

For many of us, the warmer months mean we spend more time outdoors. Whether enjoying campgrounds, day-use areas, Crown land or our own backyards, we must practice fire safety.

Before you start a fire

- ▶ Check albertafirebans.ca to see if a fire advisory, restriction or ban is in place in your area.
- ▶ Make sure your firepit or burn barrel meets the specifications outlined at leduc-county.com/fire-permits.
- ▶ Have a bucket of water nearby to extinguish the fire.
- ▶ If you are in a provincial park or campground, check the [Alberta Parks website](#) or with the gatehouse attendant or parks officers to see if a fire restriction or ban is in place
- ▶ Know your location. In the event of an emergency, you must know where you are located so emergency responders can find you.
- ▶ Know local emergency numbers and verify if you have cell phone coverage in the area if you need to call for help.

You **do not** need a fire permit in Leduc County if burning in an approved firepit or burn barrel.

To put out a fire

- ▶ **Soak it. Stir it. Soak it again.**
- ▶ Thoroughly soak the entire firepit and its contents with water.
- ▶ Scrape all charred ground at the pit's edge toward the center, cutting out any charred root ends.
- ▶ Heap the mixture of ashes and soil into the centre of the pit and soak with water.
- ▶ Ensure the fire is completely extinguished and carefully check for heat. If there is heat, add more water.

If the fire spreads

- ▶ Call **9-1-1**
- ▶ If you see a wildfire, call **310-FIRE (3473)** toll-free from anywhere in Alberta.

Campfires/firepits

A safe fire starts with you. Even a small campfire requires you to take precautions, to prevent injury and wildfire.

- ▶ If in a campground or day-use area, use the stove, ring or pit provided for a fire; these are located and designed to prevent a campfire from spreading to nearby forest cover.
- ▶ If in Leduc County, use an approved firepit or burn barrel; learn more at leduc-county.com/fire-permits.
- ▶ Closely supervise the fire at all times. Make sure the fire is completely extinguished before leaving.
- ▶ Closely supervise children and pets around any outdoor fire. For more tips on child fire safety, view our [child fire safety tip sheet](#).
- ▶ Never use gasoline or other flammable or combustible liquids to start, grow or sustain a fire.
- ▶ Be mindful when cooking over open flame, such as when roasting marshmallows or other foods.
- ▶ If your hair or clothes catch fire, stop, drop and roll.
 - ▶ **STOP** immediately! Do not run or attempt to remove your clothing.
 - ▶ **DROP** to the ground as quickly and safely as possible. Use your hands to cover your face.
 - ▶ **ROLL** back and forth or over on the ground until the fire is out.

Backcountry fires and camp stoves

- ▶ When in the backcountry, use a camp stove instead of a campfire. These stoves are lightweight, compact and leave no scars in the backcountry.
- ▶ If your camp stove stops working or in an emergency, you may need to make a wood-fueled campfire. If you are camping in a wildland park or other backcountry area where fire facilities aren't provided, exercise caution by using the following tips:
 - ▶ If a previous firepit exists, use it to avoid creating a new fire scar.

- ▶ If a previous firepit doesn't exist, select a site on level ground that is sheltered from high wind and well away from heavy brush, live trees and overhanging branches. Never build a fire on mossy areas, dead logs or tree roots.
- ▶ Ensure there is a convenient source of water nearby for extinguishing the fire.
- ▶ Use only dead wood found lying on the ground to fuel the fire. Dry areas under large conifers are good spots to find kindling material.
- ▶ Keep your fire as small as needed for cooking and warmth.

Recreational vehicles (RVs)/trailers

- ▶ Make sure your recreation vehicle (RV) has a working smoke alarm(s), carbon monoxide detector(s) and propane gas detector(s). Test these alarms weekly while the RV is in use (or follow manufacturer recommendations).
- ▶ Complete regular maintenance of your vehicle to assess appliances, propane system, electrical system, and more, and ensure emergency exits, windows, hatches and doors are in good working condition.
- ▶ Have a home fire escape plan for your RV – which identifies two ways out of the RV and establishes a muster point – and make sure all occupants know and practice this escape plan.

Fireworks

You do not need a permit to discharge fireworks in Leduc County; however, you are asked to consider those in neighbouring areas prior to discharging fireworks.

The loud sounds and flashes of light caused by the discharge of fireworks can disturb livestock and animals. We recommend contacting nearby residents and informing them of your plans to discharge fireworks so they can take necessary precautions to protect livestock and animals. Further, we recommend you discharge fireworks as far away from neighbouring properties as possible.

You cannot discharge fireworks:

- ▶ in a place or manner that could cause a risk of injury, death or damage to persons or property
- ▶ within 30 metres of a highway, road allowance, range road or township road



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- ▶ on a public beach, park or municipal reserve
- ▶ within 30 metres of any building, tent, trailer, canvas shelter or motor vehicle
- ▶ within 30 metres of a stand of trees, brush or power lines

Learn more about fireworks safety at leduc-county.com/fireworks

*Information contained in this tip sheet was sourced from the National Fire Protection Association, **Alberta Parks** and the **Government of Canada**.*

Contact Leduc County Fire Services

Phone: 780-955-7099

Fax: 780-955-9401

fireservices@leduc-county.com

leduc-county.com/fire-prevention