

Anyone who lights a fire must comply with B.C.'s air quality control legislation. The BC Wildfire Service also urges people to take the following precautions with any permitted outdoor burning. Human-caused wildfires are completely preventable and divert critical resources away from lightning-caused fires.

- Ensure that enough people, water and tools are on hand to control the fire and stop it from escaping.
- Do not burn in windy conditions. The weather can change quickly, and wind may carry embers to other combustible material and start new fires.
- Create a fireguard around the planned fire site by clearing away twigs, grass, leaves and other combustible material.
- Never leave a fire unattended.
- Make sure that the fire is fully extinguished and the ashes are cold to the touch before leaving the area for any length of time.

The Coastal Fire Centre covers the area west of the height of land on the Coast Mountain Range from the U.S.-Canada border at Manning Park, including Tweedsmuir South Provincial Park in the north, the Sunshine Coast, the Lower Mainland, Vancouver Island, the Gulf Islands and Haida Gwaii.

Anyone found in contravention of an open burning prohibition may be issued a ticket for \$1,150, required to pay an administrative penalty of up to \$10,000 or, if convicted in court, 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 fire-fighting and associated costs, as well as the value of resources damaged or destroyed by the wildfire.

People can follow the latest wildfire news:

- on Twitter: twitter.com/BCGovFireInfo
- on Facebook: facebook.com/BCForestFireInfo

Contact:

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