

# Restricted Fire Zones

Know the rules. It's important and it's the law!



Aviation, Forest Fire and Emergency Services  
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry  
Government of Ontario

# What is a **restricted fire zone**?

A Restricted Fire Zone (RFZ) is a geographic area where the use of open fires, such as campfires or debris burning, is restricted. It is a temporary measure put in place by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) to prevent human-caused fires.

## What are the RFZ rules?

A Restricted Fire Zone (RFZ) may last from a few days to weeks and is lifted as soon as conditions allow.

It is illegal to start any fire within the RFZ area. Failure to comply could result in a fine of up to \$25,000 and three months in jail. If your illegally started fire causes a wildland fire, you may also have to pay for some of the costs of suppressing the fire.

You can still go camping, hiking, fishing, and have fun outdoors, but if you need heat for cooking or warmth, use a portable gas or propane stove.

Portable charcoal equipment, such as BBQs and Hibachis, are illegal except close to a dwelling that you legally occupy or in an organized campground.

Commercial campground operators may allow campfires if certain conditions are met. Please check with the campground.

## Report a forest fire

You can help protect Ontario's wildlands.

If you see smoke or flames, or would like to report an unattended fire, call 310-FIRE (3473) north of the French and Mattawa rivers, or 911 south of the rivers.

## Am I in an RFZ?

To see all current Restricted Fire Zones in effect, visit [Ontario.ca/forestfire](https://Ontario.ca/forestfire) and select 'Use the interactive map'. There you can zoom in to see borders of the restricted fire zones. Ensure that the 'current restrictions' map layer is activated.

Follow us on Twitter @ONForestFires.

Also, advisories are issued to radio, television and print media.

Locally, look for highly visible green and red *No Fires* signs around roadways, camping spots, sports lodges, gas stations and stores.

