



KITSELAS BAND COUNCIL

2225 GITAUD ROAD, TERRACE, BC V8G 0A9

TEL. (250)635-5084 ♦ FAX (250)635-5335 ♦ T.F. 1-888-777-2837

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Public Notice: Household Fire Risk and Yard Maintenance

Dear Kitselas Community Members,

We're experiencing extremely hot weather resulting in a very dry season that poses risks for fire in and around our homes and communities. It's crucial to address household fire risks by maintaining clean and safe yard areas. Here are some important steps to follow to reduce fire hazards:

- 1. Keep Your Yard Clean:** Ensure both your front and back yards are free of garbage, firewood, and fuel cans. These items can easily ignite and spread fire quickly. Firewood should be stored a safe distance away from the home.
- 2. Lawn Maintenance:** Regularly mow your lawn to prevent long grass from becoming a fire hazard. Remove any dead vegetation that can act as kindling for fires.
- 3. Proper Storage of Flammable Materials:** Store flammable materials such as gasoline, propane, and paint in approved containers away from living areas. Keep these materials in a well-ventilated shed or garage to minimize fire risk.
- 4. Safe Use of Grills (BBQ's) and Fire Pits:** Always use grills and fire pits away from structures and overhanging branches. Never leave them unattended when in use, and ensure they are completely extinguished after use.
- 5. Clear Gutters and Roofs:** Remove leaves, pine needles, and other debris from gutters and roofs. These materials can easily catch fire from flying embers.
- 6. Trim Trees and Shrubs:** Trim trees and shrubs to create a defensible space around your home. This helps prevent fire from spreading to your property.
- 7. Check Electrical Appliances:** Regularly inspect electrical wiring, outlets, and appliances for signs of wear or damage. Faulty wiring can cause sparks that ignite nearby flammable materials.
- 8. Maintain Smoke Alarms:** Ensure smoke alarms are installed on every level of your home. Test them monthly and replace batteries at least once a year.



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9. Create an Emergency Plan: Develop and practice a family emergency plan that includes multiple escape routes and a designated meeting place. Ensure everyone in your household knows what to do in case of a fire.

To increase safety and reduce a potential fire from spreading, please ensure you have a hose that's connected to an outside water faucet and easily accessible. If you have a fire extinguisher, please ensure it's readily available.

To mitigate any risk of fire, we need your help. By taking these simple measures, we can significantly reduce the risk of fires and create a safer environment for everyone.

Thank you for your cooperation, and best regards.

Ulyses Venegas