

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF TABER  
BYLAW NO. 1888**

**A Bylaw of the Municipal District of Taber in the Province of Alberta, for the purpose of establishing Fire Services in and for the Municipal District of Taber.**

WHEREAS the Municipal Government Act, R.S.A. 2000, c. M-26, as amended, provides that a Council of a Municipality may pass bylaws for municipal purposes respecting the safety, health and welfare of people and the protection of people and property; and for services provided by or on behalf of the Municipality; and

WHEREAS the Forest and Prairie Protection Act, R.S.A., 2000, c. F-19, as amended, provides certain discretionary and mandatory powers to enable a municipality to carry out and enforce the provisions of the Forest and Prairie Protection Act within its boundaries as applicable; and

WHEREAS the Council of the Municipal District of Taber pursuant to the powers granted to it under the Municipal Government Act and the Forest and Prairie Protection Act wishes to provide for the prevention, regulation and control of lighting fires within the Municipal District, and

WHEREAS the Council of the Municipal District of Taber has established fire services within the Municipal District of Taber located in Taber, Enchant, Hays and Grassy Lake to provide for efficient operation of such fire services that the Council deems appropriate recognizing the geographic size of the municipality; and

WHEREAS the Municipal of Taber has entered into an agreement with the Town of Vauxhall to create the Vauxhall and District Regional Fire Authority in order to provide fire and related services to the municipality in the Vauxhall area; and

WHEREAS the Emergency Management Act, R.S.A. 2000, E.- 6.8, as amended, provides additional powers to a municipality to enable it to carry out and enforce the provisions of the Emergency Management Act within its boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal District of Taber has been accredited by the Safety Codes Council in the Fire Discipline and has appointed Fire Safety Code Officers; and

WHEREAS Sections 7 and 8 of the Municipal Government Act provide that Council of a Municipality may pass bylaws establishing a system of licenses, permits or approvals including the establishment of fees,

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Municipal District of Taber in the Province of Alberta, duly assembled, hereby enacts as follows:

**Section 1 - Name of Bylaw**

1.1 This Bylaw may be cited as the "Municipal District of Taber Fire Services Bylaw."

**Section 2 - Definitions**

2.1 In this Bylaw:

- a) "Acceptable Fire Pit" means an outdoor receptacle that meets the following specifications:
  - i. a minimum of three (3) metres clearance, measured from the nearest fire pit edge is maintained from buildings, property lines, or other combustible material;
  - ii. the fire pit shall not have an open flame area exceeding one meter at its widest point.

- iii. is set upon or built into the bare ground or on a non-combustible material such as brick, stone or concrete.
  - iv. the fire pit installation has enclosed sides made from bricks, concrete blocks, heavy gauge metal, or other non-combustible materials; and
  - v. the fire pit is not located over any underground utilities or under any aboveground wires.
  - vi. the fire pit is not located in the front yard of a residence within a hamlet.
- b) "Acceptable Fireplace" means an outdoor receptacle that meets the following specifications:
- i. a minimum of 1 metre clearance measured from the nearest fireplace edge is maintained from buildings, property lines, or other combustible material;
  - ii. the fireplace is constructed of materials such as bricks or rocks that are heat and flame resistant;
  - iii. the fireplace chimney is equipped with a regulation screen designed to contain and reduce the hazards of airborne sparks;
  - iv. the fireplace conforms to Alberta Safety Code Specifications
- c) "Acceptable Burning Barrels" means an outdoor receptacle that meets the following specifications:
- i. a minimum of 3 meters clearance measured from the nearest edge to a building or other combustible materials:
  - ii. is equipped with a mesh screen with openings no larger than 7 mm (1/4"), secured in place with latches or weights;
  - iii. constructed of non-combustible material;
  - iv. is not located over underground utility services or under aboveground wires
  - v. is not located within the boundaries of the Hamlets of Hays, the Hamlet of Enchant, The Hamlet of Grassy Lake or within the locality of Johnson's Addition.
- d) "Appendix A" means a schedule of fees for fire and related services attached to but not forming part of this bylaw and which may be amended by Resolution of Council from time to time.
- e) "Apparatus" means any vehicle operated by or for a municipal fire service.
- f) "Burnable Debris" means those materials permitted to be burned in accordance with statutes and bylaws written to protect and enhance the environment, and shall include but are not limited to materials described as:
- i. straw and stubble;
  - ii. grass and weeds;
  - iii. leaves and tree prunings;
  - iv. brush and fallen trees on newly cleared land or associated logging operations;
  - v. used power and telephone poles that do not contain preservatives;

