



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

From the City of Kirkland Fire Department about

INCREASED FIRE DANGER AND FIRE SAFETY TIPS

When there is extreme heat for long periods of time, ground cover and vegetation become very dry and increase fire danger. The Kirkland Fire Department offers the following fire safety tips to help you minimize fire hazards so that you can enjoy the warmer weather.

Hot Weather Fire Safety Tips:

- Do not use weed burners or other open flame devices. All vegetation burning (land clearing type) is prohibited under the current Puget Sound Clean Air burn ban.
- If you smoke while driving, always use vehicle ashtrays; never throw cigarette butts out of the window.
- Only use chain saws with spark arresters. When using stump grinders or other tools that can create sparks, keep the surrounding ground and vegetation wet while the tools are in use.
- Place a fireplace hearth mat under your barbeque, so that coals or flaming embers do not ignite wooden surfaces or vegetation under your grill.
- Never pour charcoal lighter fluid on a lit barbeque.
- Report all fires to 911 immediately; so that the Fire Department can verify that the fire is completely extinguished.

Recreational and Cooking Fires:

- Due to the extremely dry conditions, the Kirkland Fire Department is discouraging all types of fires and asking people to act responsibly. If you must have an outdoor fire, please be sure to take the following precautions:
- Contain the fire in a metal or concrete fire pit, such as those typically found in designated campgrounds.
- Keep the fire smaller than three feet across.
- Make sure the fire is located at least 10 feet from ground vegetation or overhanging branches.
- Make sure the fire is attended at all times by an adult with immediate access to a shovel and either five gallons of water or a connected and charged water hose.

Be fire safe and practice these tips so that you can enjoy the weather and avoid fire emergencies.