

# **FIRE SMART MESSAGE FROM THE BISSETT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Dear Neighbors,

As we head into warmer and drier months, the risk of wildfire increases and while our fire department is preparing, you can help by taking some simple, proactive steps around your homes. **FACT:** Did you know that 90% of homes that catch fire are ignited by embers, with even the smallest sparks that can travel kilometers ahead of a fire, and we can reduce the risks by being **FIRE SMART!**

- **FIRE FREE ZONE – 0 – 1.5 METRES:**
  - Clean up leaves, pine needles, clean grass and debris from roofs, gutters and around foundations.
- **MOVE FLAMMABLES – 10 METRES:**
  - Move fire wood, propane tanks and fuel away from your home.
- **TRIM AND THIN:**
  - Keep grass cut, prune tree branches 2 metres off the ground.
- **DECK SAFETY:**
  - Rake under decks and porches.
- **BRUSH & DEBRIS:**
  - Haul brush and debris to the designated burn area at the Transfer Station.
  - **DO NOT** burn piles of debris and branches at home.
- **OPEN BURNING/BONFIRES:**
  - In Manitoba, open burning is regulated to prevent wildfires and are generally prohibited between **April 1 to November 15** annually, except under a burning permit or in an approved fire pit.
  - Open burning is **NOT** recommended however, if you intend to carry out open burning, between April 1 and November 15 annually, you **MUST** have an **APPROVED BURNING PERMIT** that is issued from the Fire Base in Bissett.
  - The Bissett Community Council is well within their authority to ban **ALL** fires when deemed necessary.
  - Fire pits do not require a permit however, **MUST** be an approved pit with a grate.
  - Wind speed is always a factor and are indicated on the burn permit **HOWEVER**, please be caution of lighting any fire, at any time, if winds are not favorable.
  - Never leave a fire unattended.
  - There **MUST** always be a water source and the fire **FULLY EXTINGUISHED** before leaving it.

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WE CAN ALL WORK TOGETHER TO MANAGE FUEL SOURCES ON  
OUR PROPERTIES AND CREATE A RESILIENT COMMUNITY.

Thank you,  
Dave Petznick/Fire Chief  
Rick Kacperski/Deputy Fire Chief  
And ALL members of the BISSETT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

## **HELPFUL RESOURCES:**

**FIRE SMART 101**

**<https://firesmartcanada.ca/programs/firesmart-101>**

**MB READY WEBSITE (APP COMING SOON)**

**TO REPORT A WILDFIRE**

**911 OR 1-800-782-0076**

**COMMUNITY OF BISSETT  
FIRE, AMBULANCE, RCMP  
911**