- vi. wood material from the construction or demolition of buildings which does not contain wood preservatives;
- g) "Bylaw Officer", "Peace Officer" or "Police Officer" means, a Bylaw Enforcement Officer appointed under section 555 (1) of the Municipal Government Act, R.S.A. 2000, Chapter M-26.1 and members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, is appointed under section 5 Police Act Chapter P-17 RSA 2000 as a Police Officer.
- h) "Council" means the Council of the Municipal District of Taber.
- i) "Dangerous Goods" means any product, substance or organism specified in the regulations or included by its nature in any of the classes listed in the regulations under the Dangerous Goods Transportation and Handling Act, R.S.A. 2000, Chapter D - 4, as amended.
- j) "District" means a defined Fire Protection Area within the Municipal District of Taber as set by the Council.
- k) "Deputy Fire Chief" means the Deputy Fire Chief or Assistant Senior Manager of the M.D. of Taber Regional Fire Department, the Deputy Fire Chief or the senior manager of the Vauxhall and District Regional Fire Authority Fire Department, the Hays Fire Department, the Grassy Lake Fire Department, the Enchant Fire Department or the M.D. of Taber Regional Fire Department in Taber howsoever named, or his/her designate.
- l) "Deputy Regional Fire Chief" means the person appointed by the Council and reporting to the Regional Fire Chief and who will execute the duties and responsibilities of the Deputy Regional Fire Chief as a Designated Officer of the municipality.
- m) "Emergency Unit" means a fire truck, pumper truck, rescue truck, ambulance, mobile command unit, brush truck, dangerous goods unit, tanker, police vehicle, Peace Officer vehicle or other vehicle designated by the Fire Chief.
- n) "Emergency Operating Guidelines" means those guidelines approved by the Council as may be amended or replaced from time to time.
- o) "Equipment" means any tools, contrivances, devices or materials used by Fire Services to address an incident or other emergency.
- p) "False Alarm" means any fire alarm that is set off needlessly, through willful or accidental, human or mechanical error, and to which the Fire Services responds.
- q) "Fire Chief" means the Fire Chief or the senior manager of the M.D. of Taber Regional Fire Authority, howsoever named, or his/her designate, the Fire Chief or the senior manager of the Vauxhall and District Regional Fire Authority Fire Department, the Hays Fire Department, the Grassy Lake Fire Department, the Enchant Fire Department or the M.D. of Taber Regional Fire Department in Taber as appointed by the Council in accordance with established policy.
- r) "Fire Services" means the Vauxhall and District Regional Fire Authority Fire Department, as established pursuant to Bylaw No. 1854 as amended or replaced and organized for the M.D. pursuant to the provisions of this Bylaw and agreement with the Town of Vauxhall, the M.D. of Taber Regional Fire Department in Taber, the Hays fire department, the Grassy Lake fire department and the Enchant fire department consisting of, all persons appointed or recruited to the various positions prescribed herein, all equipment, apparatus, materials and supplies used in the operation, maintenance and administration of each fire service.

- s) "Fire Protection Areas" means the following:
- i. M.D. of Taber Regional Fire Department Fire Protection Area
  - ii. Vauxhall and District Regional Fire Authority Protection Area – as per Fire Services agreement
  - iii. Grassy Lake Fire Department Fire Protection Area
  - iv. Enchant Fire Department Fire Protection Area
  - v. Hays Fire Department Fire Protection Area
- As outlined in Schedule "G" and as amended by Council by resolution from time to time.
- t) "Fireworks" means the fireworks listed in Class 7, Division 1, and Class 7, Division 2, Subdivision 1 and 2 in Section 14 of the Explosives Regulations (Canada) and Section 5.7 of the Alberta Fire Code 2006.
- u) "Fire Guardian" means an individual designated by the municipality including, the Director of Agricultural Services or their designate (with respect to Fire Permits only), Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief and any Member of the Regional Fire Authority or such other persons as may be appointed from time to time.
- v) "Fire Safety Codes Officer" means the person or persons appointed by the Council to fulfill the responsibilities and duties of a Fire Safety Codes Officer in accordance with the Safety Codes Act.
- w) "Hamlet" means a recognized named area within the Municipal District of Taber as described in the Municipal District of Taber Municipal Development Plan including the Hamlet of Enchant, the Hamlet of Hays, the Hamlet of Grassy Lake, the Locality of Johnson's Addition and others that may be named from time to time.
- x) "Incident" means a fire or a situation where a fire or an explosion is imminent or any other situation presenting a danger or possible danger to life or property and to which the Fire Services has responded.
- y) "Incinerator Fire" means a fire that is confined within a non-combustible structure or container that has the draft and smoke vents thereof covered with a heavy gauge metal screen having a mesh size not larger than 13 millimetres and which is ventilated in such a manner as to preclude the escape of combustible materials including ash, which fire is set for the purpose of burning refuse and is licensed by the Government of Alberta.
- z) "Level of Service" means the extent of fire protection and emergency response services to be provided by any Fire Service as established, amended or replaced from time to time by Resolution of Council to meet the intent of the Alberta Occupational Health and Safety Code and the Alberta Code of Practice for Fire Fighters.
- aa) "M.D." or "Municipality" means the Municipal District of Taber.
- bb) "Member" means any person who is a duly appointed or recruited member of the Fire Services whether that member is full time, part time, paid or volunteer.

