



Policy Type:	200 Protective Services
Policy Title:	Fire Ban and Burn Permit Policy

Authority:	
Resolution # 213-20	

Purpose:

- The purpose of this policy is to set guidelines for Fire Bans and Burn Permits throughout the Rural Municipality of Beaver River No. 622.

Definitions:

“Barbeque (liquid fuel)” refers to a portable fireplace fueled by propane or natural gas over which various cuisine is roasted;

“Barbeque (solid fuel)” refers to a portable fireplace fueled by wood pellet or charcoal over which various cuisine is roasted;

“Burn Permit” means a permit issued by the Municipal Office pursuant to this policy, authorizing the setting of a specific type of fire within the Municipality;

“Campfire” means an outdoor enclosed pit containing fire sourced by logs that are fully encircled within the enclosure;

“Council” means the Council of the Rural Municipality of Beaver River No. 622;

“Fire” means any type of fire, including a wildfire;

“Fireworks” means a device containing gunpowder and other combustible chemicals that causes a spectacular explosion when ignited, used typically for display or in celebrations;

“Fire Ban” means any fire ban, whether Municipally or Provincially declared, that prohibits fires in all or part of the Municipality;

“Fire Chief” means the individual appointed as head of the Fire Department;



“Fire Department” means the department of a local or municipal authority in charge of preventing and fighting fires;

“Fire Hazard” means any of the following:

- (i) combustible material that:
 - a) Through its characteristics, type, condition, quantity, location, distribution, continuity or arrangement, increases the potential for starting a fire;
 - b) may contribute to the spread of fire; or
 - c) may affect the ability to suppress a fire;
- (ii) activities that, due to their nature or concentration, pose a high risk for starting a fire;
- (iii) the operation of equipment that, due to its design, location, poor maintenance, condition, defect or use, may contribute to or start a fire;
- (iv) a situation or circumstance that, due to lack of precautions and preventive measures taken, increases the risk to life, property or the environment from wildfire;
- (v) other circumstances or conditions that, through their nature, location, condition or arrangement, or through any combination of the factors mentioned in subclauses (i) to (iv), could create a fire hazard;

“Incinerator” means an apparatus for burning waste material at high temperatures until it is reduced to ash.

“Municipality” means the Rural Municipality of Beaver River No. 622;

“Open burning” means a fire where any material is burned on the ground or in an open receptacle other than a furnace, incinerator, or other equipment connected to a stack or chimney;

“Wild Fire” means an unplanned fire that burns organic soil, grasses, forbes, shrubs, trees and associated vegetative fuels in their natural or modified state, and does not include structural, vehicle or landfill fires;

Any/all other definitions may be referenced in section 2 of *The Wildfire Act*.

1. Scope:

- 1.1** This policy applies to all ratepayers, residents, landowners and leasees of The Rural Municipality of Beaver River No. 622, without exception.

2. Policy:

- 2.1** A Fire Ban may be imposed within the Municipality at any time, as per Council’s discretion.
- 2.2** When determining whether to declare a Fire Ban within the Municipality, consideration may be given to any or all of the following factors:
- a) Levels of recent precipitation;
 - b) Future weather forecasts;
 - c) Water shortages and/or restrictions;
 - d) Availability of fire crews, equipment and apparatus;
 - e) The overall fire danger including fire load and level of ground fuels;



- f) The amount of or increase in recent outside fires; and
- g) Recommendation of the Fire Chief(s)

2.3 A Fire Ban imposed pursuant to section 2.1 shall remain in effect until either the date provided in the Notice of Fire Ban (Schedule A) or until such time as Council provides notice that the Fire Ban is no longer in effect.

2.4 Notice of a Fire Ban shall be provided to the public by posting on the Municipality's website, social media and any additional or alternate means that Council considers appropriate under the circumstances.

2.5 Fire Ban classifications are as follows:

LEVEL 1 FIRE BAN:

All open burning in the RM of Beaver River No. 622 is banned.

Level 1 Fire Ban includes:

- a) unsupervised burning barrels.

Exemptions to a Level 1 Fire Ban, (with a plan to extinguish a fire) are:

- b) Supervised incinerators (for farm and acreage use)
- c) Burning barrels with screens under constant supervision
- d) Solid fuel barbeques
- e) Liquid fuel barbeques
- f) Recreational camp fires
- g) Fireworks

LEVEL 2 FIRE BAN:

All open burning in the RM of Beaver River No. 622 is banned.

Level 2 Fire Ban includes:

- a) All burning barrels
- b) Incinerators (for farm and acreage use)
- c) Fireworks

Exemptions to a Level 2 Fire Ban, (with a plan to extinguish a fire) are:

- d) Solid fuel barbeques
- e) Liquid fuel barbeques
- f) Recreational camp fires

LEVEL 3 FIRE BAN:

All open burning in the RM of Beaver River No. 622 is banned.

