

## Huron County Fire Chiefs Association

For Immediate Release - Friday July 6, 2018

### **Open-Air Fire Ban Huron County**

Effective immediately, the Huron County Fire Chiefs have declared an open-air fire ban in Huron County due to lack of significant rainfall and forecasted hot dry conditions, along with the Provincial forest and wild-land fire indicators at extreme levels there will be **no open-air burning permitted in Huron County until further notice.**

All open-air fires are prohibited during a fire ban, including those properties that have an Open-Air Fire Permit. This ban applies to agricultural burns, brush pile burns, recreational fires, burn barrels, outdoor fireplaces/chimineas or any other fires set in open air. Municipal bylaws have set fines and surcharges for those found to be in violation of the ban.

**The only exceptions to this ban are cooking fires within approved campgrounds. Cooking fires are permitted on campsites from noon (12:00pm) to midnight (12:00am) only. After midnight, all fires must be completely extinguished.**

If you discover a fire in the open, it is very important that you report fires immediately by calling 9-1-1.

Residents are encouraged to use the following tips to prevent grass and brush fires:

- Cigarettes: Carelessly discarded cigarettes continue to be a major cause of grass fires during these dry periods. Smokers are reminded to please use care when butting out. Do not throw lit cigarettes out vehicle windows.
- Take care when refueling equipment, and avoid idling hot engines over or near dry vegetation.
- Keep barbecues and propane tanks at least three metres from buildings.
- Wood piles should be stored a safe distance from your home.
- Trees should be pruned to create a good vertical separation from the ground.
- Clear out any dry or dead grass, leaves, tree limbs, debris from your property.
- Check with your municipality about yard waste pick up and or landfill site hours, most landfills accept yard waste, brush etc. free of charge.

If you have any questions regarding this order, please contact your local Fire Department.

**Howick Township** – Fire Chief, Shawn Edwards 519-335-3202

**Huron East, Morris Turnberry** - Fire Chief, Marty Bedard 519-527-0160

**North Huron** – Fire Chief, Marty Bedard 226-523-9500

**Central Huron & Bluewater** – Fire Chief, Dave Renner 519-525-6530

**South Huron** – Fire Chief, Andrew Baird 519-235-1981

**Goderich** – Fire Chief, Steve Gardiner 519-525-6028