- cc) "Municipal Administrator" or Chief Administrative Officer howsoever named, means that person appointed to the position and title, by the Municipal Council of the Municipal District of Taber and includes any person appointed to act as their appointee.
- dd) "Open Fire" means any fire which is not an acceptable Incinerator Fire, Fire Pit Fire, portable fire receptacle or Public Park Site Fire and which, without limiting the generality of the foregoing may include grass fires, forest and brush fires, running fires, structure fires, building fires, wood scrap fires, ground thawing fires and chattel fires.
- ee) "Open Fire Permit" means a document in the form prescribed by the Forest and Prairie Protection Act or the Regional Fire Authority as applicable.
- ff) "Portable Appliance" means any appliance sold or constructed for the purpose of cooking food in the out-of-doors.
- gg) "Prohibited Debris" means any material that when burned, will result in the release to the atmosphere of dense smoke, offensive odours or toxic air contaminants in accordance with Provincial statutes and Municipal bylaws written to protect and enhance the environment, and shall include but are not limited to materials described as:
  - i. animal manure;
  - ii. chemicals and chemical containers;
  - iii. combustible material in automobile bodies;
  - iv. waste material from building or construction sites, excluding wooden materials that do not contain wood preservatives;
  - v. non-wooden material;
  - vi. paints and painting materials;
  - vii. pathological waste;
  - viii. rubber or plastic, or anything containing or coated with rubber or plastic or similar substances, except rubber or plastic attached to shredded scrap steel;
  - ix. tires;
  - x. used oil;
  - xi. wood or wood products containing substances for the purposes of preserving wood;
  - xii. Any material described prohibited to be incinerated under any act or regulation including Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act, R.S.A. 2000, c. E- 12 and amendments thereto
- hh) "Public Park Site Fire" means a fire on land owned or leased by the M.D. or its agents for recreational purposes and is confined to either a non-combustible container supplied by the M.D., or a Portable Appliance, which is set for the purpose of cooking food, obtaining warmth or viewing for pleasure. Such fire may only be fueled with seasoned wood, charcoal, coal, natural gas or propane.
- ii) "Regional Fire Chief" means the person appointed by the Council and reporting to the Municipal Administrator and who will execute the duties and responsibilities of the Regional Fire Chief as a Designated Officer of the municipality.

- jj) "Running Fire" means a fire burning without being under the proper control of any person.
- kk) "Violation Ticket" means a ticket or similar document issued by the M.D. pursuant to the Municipal Government Act, R.S.A. 2000 c. M-26 and Part 2 of the Provincial Offences Procedure Act, and Regulations thereunder.

### **Section 3 - Fire Services**

- 3.1 Fire services shall be provided to the Municipal District of Taber shall be provided by the M.D. of Taber Regional Fire Department in Taber, the Vauxhall and District Regional Fire Authority Fire Department, the Hays fire department, the Enchant Fire and the Grassy Lake Fire Department pursuant to the level of service for each Fire Service as approved by M.D. of Taber Council and as amended from time to time by resolution of the M.D. of Taber Council.
- 3.2 Members will endeavour to perform Fire Protection and Rescue services within the Municipal District of Taber in a safe manner, in accordance with:
  - a) good judgement,
  - b) this Bylaw,
  - c) other related Bylaws,
  - d) the established Policies & Procedures of the respective municipality,
  - e) the Operating Guidelines of the Fire Department, "Schedule B" or equivalent
  - f) the Municipal Fire Quality Management Plan,
  - g) the training provided,
  - h) the Traffic Safety Act,
  - i) the Safety Codes Act,
  - j) the Occupational Health & Safety Act,
  - k) other relevant federal & provincial legislation, and
  - l) best safe working practices,
  - m) the approved level of service, and
  - n) the policies, procedures or protocols as adopted by the Municipal District of Taber Council.
- 3.3 All Members will report unsafe conditions to the Fire Chief or his/her designate and endeavour to reduce the incidence of unsafe conditions.

### **Section 4 – Appointment of Fire Guardians**

- 4.1 Council hereby delegates the Regional Fire Chief, The Deputy Regional Fire Chief, the Fire Chief and the Deputy Fire Chief of the M.D. of Taber Regional Fire Department, the Fire Chief and the Deputy Fire Chief of the Vauxhall and District Regional Fire Authority, the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief of the Hays Fire Department, the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief of the Grassy Lake Fire Department, the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief of the Enchant Fire Department or any Member acting in their position as delegated by the Fire Chief or Deputy Fire Chief as a Fire Guardians and confer upon them the following authority:
  - a) the Fire Chief or the Deputy Fire Chief or any Member acting in their position, is empowered to cause a building, structure or thing to be pulled down, demolished or otherwise removed if he deems it necessary to prevent the spread of fire to other buildings, structures or things;
  - b) the Fire Chief or the Deputy Fire Chief or any Member acting in their position, is empowered to cause any Member to enter on any land or premises, including adjacent land or premises, to combat, control or deal with the incident in whatever manner the Fire Chief, or any other Member in charge at an incident, deems necessary;

