

## PUBLIC NOTICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#2021 – 09

June 30, 2021

## OPEN FIRE BAN Campfires, Category 2 & Category 3 Open Fires

[SMITHERS] – Effective as of noon today, Wednesday, June 30, 2021, campfires, Category 2 and Category 3 open fires are prohibited throughout the province of British Columbia and in the Town of Smithers.

This prohibition will remain in effect until noon on Oct. 15, 2021, or until the order is rescinded.

The use of the following are also prohibited:

- Fireworks
- Sky lanterns
- Burn barrels or burn cages (of any size or description)
- Binary exploding targets
- Tiki and similar kinds of torches
- Chimineas
- Outdoor stoves or other portable campfire apparatus (without a CSA or ULC rating)
- Air curtain burners

To report a wildfire, unattended campfire, or open burning violation, call 1-800- 663-5555 toll-free or \*5555 on a cell phone.

Human-caused wildfires are completely preventable and divert critical resources from lightning caused fires. You can help by:

- Abiding by all fire bans
- Disposing of cigarettes in appropriate containers
- Properly storing aerosol cans & other flammable products
- Taking caution to identify fire hazards in the workplace

Anyone found in contravention of an open-burning prohibition may be issued a violation ticket for \$1,150, may be required to pay an administrative penalty of up to \$10,000 or, if convicted in court, may be fined up to \$100,000 and/or sentenced to one year in jail. If the contravention causes or contributes to a wildfire, the person responsible may be ordered to pay all firefighting and associated costs.

### **Learn More:**

Reduce the risk of personal property damage due to wildfires. Download your copy of the The FireSmart Begins at Home manual here: <https://firesmartbc.ca/resource-types/guides-manuals/>

For additional fire prevention information and resources, visit:  
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/prevention>

To follow the latest wildfire news from the BC Wildfire Service:

- Download the free public mobile apps:  
Apple (iOS): <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/bc-wildfire-service/id1477675008?ls=1>  
Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=ca.bc.gov.WildfireInformation&hl=en>
- Twitter: [twitter.com/BCGovFireInfo](https://twitter.com/BCGovFireInfo)
- Facebook: [facebook.com/BCForestFireInfo](https://facebook.com/BCForestFireInfo)

For more information, and direct hyperlinks to the above websites, please go to the Town of Smithers website at: [www.smithers.ca](http://www.smithers.ca) , or contact Smithers Fire Rescue at @ 250-847-2015.

To report a fire, please call 911. To report a wildfire, unattended campfire, or open burning violation, call 1-800- 663-5555 toll-free or \*5555 on a cell phone.

***Thank you for your attention to safety.***

### **MEDIA CONTACT:**

Keith Stecko  
Fire Chief  
Smithers Fire Rescue  
250-847-2015