

Pleasant River Lake Association

Motto: Clean Water and Green Forests

Things You Can Do To Help Protect Your Camp from Wildfire

From the Maine Forest Service

To prevent your property from wildfire, it is important to reduce the density of the forest surrounding it. Follow these tips to make your camp less vulnerable to wildfire.

- Move your firewood pile out of your camp's defensible space.
- Clean your roof and gutters of leaves and pine needles.
- Put a hose (at least 100 feet long) on a rack and attach it to an outside faucet.
- Trim all tree branches that overhang your camp.
- Trim all tree branches from within 20 feet of all chimneys.
- Remove trees along the driveway to make it 12 feet wide.
- Prune branches overhanging the driveway to have a 14 foot overhead clearance.
- Maintain a green lawn for 30 feet around your camp.
- Check your fire extinguishers. Are they still charged? Are they easy to get to in an emergency? Does everyone in the family know where they are and how to use them?
- Clear deadwood and dense flammable vegetation from your camp's defensible space.
- Remove conifer shrubs from your camp's defensible space.
- If you have a burn barrel that you use for burning trash, STOP!
- Compost leaves in the fall, don't burn them.

- Never burn if the smoke and flames are blowing towards your camp or your neighbor's camp.
- Trim and prune conifer trees for 30 feet to 100 feet around your camp.
- Treat flammable materials like wood roofs, decks, and siding with fire retardant chemicals.
- Relocate propane tanks inside the defensible space, but at least 10 feet from your camp. Have non-flammable ground cover such as gravel around them for 10 feet.
- Install highly visible house numbers on your camp and at the entrance of the driveway onto your property. Use non-flammable materials and posts.