



Aviation, Forest Fire and  
Emergency Services

Services d'urgence, d'aviation et de  
lutte contre les feux de forêt

# What You Should Know About Restricted Fire Zones



**It's important! And it's  
the law!**

A Restricted Fire Zone is a  
specific geographic area where  
the use of open fires, like

campfires or debris burning, is restricted.

It is a temporary measure put in place by the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry when the fire danger is extreme to prevent human caused fires. A Restricted Fire Zone order may last from a few days to weeks depending on conditions. The restrictions are lifted as soon as conditions allow.

When a Restricted Fire Zone is declared, it is illegal to set a fire within the affected area. Failure to comply could result in a fine of up to \$25,000 and three months in jail, as well as the financial responsibility for any costs incurred in fighting a forest fire caused by the illegal act.

You can still go camping, hiking, fishing, and have fun outdoors, but if you need heat for cooking and warmth, you'll have to use a portable gas or propane stove.

Portable charcoal equipment (e.g., BBQs, Hibachis, etc.) are illegal for use during a Restricted Fire Zone except close to a dwelling that you legally own or occupy or in an organized campground.

Commercial campground operators may allow their guests to continue enjoying campfires during a Restricted Fire Zone period provided certain conditions are met.

For more information, visit:  
[ontario.ca/forestfire](http://ontario.ca/forestfire).



## How will I know if I'm in a Restricted Fire Zone?

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry posts highly visible green and red Restricted Fire Zone signs along roadways. Restricted Fire Zone posters are posted at popular camping spots, and in sport lodges, gas stations, and stores.

Advisories are issued to radio, television, print media and the internet, indicating the specific areas affected using the Zone numbers on the Restricted Fire Zone map.

For more information on **Restricted Fire Zones** please call your local Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry office.

For areas below the --- line on the map call your local Municipal Fire Department.

**To report a wildfire in northern Ontario, call  
310-FIRE (3473).**

**South of the French and Mattawa rivers call 911**