



News Release

1450 K.L.O. Road
Kelowna, B.C. V1W 3Z4
Telephone: (250) 763-4918
Fax: (250) 763-0606
rdco.com
facebook.com/regionaldistrictcordemergency.ca

April 19, 2021

Open burning season wrapping up

Open burning season in the Central Okanagan ends on Friday, April 30.

Until then when conditions allow, all eligible property owners, farmers and other large lot owners with permits from their [local fire jurisdiction](#) may burn specific wood debris outdoors. As well, the [BC Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation](#) must be followed.

Property owners must follow [Best Burning Practices](#) and call the toll-free Outdoor Burning Hotline: 1-855-262-2876 (BURN) before lighting any fire to ensure that open burning is allowed. Both the Venting and Air Quality must be good in order for burning to occur within the Central Okanagan. A link to this Outdoor Burning information is also available each morning after 8 a.m. at rdco.com/airquality.

On days when open burning is allowed, it's recommended that debris piles be ignited after 10 a.m., when proper venting conditions are more likely to exist. Permit holders must continually supervise any permitted burning and have the proper fire extinguishing equipment and tools on hand to prevent the fire from spreading.

Under the Regional District Smoke Control Bylaw, creating nuisance smoke from open burning is not allowed in the City of Kelowna, the District of Lake Country, City of West Kelowna, Westbank First Nation, the Central Okanagan East and West Electoral Areas or under the bylaws of the District of Peachland. Violators could receive a fine or be charged with the cost of putting out the fire. Residents are encouraged to report anyone illegally burning on a non-burning day by calling the Regional Fire Dispatch Center at 250-469-8577.

Regardless of property size, all Central Okanagan property owners are encouraged to [use other options](#) to dispose of their yard waste including the:

- Bi-weekly curbside collection
- [Mow-Chip-Rent-it Rebate Program](#)
- Year-round disposal at the Glenmore landfill and Westside Residential Waste Disposal and Recycling Centre (fees apply)

Central Okanagan residents are reminded to check with their local fire jurisdiction for regulations and restrictions regarding campfires, chimineas and other outdoor wood fire burning devices. Campfires, fire pits and outdoor burning appliances are not allowed at any time within the City of Kelowna. Kelowna fire crews do have the ability to issue bylaw fines if they are notified of a campfire in the city limits.

The Regional Air Quality Program is an initiative of the Regional District of Central Okanagan, cities of Kelowna and West Kelowna, districts of Lake Country and Peachland and Westbank First Nation. It helps protect and improve the region's air through education, awareness and pollution prevention programs.

-30-

Contacts:

Jason Brolund
Fire Chief – City of West Kelowna
778-797-3200

Dennis Craig
Fire Chief – District of Peachland
250-767-2841

Travis Whiting
Fire Chief – City of Kelowna
250-469-8801

Steve Windsor
Fire Chief – District of Lake Country
250-766 2327

Ross Kotscherofski
RDCO Fire Services Manager
250-469-6246

Nancy Mora Castro
Regional Air Quality Program
Coordinator
airquality@kelowna.ca
250-469-8408

Bruce Smith
RDCO Communications
250-469-6339