

It's that time of year again – Fire season.

By law, you need a fire permit to burn wood, brush, leaves and grass outside during the fire season (April 1 – October 31) unless you follow all the rules outlined below **AND**:

- conditions allow it to burn safely until extinguished
- you take all necessary steps to tend, control and extinguish the fire
- you are not having an open fire in a restricted fire zone

If you don't burn safely or burn material without a permit when one is needed, you can be fined and held responsible for the cost of putting out the fire and for any property damage. You can apply for a permit through your local MNRF office.

Rules to burn wood, brush, leaves or wood by-products

- ignite the fire no sooner than 2 hours before sunset and extinguish it no later than 2 hours after sunrise **AND** burn only a single pile at any one time
- ensure the pile is less than 2 metres in diameter and less than 2 metres high
- keep the fire at least 2 metres from any flammable materials
- have tools or water adequate to contain the fire at the fire site
- ensure a responsible person tends the fire until it is extinguished

Using an incinerator

- ensure the incinerator is an enclosed device constructed of non-combustible material
- cover the incinerator with a screen having a mesh size of not more than 5 millimetres
- keep the incinerator at least 5 metres from any forest area
- keep the incinerator at least 2 metres from any flammable material
- ensure a responsible person monitors the fire until it is extinguished

Rules to burn grass or leaf litter

- ignite the fire no sooner than 2 hours before sunset and extinguish it no later than 2 hours after sunrise
- keep the total area to be burned under one hectare
- ensure the flaming edge of the fire does not exceed 30 metres in length
- have tools or water adequate to contain the fire at the fire site
- ensure a responsible person tends the fire until it is extinguished.

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