

Campfire Restrictions Lifted for Parksville Fire Protection Area

Parksville, BC – Effective at 12 noon on September 1, campfires are once again permitted throughout the Parksville Fire Protection Area.

The Coastal Fire Centre rescinded its campfire prohibition due to forecasted cooler and wetter conditions, resulting in a decrease in wildfire risk in the region.

Campfires that are no larger than a half-metre high by a half-metre wide and open fires in an outdoor stove are now permitted. Campfires must never be left unattended and must be completely extinguished before leaving the site for any length of time.

At this time, Category 2 open fires remain prohibited throughout the Parksville Fire Protection Area. The ongoing prohibition includes:

- The burning of any material larger than a half-metre-high by a half-metre wide up to two metres tall by three metres wide or greater.
- The burning of stubble or grass up to 0.2 hectares in size or greater.
- Fireworks, sky lanterns, burning barrels and binary exploding targets.

Anyone wishing to light a Category 3 fire must first obtain a burn registration number by calling 1 888 797-1717. A Category 3 fire is a fire that burns material more than two metres high or three metres wide, stubble or grass more than 2,000 square metres or more than two piles of any size.

For the latest information on fire restrictions in the Parksville Fire Protection Area, visit <u>www.pvfd.ca</u>, <u>www.parksville.ca</u>, or follow the Parksville Fire Department on Twitter and Facebook.

To report an open fire in the Parksville Fire Protection Area call 250 248-3242; to report a fire emergency call 911.

For information on provincial wild fire activity, conditions and prohibitions, visit the Wildfire Management Branch website at <u>www.bcwildfire.ca</u> or <u>http://bcwildfire.ca/hprScripts/WildfireNews/Bans.asp</u>. To report a wildfire, call 1 800 663-5555 or *5555 on a cellphone.

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