



May 13, 2020

With the May Long Weekend upon us we thought it was the opportune time to remind residents to be **FIRE SMART!** Although there is no fire ban currently in effect for the Municipality of Alexander, the Province of Manitoba has placed restrictions on burning. Burning permits will be limited to only essential crop residue burning and other required agricultural, municipal or industrial operations. Municipal Council is carefully monitoring the fire risk hazard and will consider a municipal fire ban at upcoming meetings. Please see further information below.

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Area: 2

Region: EASTERN



Contact Information:

Please contact the local Conservation and Climate District Office for more information.

[Conservation and Climate Offices list](#)

Phone: Manitoba Government Inquiry: 1-866-626-4862 or 204-945-3744

Fax:

Restrictions:

PROVINCIAL BURNING PERMIT LIMITATION

Specific Restrictions:

Provincial Burning Permits: In light of current events and as a wildfire prevention measure, provincial burn permits issued under *The Wildfires Act* within the burning permit area will be limited to only essential crop residue burning and other required agricultural, municipal or industrial operations. Burning within the burning permit area requires the approval of an officer and may include a site inspection. Contact a Manitoba Conservation and Climate office for more information.

Burn permits will not be issued for any burning where municipalities have burning bans in place.

Restriction Boundary:

Areas affected are the portions of the Local District within the Burn Permit Area shown in the map.

Safety Message:

Exercise caution when outdoors.

Monitor extinguished outdoor fires to ensure they remain out. Always ensure your fires, including campfires and warming fires, are completely out. Drown, stir and repeat until cold.

Prevent equipment caused wildfires: Keep machinery clean and in good repair. Avoid driving/parking in long cured grass.

Enforcement Message:

It is an offence to have an outdoor fire in the Burning Permit Area during the wildfire season without a burning permit.

You could be fined up to \$10000 (\$50000 for corporations) if found guilty of an offence.

You could be liable for the costs of putting out a wildfire if you are found to be burning without a permit.

Last updated:

April 30, 2020

As per the Municipality of Alexander By-Law No. 05/10, **NO OUTDOOR FIRES ARE PERMITTED** unless they are contained in an approved outdoor fire pit or outdoor solid fuel fired appliance. Specifications are as follows:

Outdoor Fire Pit

- Shall be fully enclosed on all sides and constructed of masonry, concrete, heavy gauge metal or other non-combustible materials.
- Shall not exceed 18 inches in height when measured from the bottom of the pit to the top of the pit opening and is at least six inches in height when measured from the surrounding grade to the top of the pit opening.
- Shall have an opening which does not exceed 30 inches in diameter or an area of six feet, with the width or length not greater than 30 inches.
- Shall be located on a flat, level, and non-combustible base and be clear of overhangs such as roofs, tree branches, or utility wires.
- Shall have a spark arrestor, grill, or mesh with openings no larger than $\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$ inches and be constructed of non-combustible material that is used to cover the entire area of the outdoor fire pit.
- A minimum clearance of 10 feet or three meters measured from the nearest fire pit edge is maintained from any structure or any combustibles such as fences, trees, hydro poles and property lines.

Outdoor Solid Fuel Fired Appliances

- Shall be fully enclosed on all sides and constructed of masonry, concrete, heavy gauge metal or other non-combustible materials.
- Shall be located on a flat, level, and non-combustible base and be clear of overhangs such as roofs, tree branches, or Utility wires.
- Shall have an outdoor fuel chimney equipped with a non-combustible spark arrestor with openings no larger than $\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$ inch that covers the entire area of the chimney opening.

To read the By-Law No. 05/10 click on the link:

<https://rmalexander.com/Home/DownloadDocument?docId=39472831-30e1-4dda-815b-464d09967951>



The Province of Manitoba has issued some fire prevention tips.

Fire prevention tips



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In Manitoba, there is an average of nearly 600 wildfires every year. Many threaten homes, businesses and farms in addition to the damage caused on the landscape. About half are caused by human activity.

All Manitobans can take steps to reduce the risk of starting or spreading wildfires. These include:

- checking current weather conditions and the risk level for wildfires, which are regularly posted fire situations reports at Manitoba.ca/wildfire and at many/all provincial park entrances;
- following all municipal and provincial orders related to burning permits, open-air fires and crop residue burning;
- locating fire pits and burn barrels away from the home and keeping them under constant supervision if used;
- using designated sites for campfires, when permitted, and ensuring they are fully extinguished;
- disposing of cigarettes and other materials safely, which includes using vehicle ashtrays instead of throwing out a window;
- avoiding the use of all-terrain vehicles in areas at risk, as they can ignite brush from their exhaust systems;
- checking farm and lawn equipment to ensure spark arresters are working properly;
- ensuring chimneys and gas fireplaces meet all applicable regulations and building code requirements, with regular inspections if appropriate;
- never setting off fireworks without the appropriate permit;
- reporting wildfires immediately to 1-800-782-0076 (toll-free); and
- reporting any information about arsons to the appropriate police agency.

All homes should have shovels, rakes, axes, garden hoses, sprinklers and ladders available to help suppress wildfires. The [Home Owner's FireSmart Manual](#) is also available to help Manitobans identify and reduce wildfire risks on their properties.

For more information about wildfire prevention, preparedness, fire situation reports and response, visit www.manitoba.ca/wildfire/.

Prepared with information available at http://bcwildfire.ca/Prevention/prevent_wildfires.htm, <http://www.winnipeg.ca/fps/FirePrevention/default.stm> and www.firesmartcanada.ca.