- c) the Fire Chief or the Deputy Fire Chief or any Member acting in their position, is authorized to issue permits, invoices for services provided, and any other document in the name of the M.D. which may be required for the efficient operation of fire services within the M.D. and whose issuance has been approved by the Regional Fire Authority Board of Directors and Councils.
- d) in an emergency, the Fire Chief or the Deputy Chief or any Member acting in their position may, on behalf of the M.D., take whatever actions or measures are necessary to eliminate the emergency provided such action does not breach of the provisions of the Municipal Government Act, any other enactment or this Bylaw.
- e) the Fire Chief or the Deputy Fire Chief or any Member acting in their position, as Designated Officers of the M.D. are not subject to direct operational control and supervision of the Municipal Administrator while at the scene of an incident. In the event the position of Fire Chief or Deputy Chief is vacant, that vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the policies of the Regional Fire Authority and by the policies of the Hays Fire Department, Grassy Lake Fire Department and Enchant Fire Department.
- f) the Fire Chief or designate will complete a Duty Officer Fire / Rescue Report for all calls in the form of Schedule "E".
- g) the Fire Chief or the Deputy Fire Chief or any Member acting in their position is hereby designated a Fire Guardian of the M.D. and authorized to perform all or any of the duties of the M.D. as outlined in the Forest and Prairie Protection Act, as amended. Any expense incurred while fulfilling the duties of a Fire Guardian shall be borne by the M.D.
- h) a Fire Guardian may hire and authorize fair payment for the possession or use of any equipment for the purpose of fighting a fire with the authorization of the Municipal Administrator.
- i) a Fire Guardian may enter a closed area as per the Forest and Prairie Protection Act without a permit or the written permission of a forest officer subject only to any Regulations of the Forest and Prairie Protection Act.
- j) a Fire Guardian may obtain from every person found on public and or leaving or entering public land his name, address and an account of his activities and route, or the activities he proposes to carry out and the route he intends to follow on the public land.
- k) a Fire Guardian may, in his discretion, issue to an applicant a fire permit in respect of any land within the boundaries of the M.D.
- l) a Fire Guardian may without a warrant enter on any land and premises, except a private dwelling house, for the purpose of discharging his duties under this Bylaw or the Forest and Prairie Protection Act or the regulations.
- m) a Fire Guardian may, without a warrant, enter any private dwelling house which is on fire and proceed to attempt to extinguish the fire.
- n) a Fire Guardian may investigate the cause, origin and circumstances of any forest or prairie fire according to the provisions of the Forest and Prairie Protection Act, these Bylaws or the policies of the Regional Fire Authority.
- o) the Fire Chief or the Deputy Fire Chief or any Member acting in their position is hereby designated a Bylaw Enforcement Officer pursuant to section 555 of the Municipal

Government Act and may, after they have taken the required oath, enforce the provisions of this Bylaw.

- p) the Fire Chief or his designate may seek the assistance of any department or official of the M.D. as he deems necessary to fulfill his duties hereunder.
  - q) the Regional Fire Chief, Deputy Regional Fire Chief, Fire Chief or the Deputy Fire Chief or any Member acting in their position who is a qualified Safety Codes Officer may be authorized to perform those obligations of the M.D. following a resolution of Council and under the direction of the Municipal Administrator of the Municipal District of Taber pursuant to the joint Quality Management Plan under the supervision of the Municipal Administrator who is responsible for that Plan.
  - r) the Council may by resolution revoke the powers and authority of a Regional Fire Chief, Deputy Regional Fire Chief, Fire Chief or Deputy Fire Chief to act in the capacity of a Fire Guardian at any time and appoint any other person the Council deems in their sole discretion as a Fire Guardian.
  - s) For the purposes of issuing a Fire Permit the Director of Agriculture Services is appointed a Fire Guardian, and may issue a fire permit may endorse on the permit any special fire control conditions with which the applicant must comply in addition to any requirements of the Forest and Prairie Protection Act and the regulations.
  - m) A Fire Guardian may suspend or cancel a fire permit at any time and on receiving notice of the suspension or cancellation of the permit the person concerned shall immediately extinguish any fire set pursuant to his permit. The Fire Guardian must immediately report the cancellation or suspension of a Fire Permit to the Director of Agricultural Services who may order the Permit re-instated.
- 4.2 The Council may by resolution revoke the powers and authority of a Fire Chief or Deputy Fire Chief to act in the capacity of a Fire Guardian at any time and appoint any other person the Council deems in their sole discretion as a Fire Guardian.
- 4.3 The Municipal District of Taber may negotiate with the Provincial Government of Alberta, other Municipalities and persons for the purpose of establishing mutual aid agreements and fire control agreements with recommendations and concerns regarding the establishing or renewing of any mutual aid agreement of fire control agreement or amendments thereto.
- 4.4 When a Fire Chief or their designate determines that a fire is under control and poses no immediate danger to other property or people, a Fire Chief may choose to return the majority of resources to service in preparation for an additional incident. In these instances he/she will have a small number of fire department members and appropriate apparatus remain on scene to ensure control of the fire. This responsibility may be turned over to owner/occupant if the Fire Chief is confident in their ability to post the Fire Watch. When the owner/occupant undertakes the Fire Watch they will provide the Fire Chief with a written waiver, an example of which is attached as Schedule "C", prior to departure of the Fire Department.

