

Open fire ban in effect

Halton Hills Fire Department reminds residents there is an open fire ban in effect after responding to several incidents over the past week.

The ban includes all approved Open Air Burn Permits. This ban includes and suspends the burning of clean wood and brush, outdoor campfires and the use of all outdoor wood burning appliances and will remain in effect until further notice to ensure public safety. It is also highly recommended that citizens also refrain from using other outdoor flame producing devices such as natural gas flame logs or propane-fueled fireplaces, patio torches and outdoor candles until further notice. Smokers are asked to take extra care when putting out their smokes.

"This fire ban has been put in place as a preventative measure to reduce the incidence of a large grass or brush fire," said Fire Chief Brent Marshall.

"A small grass fire can rapidly change to a major incident during periods of extended hot weather and little rain. I encourage all residents to comply with the fire ban and help keep our municipality safe."

The Fire Department reminds that any person found conducting open air burning in contravention of the ban, is guilty of an offence and may be subject to service charges per the Town User Fee By-Law and/or charges in accordance with the Ontario Fire Protection and Prevention Act.

On Monday, July 9, around 6:30 p.m. firefighters responded to a burn complaint at 1 McNabb Street, Georgetown. Upon arrival it was found that the home owner was

burning without a permit. The fire was extinguished and he was advised to obtain a permit.

On Friday, July 13, at 9:50 p.m. firefighters responded to a report of flames sighted, by an ambulance crew, at 11760 Hwy. 7, west of Sixth Line. Upon arrival it was found to be a controlled fire for which the homeowner did not hold a burn permit. They were asked to extinguish the fire and apply for a permit.

The next day, Saturday, July 13, a burn complaint was dealt with by a fire crew at 6 Country Lane Cres. at 5:08 p.m. Owners had thrown green weeds onto their fire which caused white smoke and prompted the complaint.

The fire was in the process of being extinguished when the fire crew arrived. The homeowner was reminded that he cannot burn anything green and to review the regulations stated on his burn permit.

At 9:14 p.m., firefighters responded to a burn complaint at 9116 Sixth Line. A very large bonfire was in progress for the start of a party. There was no burn permit held for this fire and no ready source of water available to extinguish the fire. The resident was aided by firefighters in extinguishing the fire.

At 10:51 p.m. firefighters responded to a report of an unknown fire at 14156 Dublin Line. It turned out to be an unauthorized fire; the owner had a burn permit that had expired last month. The fire was extinguished due to the very dry conditions.

Check the fire department website at www.haltonhills.ca for further info on the burn ban.



BRENT MARSHALL

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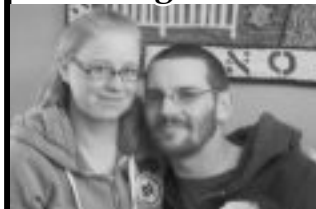
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