

Forest Fire Season Questions & Answers

What are the dates for forest fire season?

The Forest Fire Season for the Island portion of the province is set for May 1 to September 30 while in Labrador the forest fire season is scheduled to be in effect from May 15 to September 30.

What is the number to call to report a forest fire?

To report a wildfire please call 1-866-709-FIRE (3473).

When is a permit to burn required?

A permit to burn is required during forest fire season for the purposes of burning of grass, brush and other materials. A permit can be obtained by contacting a [Forest Management District Office](#) during regular business hours.

Are back yard fires, recreational campfires and boil ups permitted during forest fire season?

Recreational campfires, backyard fires and boil ups are permitted during forest fire season provided they are conducted in a safe and responsible manner in accordance with [Provincial Forest Fire Regulations](#).

Individuals should check with local fire departments to determine if burning activity conducted within municipal boundaries violates local by-laws related to outdoor fires.

Are open fires permitted on beaches and in quarries?

Yes. Under Section 4 of the [Provincial Forest Fire Regulations](#) open fires on beaches and quarries are permitted.

What constitutes an appropriate outdoor wood burning device?

The use of back yard fire pits or other outdoor wood burning devices is permitted during forest fire season if the unit:

- is made entirely of non-combustible materials;

- completely contains the fire;
- is screened to prevent the escape of sparks or other burning material;
- is placed on mineral soil or non-combustible material having a surface area of not less than 1.5 square metres, and
- is located not less than 3.5 metres from the nearest woods, brush or other flammable material.

Where can I view fire provincial forest fire hazard forecast maps?

The public can check the wildfire risk during forest fire season by viewing provincial forest fire hazard forecast maps online at the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture [website](#).

Can individuals be held responsible for starting a forest fire?

Individuals are responsible for being aware of the forest fire hazard rating before lighting an outdoor fire. Individuals failing to comply with regulations may be subject to fines and penalties, including costs associated with fighting a forest fire.

Are farmers permitted to clear land for agricultural purposes during forest fire season?

During the forest fire season the setting of fires for agriculture purposes is permitted provided permission is obtained from a forestry official with the Department Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture. A Permit to Burn for these purposes can be obtained at a local Forest Management District Office.