



Policy Title: Campfire Policy

Policy #: GOV-2020-07

Section: GOVERNANCE

Initially Approved: 2020-06-02
Last Reviewed: n/a
Council Approval: 2020-06-08
Next Review Scheduled: 2021-06-02

POLICY GOAL:

The primary objective of the Campfire Policy is to ensure that recreational campfires comply with provincial burning regulations.

POLICY SCOPE:

This policy applies to all residents, management, administrative, bylaw and public works staff of the Village of Warfield.

PROCEDURES

1. Residents must fill out a campfire permit and the Village of Warfield must have a copy before having a campfire.
2. Prior to issuing a permit, the applicant's must ensure, preferably by photograph otherwise a drawing, that the location of the fire pit or fire ring meets the requirements for safe burning as set out below, and the applicants must certify by signature that they will comply with provincial burning regulations, including:
 - Creation of a proper fire pit or a ring of rocks no larger than 0.5m by 0.5m and at least three metres from trees, shrubs, structures and debris
 - Removal of all leaves, twigs and other flammable material from the area around the campfire
 - Never having a campfire when it is windy
 - Never leaving a campfire unattended for any amount of time
 - Having a functioning, serviced water hose immediately available or keeping a bucket of at least eight litres of water near the fire at all times, and/or a hand tool (such as a shovel) to extinguish the fire properly
 - Completely extinguishing the campfire before retiring for the night or leaving the area for any period of time
 - Extinguishing the campfire by applying plenty of water on the fire and surrounding area, dousing the site of the campfire thoroughly and stirring the campfire until there are no embers and the ashes are cold to the touch
 - Only clean firewood will be used for burning in a campfire. No prohibited or hazardous materials as described by provincial legislation are to be burned, including, but not limited to yard waste and construction materials (see full list here:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/air/air-pollution/smoke-burning/burning-outdoors>)

- Campfires must take place at the property and at the indicated location as listed on the permit application
3. Once a property owner has filed the permit with the Village of Warfield staff, a permit may be issued for the burning season (May 1 to October 31) starting on the date the permit is issued.
 4. Should a fire ban or restriction be issued by the Province of BC, Village staff will attempt to contact holders of fire permits to advise of same. Failure to contact however does not relieve the permit holder of the requirement to comply with the Provincial regulation.

RESIDENTIAL CAMPFIRE PERMIT

Addresses recorded in the permit application MUST match the location where the campfire will be held.

PERMIT HOLDER'S INFORMATION:

NAME: _____

CIVIC ADDRESS (Registered Property – street number, street name): _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

DATE: _____ (Permit Valid from this date until October 31 of the same year and may be cancelled by Kootenay Boundary Regional Fire Rescue or the Village of Warfield staff or Bylaw Enforcement Officer at any time)

PERMIT CONDITIONS:

By agreeing to these conditions and registering your residential property, you, the permit holder, are acknowledging that you have read, understood, and will abide by the rules and regulations of this permit.

- ✓ Campfires must take place at the property listed on the permit application and sited as per the originally inspected campfire location on that property
- ✓ **Campfires must be no larger than ½ meter in diameter and ½ meter in height and must be three meters away from trees, shrubs, structures and debris**
- ✓ Remove all leaves, twigs and other flammable material from the area around the campfire
- ✓ Never have a fire when it is windy
- ✓ Choose a proper fire pit or make a ring of rocks at least three metres from trees, shrubs, structures and debris
- ✓ Do not leave a campfire unattended for any amount of time
- ✓ Keep a water connected hose or a bucket of at least eight litres of water close by the fire at all times, and/or a hand tool (such as a shovel) to extinguish the fire properly
- ✓ Completely extinguish the campfire before you go to sleep or leave the area for any period of time.
- ✓ To extinguish your campfire, pour plenty of water on the fire and surrounding area, dousing the site of the campfire thoroughly. Stir the campfire until there are no embers and the ashes are cold to the touch.
- ✓ **This permit may be cancelled by** Kootenay Boundary Regional Fire Rescue or the Village of Warfield staff or Bylaw Enforcement Officer **at any time.**
- ✓ Only clean firewood may be used for burning in a campfire. No prohibited or hazardous materials as described by provincial legislation may be burned, including, but not limited to yard waste and construction materials (see full list here: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/air/air-pollution/smoke-burning/burning-outdoors>)
- ✓ The permit holder shall have an adult (19 yrs. or older) in attendance until the fire is completely extinguished and such adult is responsible for damages caused by the fire to any other person(s) or property.
- ✓ The permit holder is responsible for ensuring the campfire is continuously supervised and controlled by a competent adult equipped with and knowledgeable in the use of extinguishing equipment and materials.
- ✓ A copy of this permit must be available for viewing by a member of the Kootenay Boundary Regional Fire Rescue or Village of Warfield Bylaw Enforcement Officer on request.

PLEASE BE ADVISED:

IF AND WHEN AN OPEN FIRE BAN FOR THE BC WILDFIRE SERVICE, SOUTHEAST FIRE CENTRE OCCURS, YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED. AT THAT TIME YOUR CAMPFIRE PERMIT WILL BE VOIDED. FAILURE TO MAKE CONTACT WITH THE PERMIT HOLDER FOR NOTIFICATION DOES NOT RELEASE THE PERMIT HOLDER FROM RESPONSIBILITY TO COMPLY WITH SUCH A FIRE BAN.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTIONS MAY RESULT IN A FINE FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL ON SCENE

(<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/about-bcws/governance/legislation-regulations/summary-of-fines>)

PERMIT HOLDER: _____

VILLAGE REPRESENTATIVE: _____

DATE OF ISSUE: _____

Sketch of location of fire pit / fire ring

This firepit was approved in a previous year (**New photos required and attached**)