

Campfire Safety

Whether you are enjoying a camp fire in your back yard or camping out in the woods a roaring fire is both a success, and a responsibility. It is your job to properly maintain and extinguish your campfire so that future campers can do the same.

Maintaining Your Campfire

As you're enjoying your campfire, remember these safety tips:

- 1.Once you have a strong fire going, add larger pieces of dry wood to keep it burning steadily
- 2.Keep your fire to a manageable size
- 3.Make sure children and pets are supervised when near the fire
- 4.Never leave your campfire unattended
- 5.Never cut live trees or branches from live trees

How to Put Out the Campfire

Extinguishing Your Campfire

When you're ready to put out your fire and call it a night, follow these guidelines:

- 1.Allow the wood to burn completely to ash, if possible
- 2.Pour lots of water on the fire, drown ALL embers, not just the red ones
- 3.Pour until hissing sound stops
- 4.Stir the campfire ashes and embers with a shovel
- 5.Scrape the sticks and logs to remove any embers
- 6.Stir and make sure everything is wet and they are cold to the touch
- 7.If you do not have water, use dirt. Mix enough dirt or sand with the embers. Continue adding and stirring until all material is cool. Remember: do NOT bury the fire as the fire will continue to smolder and could catch roots on fire that will eventually get to the surface and start a wildfire.

REMEMBER: If it's too hot to touch, it's too hot to leave!

Don't burn dangerous things!

Never burn aerosol cans or pressurized containers. They may explode.

Never put glass in the fire pit. Glass does not melt away, it only heats up and shatters. Broken slivers of glass are dangerous.

Aluminum cans do not burn. In fact, the aluminum only breaks down into smaller pieces. Inhaling aluminum dust can be harmful to your lungs.

If you packed in (brought it with you) then you need to pack it out (take it with you) .

Be sure to pack out your trash. It is your responsibility to pack out everything that you packed in.

For more information on campfire safety and other related items that take place in the woods please check out the Smokey Bear web site out at www.smokeybear.com