

## Burning Permits (Fire Season)

[https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/services/services\\_renderer.200891.Burning\\_Permits\\_\(Fire\\_Season\).html](https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/services/services_renderer.200891.Burning_Permits_(Fire_Season).html)

### When is fire season?

The New Brunswick fire season usually runs from the third Monday in April until October 31st, but these dates may change as per the direction of the Natural Resources and Energy Department, based on weather conditions.

### Contacts

Provincial burn information:

- 1-866-458-8080
- [GNB.CA/FireWatch](http://GNB.CA/FireWatch)

Natural Resources & Environment Department (Local)

W6 - Hampton (District Office)

[dnr\\_mrnweb@gnb.ca](mailto:dnr_mrnweb@gnb.ca)

1045 Main Street, Hampton

### Burning Categories

There are 4 fire categories. Typically, most fires will fall under Category 1 or 2.

#### CATEGORY 1 FIRE

For small amounts of brush and woody material (Category1) fires, visit [GNB.CA/FireWatch](http://GNB.CA/FireWatch), or call toll-free 1-866-458-8080 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Information will be updated daily during the fire season. You must have the landowner's permission before igniting a fire on private land. There will be three levels of permission based on the weather and current fire conditions in your area. They are: Burn, burning permitted between 8 p.m. and 8 a.m., and no burning allowed. This is updated daily at 2pm.

Cities and towns have their own bylaws. Some villages also have their own bylaws that restrict burning. It is your responsibility to find out if your village has its own bylaw. If it doesn't, your area is governed by the provincial guideline.

Certain materials - such as pressure treated wood - must not be burned.

Campfires & burning woody material such as:

- Piles three metres (10 ft) in diameter or smaller.
- Piles no more than two metres (6.5 ft) high.
- Burning within 60 metres (200 ft) of forestland.
- No more than four piles burning at one time.
- Multiple piles must be at least 10 meters (33 ft) apart.

Fires must be attended at all times.

You must have the landowner's permission before lighting a fire on private land.

A written permit is not issued for a category 1 fire

Permission is given by county via phone or website

## Categories 2-4

Fire season: Call TOLL FREE NUMBER 1-866-458-8080

Out of season: Call, "Environment and Local Government".

Residents and non residents must acquire a burning permit during the fire season.

### CATEGORY 2 FIRE

Category 2 Larger Fires includes:

Large fires other than prescribed burning and blueberry fields.

- Piles more than three metres (10 ft) in diameter.
- Piles more than two metres (6.5 ft) high.
- Burning within 100 metres (328 ft) of forestland.
- More than four piles burning at one time.

You need a written permit from the Department.

We (NRED) must also pre-inspect the site.

You need the land owner's permission.

Fire must be attended at all times.

### CATEGORY 3 FIRE

Category 3 – Blueberry Fields fires are any fire that treats existing blueberry fields.

- You need a written permit from the Department.
- We (NRED) must also pre-inspect the site.
- You need the land owner's permission.
- Fire must be attended at all times.

### CATEGORY 4 FIRE

Category 4 Prescribed Burning

- This is the knowledgeable application of fire to a piece of land for a specific forest management or other land use. (Includes grass fires)

You need a written permit from this Department.

- We (NRED) must also pre-inspect the site.
- You need the land owner's permission.
- Fire must be attended at all times.

You must have:

- A written burn plan
- Pre-inspection by our staff
- A written permit with guidelines
- If you are convicted of lighting a grass fire without a written permit, you will face a fine.

Grass fires are a category 4 fire and responsible for most spring wildfires.

Burning dry grass in fields can quickly spread to nearby forest or destroy your property.

The permits can only be acquired at the NRED regional offices.

## Frequently Asked Questions

[https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/news/public\\_alerts/forest\\_fire\\_watch/faq.html](https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/news/public_alerts/forest_fire_watch/faq.html)

### **Can I have a fire in my outdoor fireplace during a closed or restricted burn period?**

An outdoor fireplace can be used during a closed or restricted burn period if:

- the fireplace is approved by the Canadian Standards Association (CSA); and,
- has a chimney with spark arrester; and,
- is completely enclosed by screen or mesh; and
- the fireplace is at least three meters from combustible materials; and,
- the height of all grass or weeds growing on land within three meters of the fireplace is no more than ten centimeters.

### **Can I use a propane fire pit during a closed or restricted burn period?**

Yes, a stove or fire pit that uses a liquid or gaseous fuel that can be extinguished by a lid or by closing a fuel control valve is safe to use during a closed or restricted burn period.

### **If burning on an open burn day, am I responsible for the smoke if my neighbor complains?**

Air quality does not fall under the umbrella of the *Forest Fires Act*. Contact the Department of Environment and Local Government for any air quality issues.

### **Are campfires allowed in campgrounds during a closed or restricted burn period?**

If the campfire pit meets the conditions of the *Forest Fires Act*, park management or the campground owners can choose whether or not to allow burning.

### **Do I need a permit for a campfire along the river to cook food or to get warm?**

During fire season, a campfire is considered a category 1 fire which is regulated by the burn permit system. Therefore, whether a campfire is allowed depends upon fire hazard. Please check the burn line to see whether campfires are allowed in a specific county.

### **Can I burn grass?**

Grass burning is considered a Category 4 Fire which is for prescribed burning. This requires a written burn plan to be submitted to your local Ranger's Office. Once the burn plan is approved a written permit with departmental guidelines may be issued. Failure to comply could result in a fine of \$500-\$20,500.

### **If burning on an open burn day, am I responsible for the smoke if my neighbor complains?**

Air quality does not fall under the umbrella of the *Forest Fires Act*. Contact the Department of Environment and Local Government for any air quality issues.

## Penalties and Enforcement

### **Penalties**

The penalty for having a fire during outside of the allowed times/hours can be expensive. Failure to comply could result in a fine of \$500-\$20,500. Other fines/criminal charges may also apply depending on the situation.

### **Enforcement**

Local fire departments do not enforce the laws. This will be done through NRED and RCMP.