## **Section 5 - Fire Hazards**

- 5.1 If the Council, through a Fire Service finds within its boundaries on privately owned land or occupied public land conditions that in the opinion of the Fire Service constitute a fire hazard, it may, through a Fire Guardian, order the owner or the person in control of the land on which the fire hazard exists to reduce or remove the hazard within a fixed time and in a manner prescribed by the Council.



- 5.2 When Council, through Fire Service, finds that the order made pursuant to section 5.1 has not been carried out, it may enter on the land with any equipment and persons it considers necessary and may perform the required work.
- 5.3 The owner or the person in control of the land on which work was performed pursuant to section 5.2 shall on demand reimburse the Council for the cost of the work performed and in default of payment the Council has a lien for the amount against the land and any improvements on it.

### **Section 6 - Requirement to Report**

- 6.1 The owner or his authorized agent of any property damaged by fire shall immediately report to the Fire Services particulars of the fire which are satisfactory to the Fire Services.
- 6.2 The owner or his authorized agent of any property containing a dangerous good(s) product which sustains an accidental or unplanned release of the dangerous good(s) product shall immediately report to the Fire Services particulars of the release which are satisfactory to the Fire Services.

### **Section 7 - Open Fires**

- 7.1 No person shall permit an Open Fire or any other fire upon land owned, occupied or under his or her control within the M.D., unless a permit has been obtained, the provisions outlined on the permit are complied with, and burnable debris is burned.
- 7.2 Notwithstanding Section 7.1 a permit shall not be required under this Bylaw to conduct:
- a) burning within a burning barrel provided that a 7mm (¼ inch) mesh screen covers the top of the burning barrel, provided
    - i. the burning barrel is not located in the Hamlet of Grassy Lake, Hamlet of Hays, Hamlet of Enchant or within Johnson's Addition.
  - b) the cooking of food using a portable appliance
  - c) recreational burning or the cooking of food in Acceptable Fire Pits, Acceptable Portable Fire Receptacles or Acceptable Fireplaces, provided:
    - i. only clean fuel is used such as natural gas, dry wood or charcoal in amounts which will be contained within the fire pit or fireplace below the mesh screen;
    - ii. the fire pit or fireplace is not used to burn prohibited debris;
    - iii. a means, acceptable to the Fire Services, of controlling or extinguishing the fire is available on the property and within reasonable distance from where the fire occurs; and
    - iv. a responsible adult is present on the property when the fire is burning; or
  - d) the burning in fireplaces in or attached to dwellings as provided by legislation; or
  - e) the fire is a public park site fire in M.D. owned campgrounds and parks where fireplaces, stoves and fire pits are provided by or approved by the M.D.; or
  - f) the burning in an incinerator for which a permit to construct and license to operate has been issued pursuant to the applicable legislation; or
  - g) the fire has been set by Fire Services for the purpose of training; or

- h) the fire has been otherwise authorized by the Fire Services.
- 7.3 No person shall set, permit or maintain any Open Fire at any time of the year such that the smoke emitted from the fire impairs visibility on a highway, or which in the sole discretion of the Fire Chief or His designate, becomes a nuisance or safety concern on any highway or property. The person who set, permitted or maintained such an Open Fire shall extinguish the fire immediately upon the order of the Fire Chief or His designate. If the person who set, permitted or maintained such an open fire fails to comply with an order to extinguish the fire services may extinguish the fire and recover the cost of extinguishment from the person in accordance with Section 10 of this bylaw.
- 7.4 No person shall set, permit, maintain or operate a burning barrel at any time of the year within the boundaries of a hamlet. The person who set, permitted or maintained such an Open Fire shall extinguish the fire immediately upon the order of a Fire Guardian, the Fire Chief or his designate. If the person who set, permitted or maintained such an open fire fails to comply with an order to extinguish the Fire Services may extinguish the fire and recover the cost of extinguishment from the person in accordance with of Section 10 of this bylaw.
- 7.5 At any time Council may by resolution designate a Ban on Open Fires. Following the adoption of a Ban on Open Fires all fire permits issued by a Municipal District of Taber Fire Guardian become void.
- a) the Director of Agriculture Services shall consult with the Regional Fire Chief or their designate and the Fire Chiefs of the Hays, Enchant and Grassy Lake Fire Services to determine the appropriateness of instituting a fire ban and shall make recommendations to Council in this regard.
  - B) the Council will consider the recommendations of the Fire Service in their deliberations for instituting or removing a fire ban.
  - C) the Council may institute a fire ban or remove a fire ban at any time provided that a consensus to forward a recommendation to Council is passed by the majority of Council and at the following meeting of Council a resolution supporting the recommendation to institute or removal of a fire ban is passed by the majority of Council.