Level 3 Fire Ban includes:

- a) All burning barrels
- b) All Incinerators (for farm and acreage use)
- c) Recreational camp fires
- d) Fireworks

Exemptions to a Level 3 Fire Ban, (with a plan to extinguish a fire) are:

- e) Solid fuel barbeques
- f) Liquid fuel barbeques



3. Burn Permits:

3.1 Burn permits are issued by the Municipal Office at NO FEE.

3.2 From April 1st to October 31st annually, no person shall light or cause to be lit any fire, or permit any fire to be lit upon land that the person owns, occupies or controls, unless the person holds a valid and subsisting Burn Permit (Schedule B) or the fire is exempt from the requirement for a Burn Permit under this policy.

3.3 The following items are exempt from the requirement for a Burn Permit:

- a) Solid fuel barbeques
- b) Liquid fuel barbeques
- c) Recreational camp fires
- d) Fireworks

3.4 Any person(s) wishing to burn on land located within three (3) miles of the Provincial Park boundary shall be required to obtain a Burn Permit from BOTH the Municipality and local Saskatchewan Environment Office.

- a) In the event that the Provincial Park has implemented a Fire Ban, no RM Burning Permits shall be issued for any/all land located within 3 miles of the Park boundary. The 3 mile Park boundary is indicated on RM map.

3.5 A Burn Permit expires after such time as seven (7) days from the date noted on the permit.

3.6 An application for a Burn Permit shall be submitted to the Municipal Office for their approval, using the prescribed form (Schedule B).

3.7 A Burn Permit is not transferrable from one person to another or from one location to another.

3.8 Council may suspend or revoke a Burn Permit, if, in the opinion of Council, acting reasonably:

- a) The holder of the Burn Permit has contravened this policy, *The Wildfire Act*, applicable legislation or the terms and conditions of the Burn Permit; or
- b) The suspension or revocation of the Burn Permit is necessary or desirable for the protection of persons or property.

3.9 Upon receiving notification of the suspension or cancellation of a Burn Permit, the holder of the Burn Permit shall immediately extinguish any fire set pursuant to the Burn Permit.

3.10 It is the sole responsibility of every person who sets a fire under the authority of a Burn Permit to keep a copy of the Burn Permit at the site of the fire.

3.11 Every person who sets a fire under the authority of a Burn Permit shall:

- a) Produce the Burn Permit to a Fire Department Member or Enforcement Officer upon demand; and
- b) Ensure that the fire is supervised, at all times, by a responsible adult, until the fire is fully extinguished.

3.12 A person to whom a Burn Permit has been issued, and any person involved in the lighting, supervision or



maintenance of a fire set pursuant to a Burn Permit, shall comply with all terms and conditions of the Burn Permit.

- 3.13** "Fire Permit Area" sandwich board signage is available at the Municipal Office for any person(s) to whom a Burn Permit has been issued. All signage shall be returned to the Municipal Office after expiration of the Burn Permit undamaged and in a timely fashion.

4. Offences and Penalties

- 4.1** Once a Fire Ban is implemented, if a fire is burning, the Municipality may, subject to the availability of personnel and equipment, take any action that is necessary to control and extinguish the fire.
- 4.2** If any permitted controlled burn becomes, in the opinion of the Fire Chief(s), out of control and/or poses the risk of wild fire, the Fire Department may, take any action that is necessary to control and extinguish the fire.
- 4.3** The cost of the firefighting services, including fire prevention and fire suppression, provided by the nearest Fire Department, shall be assessed and levied in accordance with the Fire Departments rates.
- 4.4** For the purpose of assessing and levying costs of firefighting services, the person who owns or occupies the land upon which a fire originated shall be deemed to be the person who receives the firefighting services to control and extinguish the fires.
- 4.5** Any amount with respect to firefighting services provided to a person within the Municipality pursuant to section 4.4 hereof that remains unpaid at the end of the year in which the service was provided shall be added to and form part of the taxes on any land or improvement owned by that person.

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**Schedule A
Fire Ban & Burn Permit Policy**

NOTICE OF FIRE BAN

IN ACCORDANCE with the Fire Ban & Burn Permit Policy of the Rural Municipality of Beaver River No. 622:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT effective immediately, _____
(Day/Month/Year)

and until further notice that a Level _____ Fire Ban will be in effect for the entire Rural
(1, 2 or 3)
Municipality of Beaver River No. 622.

This ban shall remain in effect until _____
(Further notice or Day/Month/Year)

Dated at _____, Saskatchewan this _____
(Day/Month/Year)

LEVEL 1 FIRE BAN:

All open burning in the RM of Beaver River No. 622 is banned.

