



Administration Department
13211 Henry Ave. Box 159
Summerland, BC V0H 1Z0
Phone 250 494-6451 Fax 250 494-1415
www.summerland.ca

Media Release

For Immediate Release

DATE: July 7, 2017

Open Fire Ban in Effect

Effective noon on Friday, July 7, 2017 open fires, including campfires and fireworks, are prohibited within the District of Summerland. The RDOS, Penticton, Oliver, Osoyoos, Princeton, Hedley and the Penticton Indian Band have also put a ban on open fires.

Mayor Waterman advised, "Municipalities in our region cannot take the chance of allowing open fires when we are experiencing extraordinary hot, dry weather like we have been. Protecting public safety is our number one concern."

This ban does not restrict fires in stoves using gas, propane, or briquettes.

Anyone found in contravention of an open burning prohibition may be issued a ticket for \$345, required to pay an administrative penalty of \$10,000 or, if convicted in court, fined up to \$100,000 and/or sentenced to one year in jail. If the contravention causes or contributes to a wildfire, the person responsible may be ordered to pay all firefighting and associated costs.

The fire ban will remain in effect until otherwise advised.

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For more information please contact Fire Chief Glenn Noble 250-404-4092 or email gnoble@summerland.ca.