



#### Squamish Fire Rescue

40439 Tantalus Rd, PO Box 839, Garibaldi Highlands, British Columbia, V0N 1T0

Ph: 604.898.9666 [squamish.ca/fire](http://squamish.ca/fire)

## NO OPEN AIR BURNING

The District of Squamish adopted Fire Services Bylaw No. 2314, 2014 which prohibits open air burning within the District of Squamish. The new bylaw includes three key changes.

1. **ELIMINATION OF SEASONAL BURN WEEKS.**
2. **IMPLEMENTATION OF PERMIT ISSUED BY THE FIRE CHIEF FOR RESIDENTIAL CAMPFIRES.**
3. **PERMIT MUST BE ON HAND FOR INSPECTION BY FIRE OFFICER IF REQUESTED.**

The elimination of seasonal open air burning for the disposal of yard waste supports the District's "Clean Air Initiative". By encouraging the use of the environmentally friendly yard waste curbside collection program as an alternative, the environmental and health concerns associated with smoke and fly ash fallout will be reduced. Under the new bylaw, each person who lights, maintains or is otherwise responsible for a residential campfire must first obtain a permit from the Fire Chief. Campfires are for the personal enjoyment of a fire by friends and family on private property.

#### *Sections 11.1- 11.2 of the District's Fire Services Bylaw reads:*

- 11.1** *A person must not light, ignite, start, fuel or maintain a campfire or any open air fire, or direct, cause, permit, allow or suffer a campfire or any open air fire to be lit, ignited, started, or maintained, except:*
- (a) for fire training exercises or other purposes of the Fire Department, as carried out by its Members;*
  - (b) in strict accordance with this Bylaw and a permit issued by the Fire Chief or designated Fire Official.*
- 11.2** *A person who has been authorized to start or conduct a fire under a permit issued by a government ministry or agency, such as by the Ministry of Environment to dispose of solid waste at the District landfill, or by the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations hazard abatement or establishing tree crops, must notify the Fire Chief of the activity authorized under the Provincial permit before starting the fire.*

#### **General Burning Restrictions and Requirements`**

- the only allowable material burned in the campfire consists of, dry seasoned fire wood.
- the campfire is continuously supervised and controlled by a competent adult, and must be equipped and knowledgeable in the use of extinguishing equipment and materials.
- the campfire is no greater than 0.5 metres in height or diameter, or shall it extend in any way beyond the permitted space, or location.
- smoke from the campfire does not create a nuisance to other persons in the vicinity.
- At any time, the Fire Chief or designated officer may cancel or suspend any permit issued under this bylaw.



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*Every person who contravenes, violates or fails to comply with any provision of this Bylaw to which the Offence Act applies commits an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000.00 and the costs of prosecution. If issued a ticket under the District of Squamish Municipal Ticket Information Bylaw No.1832, 2004, a fine of up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000); or if issued a bylaw notice under the Local Government Bylaw Notice Enforcement Act, to a penalty established by a bylaw under that Act.*

To properly dispose of garden debris, yard waste and other wood waste, one can take it to the District of Squamish Landfill where it can be chipped for a nominal charge or you may participate in Carney's curb side yard waste collection on a biweekly basis.

**A Residential Campfire Permit must be obtained from the District of Squamish Fire Department.**