

Fire Ban in Effect for All Open Burning Starting at Noon on May 7

Effective May 7, 2026, at noon, under the authority of the BC Wildfire Service, [Category 1](#) camp fires, [Category 2](#) open fires and [Category 3](#) open fires are prohibited across the Coastal Fire Centre, including the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN). Backyard burning and campfires are not permitted during the provincial ban.

The following activities and use of equipment, materials and substances are also prohibited during the ban:

- Fireworks as defined in the *Fireworks Act*
- Binary exploding targets
- Sky Lanterns
- Wood fired hot tubs, wood fired pizza ovens and other wood fired devices unless vented through a structure that has a flue and is incorporated in a building
- Burn barrels or burn cages of any size or description
- Controlled air incinerators
- Air curtain burners
- Carbonizers

These bans apply to all public and private land and are in place until October 31, 2026, or until the order is rescinded by BC Wildfire Service to help reduce human-caused wildfires and for public safety.

To help residents access fire services-related information, the RDN has a Fire Protection and Open Burning Regulations [interactive map](#). The online tool shows residents which fire departments provide fire protection services in their area. To access the fire services map as well as other interactive RDN maps for zoning, parks and trails, utilities, active permits and more, visit rdn.bc.ca/gis-mapping. Additional resources including burning bylaws, venting index information and links to Province's website for the most up-to-date information on fire bans and restrictions are available at rdn.bc.ca/burning-in-the-rdn.

Get FireSmart! Learn how to easily increase the resilience of your home and property to damage caused by wildfire by creating a FireSmart property. Changes you can make to your home and the areas closest to it will have the greatest potential to reduce the risk of wildfire damage. Simple actions to take include regular yard maintenance, using non-combustible or fire-resistant building materials, reducing debris near buildings and choosing fire-resistant plants and trees. To learn more about FireSmart best practices to help protect your family, property and community from wildfire, visit FireSmartBC.ca and download the [FireSmart BC Homeowner's Manual](#).

Get Involved RDN!

For information on wildfires, check the [BC Wildfire Map](#) or follow BC Wildfire Service on [Facebook](#). For updates on fire weather and smoke across Canada, visit [firesmoke.ca](#). To report a wildfire, call 1-800-663-5555 or *5555 on a mobile phone. For more information on FireSmart in the RDN, visit [rdn.bc.ca/firesmart](#) and to request a FireSmart assessment of your home, email firesmart@rdn.bc.ca.

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For media inquiries, please contact:

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