Level 1 Fire Ban includes:

- a) unsupervised burning barrels.

Exemptions to a Level 1 Fire Ban, (with a plan to extinguish a fire) are:

- b) Supervised incinerators (for farm and acreage use)
- c) Burning barrels with screens under constant supervision
- d) Solid fuel barbeques
- e) Liquid fuel barbeques
- f) Recreational camp fires
- g) Fireworks

LEVEL 2 FIRE BAN:

All open burning in the RM of Beaver River No. 622 is banned.

Level 2 Fire Ban includes:

- a) All burning barrels
- b) Incinerators (for farm and acreage use)
- c) Fireworks

Exemptions to a Level 2 Fire Ban, (with a plan to extinguish a fire) are:

- d) Solid fuel barbeques
- e) Liquid fuel barbeques
- f) Recreational camp fires

LEVEL 3 FIRE BAN:

All open burning in the RM of Beaver River No. 622 is banned.

Level 3 Fire Ban includes:

- a) All burning barrels
- b) All Incinerators (for farm and acreage use)
- c) Recreational camp fires
- d) Fireworks

Exemptions to a Level 3 Fire Ban, (with a plan to extinguish a fire) are:

- e) Solid fuel barbeques
- f) Liquid fuel barbeques

Level on ban in effect highlighted for quick reference



**Schedule B
Fire Ban & Burn Permit Policy**

BURN PERMIT

Permit # _____

Permit to burn issued under the authority of the Fire Ban & Burn Permit Policy and *The Wildfire Act*:

Dated this _____ day _____, 20_____

Authorization is hereby granted to: _____

Phone Number: _____

(owner/occupant) of Quarter Section _____, Township _____, Range _____, W 3rd Meridian

To burn the following materials:

On the property mentioned between the _____ day of _____, 20_____

and the _____ day of _____, 20_____ in compliance with the following conditions:

- **This permit will be void when a fire ban is in effect.**
- **Prior to starting the fire call the P.A. 911 Service at 1 866-404-4911**
- **The landowner is totally responsible for the fire until it is completely extinguished.**

Representative
Rural Municipality of Beaver River No. 622

Note:

Every person starting a fire in a Rural Municipality has responsibilities under *The Wildfire Act*.

A copy of Section 33 and 46 of the Act are attached to this permit. Please read thoroughly before starting your fire.



Schedule B
Fire Ban & Burn Permit Policy

BURN PERMIT

Requirements re burning:

33 No person shall:

- (a) start any fire for any purpose without first taking sufficient precautions to ensure that the fire can be kept under control at all times;
- (b) at the time that he or she starts a fire, fail to make himself or herself aware of current and predicted weather conditions and ensure weather conditions are appropriate to allow the fire to burn safely and under control until the fire is extinguished;
- (c) before starting the fire, fail to make himself or herself aware of any fire prohibitions or restrictions imposed pursuant to section 41;
- (d) fail to take all necessary precautions to ensure that the fire is monitored and contained in the burn area and is kept to a controllable size to prevent escape;
- (e) fail to ensure that firefighting equipment of a type and with a capacity adequate to extinguish the fire is on site and readily accessible during the burning period;
- (f) fail to ensure that the fire is fully extinguished;
- (g) cause a public hazard by exposing residents of the area to excessive amounts of smoke and odour or create a hazard by impairing visibility on public roadways, railway crossings or airports;
- (h) deposit, discard or leave any burning matter or substance in a place where it might ignite other matter and result in the spreading of a fire; or
- (i) fail to comply with any order of an agency officer.

2014, c.W-13.01, s.33; 2019, c S-32.4, s.8-4.

46(1) No person shall:

- (a) fail to comply with an order of the minister, an officer or the executive director issued pursuant to this Act or the regulations; or
 - (b) fail to comply with any provision of this Act, the regulations or the code.
- (2) Subject to subsection (3), every person who contravenes a provision of this Act for which no penalty is otherwise provided is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to:
- (a) in the case of an individual:
 - (i) a fine of not more than \$500,000 for each day or part of a day during which the offence continues;
 - (ii) imprisonment for a term not exceeding three years; or
 - (iii) both the fine and imprisonment;
 - (b) in the case of a corporation, a fine not exceeding \$1,000,000 for each day or part of a day during which the offence continues.
- (3) Every director, officer or agent of a corporation who directed, authorized, assented to, acquiesced in or participated in an act or omission of the corporation that would constitute an offence by the corporation is guilty of that offence and is liable on summary conviction to the penalties provided for that offence whether or not the corporation has been prosecuted or convicted.

2014, c.W-13.01, s.46.