### **Section 8 - Procedure to Obtain Open Fire Permit**

- 8.1 Any person wishing to obtain an Open Fire Permit for any area within the M.D. excepting a Forest Protection Area, must apply in the format approved by the M.D. of Taber.
- 8.2 Each application for an Open Fire Permit must be on the form as determined from time to time by resolution of the Council.
- 8.3 Each application and Open Fire Permit shall contain the following information and be in the format prescribed within Schedule "D" as amended from time to time by resolution of Council:
- a) the name, address and telephone number, if applicable, of the applicant,
  - b) the reason an Open Fire Permit is required,
  - c) the legal description of the land upon which the fire will be set and the exact location of the fire on those lands including the municipal address where applicable,
  - d) the type of combustible material which will be burned,
  - e) any precautions which will be taken by the applicant to maintain control of the fire,

- f) the time for which the Open Fire Permit will remain valid.
- 8.4 The Council, the Director of Agriculture Services or their designate may, in their sole discretion, terminate or suspend an Open Fire Permit or application at any time in accordance with Article 7.5.
- 8.5 Upon request for a permit, the Director of Agriculture Services or their designate shall consider the permit application, and may in his sole discretion:
  - a) refuse to grant a permit;
  - b) grant a permit with or without terms and conditions as deemed appropriate; or
  - c) determine that a permit is not required.
- 8.6 A permit shall not be transferable.
- 8.7 Permits issued pursuant to this Bylaw are valid for such period of time as shall be determined and set by the Director of Agricultural Services or their designate and the Open Fire Permit shall have endorsed thereon the period of time for which the said permit is valid.
- 8.8 The Director of Agricultural Services or their designate may extend in writing the period of time that an Open Air Fire Permit is valid provided the Fire Permit has not expired.

#### **Section 9 - Fireworks**

- 9.1 No person shall discharge, sell or store fireworks or pyrotechnic devices except where permitted by a Fire Chief, except as permitted by Article 9.2.
- 9.2 This Section shall not apply to a person who possesses or discharges fireworks commonly used as distress flares.
- 9.3 Authority
  - a) the fire services, peace officer, police officer or bylaw officer is permitted to seize, take, remove or cause to be seized, taken or removed any fireworks offered or exposed for sale or being held or used contrary to this bylaw.
  - b) where fireworks are seized in accordance with Sentence (1), the fire services, peace officer, police officer or forest officer in the forest protection area, shall dispose of them in a safe manner.

#### **Section 10 - Recovery of Costs**

- 10.1 Where the Fire Services has taken any action whatsoever for the purpose of the Fire Services; site inspections for regulated occupancies; requested site inspections and required fire investigations; business inspections; file search; report copies; duplicate of photograph; photocopy of photograph; permit to sell fireworks (low level or shop goods); permit to discharge fireworks (low level or shop goods); permit to discharge fireworks (high level) site inspection or permit for flammable or combustible fuel tank installation; site inspection and permit for flammable or combustible fuel tank removal, an Open Fire Permit, the permit fee as set out in Appendix "A" shall be paid to the Municipality.
- 10.2 Where Fire Services has extinguished a fire or responded to a fire call or incident within the M.D. for the purpose of preserving life or property from injury or destruction by fire or other incident, including any such action taken by the Fire Services on a False Alarm, or pursuant to section 7.3,

the M.D., may in respect of any costs incurred by the Fire Services in taking such action, charge any costs so incurred by the Fire Services to:

- a) the person who caused the incident;
- b) the owner of the land or the person in possession where the Incident occurred; or
- c) the owner of property where the person in possession and control of property which is the situate of the incident if not located on privately owned land.

10.3 The schedule of fees and charges to be charged by the Fire Services for services rendered pursuant to this Bylaw shall be as set out in Appendix "A", an appendix to this Bylaw. The fees and charges set out in Appendix "A" are to be determined, amended or replaced from time to time by Resolution of Council.

10.4 In respect of the fees or charges described in Sections 10.1, 10.2 and 10.3 where charges for services under this bylaw have been levied and they remain unpaid for longer than 90 days the Municipality may:

- a) Assign the outstanding amounts owing against the real property on which the fire or incident occurred and collect them in accordance with the tax recovery procedures outlined in the Municipal Government Act, or,
- b) Take collection action against the registered owner(s) of the vehicle(s) which was involved in the fire or accident, or
- c) File a Statement of Claim in the Provincial Court of Alberta or the Alberta Court of Queen's Bench for the recovery of all direct and indirect costs including legal costs.
- d) The method chosen to recover costs will be that deemed most appropriate by Council and the Municipal Administrator.

10.5 Response fees specified within Appendix "A" may apply for any type of response that the Council may in their sole discretion determine.

