



Open Burning Synopsis

The Wildfire Act (replacing The Prairie and Forest Fires Act, 1982)

...unless he or she has obtained a burn notification number, no person shall start a fire during the wildfire season...

From April 1 to October 31 a **Burn Notification Number** is required in a provincial forest, in park land or any quarter section wholly or partly within 4.5 km of a provincial forest.

To obtain a Burn Notification Number, please contact your local Wildfire Management Forest Protection Area Office. For more information on best practices for open burning, look on-line at: www.saskatchewan.ca/fire

Wildfire Management Forest Protection Area (FPA) Contacts:

BUFFALO NARROWS FIRE CENTRE AREA

Big River FPA..... 469-2500
Buffalo Narrows FPA 235-1800
Dorintosh FPA 236-7696
Ile a la Crosse FPA 833-3230

LA RONGE FIRE CENTRE AREA

Denare Beach FPA 362-5676
La Ronge FPA 425-4446
Stony Rapids FPA 439-2087

PRINCE ALBERT FIRE CENTRE AREA

Cypress Hills FPA..... 662-5400
Hudson Bay FPA 865-4500
Lower Fishing Lakes FPA 426-2600
Prince Albert FPA 953-3422
Weyakwin FPA 663-5620

Spot a wildfire?..... 911 emergency
..... or 1-800-667-9660

After you obtain your Burn Notification Number from Wildfire Management, it is recommended you call the control burn number, linked to Emergency Management and Fire Safety, at 1-866-404-4911 to let them know of your burn plan.

Open Burning Legislation

1. A Burn Notification Number shall be obtained for the day and land location where a fire is to be started.
2. **Every person issued a Burn Notification Number is subject to the provisions of *The Wildfire Act*; no person shall:**
 - a. start any fire for any purpose without first taking sufficient precautions to ensure that the fire can be kept under control at all times;
 - b. at the time that he or she starts a fire, fail to make himself or herself aware of current and predicted weather conditions and ensure weather conditions are appropriate to allow the fire to burn safely and under control until the fire is extinguished;
 - c. before starting the fire, fail to make himself or herself aware of any fire prohibitions or restrictions imposed pursuant to section 41 (Prohibition of fires);
 - d. fail to take all necessary precautions to ensure that the fire is monitored and contained in the burn area and is kept to a controllable size to prevent escape;
 - e. fail to ensure firefighting equipment of a type and with a capacity adequate to extinguish the fire is on site and readily accessible during the burning period;
 - f. fail to ensure that the fire is fully extinguished;
 - g. cause a public hazard by exposing residents of the area to excessive amount of smoke and odour or create a hazard by impairing visibility on public roadways, railway crossings or airports;
 - h. deposit, discard or leave any burning matter or substance in a place where it might ignite other matter and result in the spreading of a fire; or
 - i. fail to comply with any order of a ministry officer.
3. Where a person starts an open fire that spreads or is likely to spread is liable for all costs incurred by the Ministry in the suppression or control of the fire. A person is fully responsible for the burn.
4. Most Burn Notification Numbers expire at the end of the day following the day of issue, including for debris piles between one and three metres in diameter. For brush piles larger than two meters high by three meters wide, Burn Notification Numbers expire at the end of the fourth day after the day of issue. A fire less than one metre wide does not require a notification number.

Exemptions from Burn Notification Number as per Wildfire Regulations:

1. Fires less than one metre in diameter
2. Burning barrels
3. Outdoor fire place/camp fire/fire pit
4. Smudge
5. Incinerator

All exemptions must also comply with the following:

- a. Fire must be contained in a non-combustible receptacle or located over bare rock, gravel, sand, mineral soil, concrete or other non-combustible material.
- b. Is surrounded by a non-combustible surface that is at least one metre in radius from the outside edge of the receptacle of surface described in (a).
- c. The burning barrel or incinerator is a fully enclosed device constructed of non-combustible material and covered with a heavy gauge metal screen of a mesh size sufficient to prevent the escape of sparks or embers.