

 ***PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY FROM FOREST FIRE***

 

The best protection against loss, damage or injury from a wildland fire is prevention. Dividing your property into three separate “zones” and “managing vegetation” allows you to control the potential spread of fire before it reaches your home.

**Zone 1: 10m from your home**

Remove dead shrubs, trees, deadfall or woodpiles from this area. Keep grass mowed and watered. Ensure there are no trees or vegetation overhanging any structures.

**Zone 2: 10-30m from your home**

Reduce/manage potential fuel sources so that combustion cannot be supported. Remove “ladder fuels”, mature trees and thick shrubbery that will allow fire to travel from the ground to the crowns of trees. Remove or reduce the number of evergreen trees around your home or replace them with native hardwood species. Thin all trees so crowns do not touch.

Extend this zone further on downhill slopes and on windward exposures.

**Zone 3: 30m and beyond**

This zone begins 30m from any structure and extends outwards 100m. Thin or reduce shrubs and vegetation that make up ladder fuels. Thin the tree canopy to reduce crown fires.

 ***FIRE PREVENTION***

***OBEY ALL OPEN AIR BURNING BANS ISSUED BY MNRF OR THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ALGONQUIN. OBEY THE GUIDELINES FOR OUTDOOR FIRES AT ALL TIMES.***

* **Do not burn in windy conditions.**
* **Never leave a fire unattended.**
* **Persons tending a fire must have the proper equipment available to extinguish a fire including hand tools, water and enough people to keep the fire under control.**
* **Do not discard smoking materials from vehicles.**
* **Lawn, farm and forestry equipment must have working spark arresters to prevent sparks.**
* **Careless use of campfires is one of the leading causes of wildland fire. Remove all flammable materials for at least 3m from the fire pit. Never leave a campfire unattended. Make sure it is completely extinguished before leaving it.**

***TO REPORT A FOREST FIRE CALL:***

***9-1-1 or 310-FIRE***

March 2, 2018.

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