

Summer Village of South Baptiste

Fire Status Policy - #2025-003

The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear and standardized procedure for initiating and communicating fire bans within the Summer Village of South Baptiste, to minimize wildfire risk and protect public safety, private property, and the natural environment.

1. Policy Overview

The Summer Village of South Baptiste will adhere to the fire restrictions and bans as declared by Athabasca County and/or Alberta Forestry and Parks for the Forest Protection Area (FPA) encompassing the region.

2. Procedure for Implementation

The Summer Village will adopt and enforce the current fire ban or restriction level designated for its area by taking the following actions:

- Clearly displaying the current fire status on the official Summer Village website and Facebook page;
- Updating the fire advisory sign located at the Village entrance;
- Sharing the information through Alberta's centralized resource at www.albertafirebans.ca.

Residents will be strongly encouraged to:

- Download and monitor the Alberta Fire Bans mobile app; and
- Subscribe to receive timely fire status updates and alerts.

3. Exceptional Circumstances

Council retains the ability to make an exception to follow a different fire restriction status than that issued for the County or Forest Protection Area, only under the following conditions:

- The deviation must be based on unique or extraordinary local considerations;
- All Council members must agree unanimously to the change;
- The decision must be documented in writing (via group text message or email), involving all Council members and the CAO;
- The documentation will be retained as part of the Village's official municipal records.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) will be responsible for:

- Monitoring the current fire ban status issued by Alberta Forestry and Parks;
- Ensuring updates are reflected on:
 - The Village website & Facebook page
 - The fire status sign at the Village entrance, and
 - The Alberta Fire Bans website;
- Promoting awareness of the Alberta Fire Bans app and alert system among residents;
- Keeping an official record of any Council-approved exceptions to the standard fire ban policy.

5. Review and Updates

Council will review this policy periodically to ensure that it remains consistent with provincial regulations and reflects best practices in community wildfire prevention.

Adopted by Council on: September 16, 2025

Mayor *Wendy Appleby*
Wendy Appleby (Sep 17, 2025 10:53:28 MDT)



CAO *Linda Roland*