- a) The Municipality will invoice the costs and any costs of additional materials, services and supplies to the registered owner, their insurance company or Alberta Transportation and Infrastructure to cover response to all vehicular fires and collisions which occur on a provincial numbered highway. Such invoice will be at the current rates, established by Alberta Transportation and Infrastructure, per unit utilized at said vehicular fire or collision.
- b) The Municipality will bill the costs and any costs of additional materials, services and supplies to the registered owner, their insurance company or Alberta Transportation and Infrastructure for all responses involving actual or potential product releases of dangerous goods during transportation within the Municipality.
- c) Notwithstanding Article 10.5 (a) and Article 10.5 (b) the municipality may provide to ratepayers of the Municipal District the first four hours of fire suppression at an incident to the ratepayer at no charge.

10.6 Council reserves the right to waive all or part of any charges for services under this section upon representation by the owner. Such representation will require written notice of concerns being addressed to Council within 60 days of issuance of an invoice by the Municipality.

10.7 Council reserves the right to waive all or part of any charges for services under this section in their sole judgement and discretion based upon whatever criteria they deem relevant.

## **Section 11 - Offences**

- 11.1 No person shall contravene any provision(s) of this bylaw
- 11.2 Any person who ignites, fuels, supervises, maintains or permits an Open Fire or Incinerator Fire within the M.D. without a valid Permit as required by this Bylaw is guilty of an offence.
- 11.3 When a fire is lit or ignited without the appropriate permit, except a fire described in Section 7.2, the owner or occupier of the land or the person having control of the land upon which such fire is lit shall:
- a) extinguish the fire immediately; or
  - b) where he is unable to extinguish the fire immediately, report the fire to Fire Services.
- 11.4 No person shall, either directly or indirectly, personally or through an agent, servant or employee, kindle a fire, whether a permit was obtained for that fire or whether the fire did not require a permit, and let it become a Running Fire on any land including his own property or allow a Running Fire to pass from his property, or property under his control, to the property of another.
- 11.5 No person shall:
- a) light an Open Fire without first obtaining a fire permit, or light an Open Fire during a ban on Open Fires;
  - b) light an Open Fire, Incinerator Fire, Burning Barrel Fire, Acceptable Fire Place fire, Acceptable Fire Pit or Acceptable Portable Fire Receptacle fire without first taking sufficient precaution to ensure that the fire can be kept under control at all time;
  - c) light an Open Fire, Incinerator Fire, Burning Barrel Fire, Acceptable Fire Place fire, Acceptable Fire Pit or Acceptable Portable Fire Receptacle fire when the weather conditions are conducive to creating a Running Fire or when Fire Services or another authorized agency has announced a ban on burning;
  - d) burn in an Acceptable Fire Pit, Acceptable Fire Place, Acceptable Portable Fire Receptacle or Public Park Site fire garbage, leaves, straw, painted wood, treated construction materials and items made of or containing rubber, plastic, tar or any materials deemed for disposal;
  - e) fail to take reasonable steps to control a fire for the purpose of preventing it from becoming a Running Fire and from spreading onto land other than his own;
  - f) deposit, discard or leave any burning matter or substance where it might ignite other material and cause a fire;
  - g) conduct any activity that involves the use of fire or that creates potential sources of fire ignition, which might reasonably be expected to cause a Running or Open Fire, unless he exercises reasonable care to prevent such a fire from occurring;
  - h) provide false, incomplete or misleading information to the M.D. or to Fire Services on or with respect to an Open Fire Permit Application;
  - i) interfere with the efforts of persons authorized in this Bylaw to extinguish fires or preserve life or property;

- j) interfere with the operation of any Fire Services equipment or apparatus required to extinguish fires or preserve life or property;
  - k) damage or destroy any Fire Services property;
  - l) falsely represent himself as a Fire Services Member or wear or display any uniform, badge, cap, button, insignia or other paraphernalia for the purpose of such false representation.
  - m) sell, offer for sale or store for the purpose of sale, fireworks without a permit from the Fire Services.
  - n) sell, offer for sale or transfer possession of fireworks to a person who does not possess a permit from the Fire Service or written permission from the Fire Chief having jurisdiction in the municipality in which the fireworks will be discharged.
  - o) sell or transfer possession of fireworks to a person under the age of 18 years.
  - p) discharge fireworks in contravention of the requirements of this bylaw or the Alberta Fire Code 2006 as amended or replaced from time to time.
  - q) No person shall set, permit, maintain or operate a burning barrel at any time of the year within the boundaries of a hamlet.
- 11.6 No person shall use fire to burn Prohibited Debris which means any material that when burned will result in the release to the atmosphere of dense smoke or toxic air contaminants in accordance with statutes and bylaws written to protect and enhance the environment.
- 11.7 Nothing in this Bylaw shall be interpreted to authorize any fire, burning or other act which is in contravention of the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act, R.S.A. 2000, c. E- 12 and amendments thereto, or any regulation made thereunder.

