited.

This step is being taken to help prevent human-caused wildfires and protect public safety. The fire danger rating is currently "high" throughout most of the Coastal Fire Centre, with scattered pockets of "extreme". With the current trend of warm and dry weather, as well as lightning-caused wildfires in the region, human-caused wildfires can divert critical resources and crews needed to fight naturally occurring wildfires.

This prohibition will remain in place until October 15, 2014, or until the public is notified that it has been rescinded.

This ban has been implemented by the Fire Chief in conjunction with the ban implemented by the BC Forest Service covering the South Coast. For the latest information on fire activity, conditions and prohibitions, visit the Wildfire Management Branch website at [www.bcwildfire.ca](http://www.bcwildfire.ca).

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

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**For more information:**

Fire Chief Doug Banks	250 248-3242
Deputy Fire Chief Marc Norris	250 248-3242