



General Fire Safety

If you are a smoker:

- ▶ When smoking outdoors, dispose of cigarettes and matches properly.
- ▶ Do not toss lit matches or cigarettes out of your car window—use your ashtray.

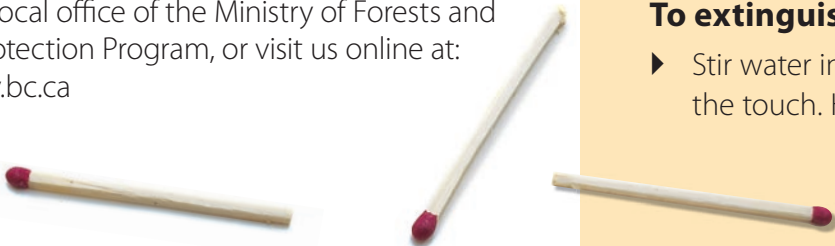
To use an outdoor stove or barbecue:

- ▶ Keep the stove a safe distance away from flammable materials.
- ▶ Make sure briquettes and ashes are cold to the touch before disposing of them.

When burning grass or yard waste:

- ▶ Find out if there are any burning bans or restrictions in effect for your area.
- ▶ Don't burn on windy days.
- ▶ Keep adequate tools and water on hand to control the fire.
- ▶ Do not leave a fire unattended. When you're finished burning, ensure the fire is completely extinguished.

For help planning your open burning activities, call your local office of the Ministry of Forests and Range Protection Program, or visit us online at: www.gov.bc.ca



Campfire Safety

What you need to know:

- ▶ If you start a campfire, you are legally responsible for ensuring that it is safe to light, does not escape, and is completely extinguished.
- ▶ Check with authorities to find out if there are any burning or campfire restrictions in your area. Check online at www.gov.bc.ca or call 1-888-3FOREST.
- ▶ Consider the wind conditions. If the wind is strong enough to carry sparks toward combustible materials, don't burn.

Choose your site carefully:

- ▶ Use a safe, existing fire pit and keep the fire small.
- ▶ Avoid building campfires near flammable materials such as trees, brush or wooden structures.
- ▶ Keep adequate tools and water nearby in case the fire escapes.
- ▶ Do not leave a campfire unattended.

To extinguish your campfire:

- ▶ Stir water into the ashes until they are cold to the touch. Hot coals can reignite the fire.

Homeowner Safety

To reduce the risk to your home from a forest fire:

- ▶ Clean your roof, gutters and chimney regularly.
- ▶ Remove coniferous trees, firewood, propane tanks and other flammable materials within 10 metres of your house and 3 metres of your driveway.

Design for safety:

- ▶ When building your home, choose fire resistant roofing and exterior siding.
- ▶ Ensure that balconies, decks, and crawl spaces are sheathed in fire resistant materials.
- ▶ Ensure eaves are closed in and screen all vents, including soffits.

Landscape to reduce risk:

- ▶ Prune and thin trees near your home.
- ▶ Use deciduous shrubs and trees rather than coniferous species for landscaping near buildings.
- ▶ Mow and water your lawn regularly.
- ▶ Line garden beds against your home with non-flammable materials.

For more information, get a copy of the FireSmart Homeowner's Manual at your local fire department or online at www.gov.bc.ca

Protect Our Forests.

Our forests are a source of pride for British Columbians. They are home to a greater diversity of plants and animals than any other province in Canada. And they support hundreds of working families and forest communities in every part of our province.

Yet every year, nearly 2,000 forest fires put it all at risk. Half of these fires are caused by people and are completely preventable.

Do your part to protect yourselves and our forests.

To report a forest fire call
1-800-663-5555 or
***5555** from a cell phone.

For more information about forest fire prevention, visit www.gov.bc.ca



This summer
could be a
scorcher.

