

Firewood

There are some things you should consider prior to heading out to the woods for your supply of firewood.

The Vanderhoof Forest District does not collect a stumpage fee for firewood provided the following conditions are complied with:

- Firewood must be for personal use only - not for resale or commercial purposes. If you would like to sell firewood, you are required to contact the district office to obtain a Forestry Licence to Cut.
- Cut only from Crown Land outside of parks, recreational areas, ecological reserves, and other “no cutting” areas such as Wildlife Tree Patches and snags greater than forty (40) centimetres in diameter. To protect archaeological values, firewood cutting is not allowed within one hundred (100) metres of lakes and streams. You must obtain the permission of the landowner before cutting firewood on private land.
- Cut only dead standing or downed trees (no red needles) or deciduous trees (aspen and birch). The cutting of decked logs on active harvesting operations is not permitted as these trees have been prepared for transporting and use in the local sawmills.
- The branches and tops of trees should be lopped and scattered.
- Ensure trees are not fallen on to roads and any debris is cleaned up from the road ditches.
- Firewood must be cut in lengths less than one (1) metre for transporting.

Falling and bucking trees is a dangerous activity and should only be done by those with the training and experience to do it safely. Wear protective clothing and have the safety equipment necessary for the job. Make sure your saw is in good condition and equipped with safety devices. Work with a partner and let someone know where you are going and when you expect to return. Be sure to carry a first aid kit with you. The Workers’ Compensation Board *Fallers’ and Buckers’ Handbook* is a great source of information regarding safety equipment and practices. Only experienced fallers with hazard tree training are permitted to fall trees within one and one half (1 1/5) tree lengths of hydro or telephone lines.

Forests are often very dry during the summer months and a small spark from your powersaw or cigarette can result in a fire that consumes hundreds of hectares of our forests. **If you should spot a forest fire, please call 1-800-663-5555**

You will assume responsibility for any damage, injury, claim or expense the Crown faces as a result directly or indirectly from the activities carried out in conjunction with your firewood cutting.

Remember that forest roads are often only wide enough for single lane traffic, so please drive cautiously. Use your headlights and watch for loaded logging trucks, especially on blind corners. Obey the warning signs and park well off the travelled part of the road when stopping.

For your interest, a typical pickup truck holds about three-quarters of a cord of wood and takes two people about three hours to cut the wood, split it, and load it into the truck.

Before starting your stove or fireplace, check your chimney for creosote build up and check for cracks and deterioration of your heating unit and chimney. Well-seasoned (dry) wood burns best.

Don’t litter, be careful and enjoy our forest.

Ministry of Forests and Range
Vanderhoof Forest District
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