## **Section 12 - Penalties**

- 12.1 A person who contravenes or fails to comply with any condition in a permit or with any order or request directed to him pursuant to this Bylaw is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine as outlined within Schedule "E" of this Bylaw.
- 12.2 Where a person:
- a) contravenes section 7.3, 7.4, 7.5, 11.3, 11.4, 11.5(e) of this Bylaw, that person shall be liable to Fire Services and the M.D. for the entire cost of any type of emergency response and mitigation service required to bring the fire under control, whether that service was provided by Fire Services or the M.D. or by a third party person or agency; and
  - b) the M.D. may recover such fees or charges as a debt due and owing to the M.D.; or
  - c) in the case of action taken by the Fire Services in respect of land within the M.D., where the fees or charges are not paid upon demand by the M.D., then in default of payment, such fees or charges may be charged against the land as taxes due and owing in respect of that land.
- 12.3 A Bylaw Enforcement Officer, Police Officer or Peace Officer is hereby authorized and empowered to issue a Violation Tag to any person who that Officer has reasonable and probable grounds to believe has contravened any provision of this Bylaw. A Violation Tag may be issued to such persons:

- a) either personally; or
  - b) by mailing a copy to such person at his last known post office address.
- 12.4 The Violation Tag shall be in the form approved by the M.D. and shall state:
- a) the name of the person; and
  - b) the offence including a reference to the relevant section of this Bylaw; and
  - c) the appropriate penalty for the offence as specified in this Bylaw; and
  - d) that the penalty shall be paid within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the Violation Tag; and
  - e) any other information as may be required by the M.D. or by Fire Services.
- 12.5 Where a contravention of this Bylaw is of a continuing nature, further Violation Tags may be issued by the Bylaw Enforcement Officer, Police Officer or Peace Officer, provided that no more than one Violation Tag shall be issued for each day that the contravention continues and each calendar day constitutes a new and separate additional offense.
- 12.6 Where a Violation Tag is issued pursuant to this Bylaw, the person or corporation to whom the Violation Tag is issued may, in lieu of being prosecuted for the offence, pay to the M.D. the penalty specified on the Violation Tag as outlined on Schedule "E" hereto, provided that such payment is made in cash or by cheque before the initial court appearance date outlined on the Violation Tag.
- 12.7 Nothing in this Bylaw shall prevent a Bylaw Enforcement Officer, Police Officer or Peace Officer from immediately issuing a summons pursuant to Part II of the Provincial Offences Procedures Act, R.S.A. 2000, c.P-34, as amended, for the mandatory Court appearance of any person who contravenes any provisions of this Bylaw.
- 12.8 Any fine or penalty imposed pursuant to this section inures to the benefit of the M.D.

### **Section 13 - Violation Ticket**

- 13.1 If the penalty specified on a Violation Tag is not paid within the prescribed time period then a Bylaw Enforcement Officer, Police Officer or Peace Officer is hereby authorized and empowered to issue a Violation Ticket pursuant to Part II of the Provincial Offences Procedure Act Chapter/Regulation: P-34 RSA 2000, as amended.
- 13.2 Any fine or penalty imposed pursuant to this section inures to the benefit of the M.D.

### **Section 14 - Severability**

- 14.1 All sections of this Bylaw are separate and severable. Should any section or part of this Bylaw be deemed invalid or inoperative by any court or administrative body for any reason, the remaining sections shall remain valid and in full force and effect.

### **Section 15**

- 15.1 That Bylaw No. 1857 is hereby repealed.
- 15.2 That this bylaw shall come into force and effect on the date of the third and final reading and signing thereof.

READ A FIRST TIME IN COUNCIL THIS 13<sup>th</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER, 2016.

READ A SECOND TIME IN COUNCIL THIS ND DAY OF , 2017

READ A THIRD AND FINAL TIME, THIS TH DAY OF , 2017

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REEVE

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MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR

#### **APPENDIX "A" – Fees and Charges**

1. Open Fire Permits - FREE
2. Occupancy Load Certificates (licensed premises) \$75.00 per certificate
3. Hydrant flow tests and related data \$250.00 per hour
4. Re-inspection with outstanding Fire Code Violations \$75.00 per visit
5. Volunteer Firefighter response on large scale events (Resource Sharing or Mutual aid calls where the mutual aid agreement does not provide for unpaid response) - Current member of council per diem rate / member / per day (minimum one day charge).
6. Fire Department Response Fees to properties located within the Municipal District of Taber (except for calls for service on Provincial Highways): First four hours of calls for service - No charge, billed for consumables only (including water hauling and mutual aid response if applicable).
  - 6.1 Notwithstanding Section 6.0 Fire Department Response Fees begin from the time of dispatch for motor vehicle incidents on MD of Taber managed roads where charges have been issued by the RCMP or Peace Officers for violations such as stunting, speeding, impaired driving, reckless driving and distracted driving that resulted in an incident. Billing for these incidents will be at the Alberta Transportation Rate.

#### **After the first four free hours:**

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Pumper, Engine, Tanker or Rescue Unit | \$ As per current Alberta Transport rates |
| Command Unit                          | \$ As per current Alberta Transport rates |
| Wildland Fire Unit                    | \$ As per current Alberta Transport rates |
7. Response Fees for calls on any Provincial numbered highways beginning from time of call: As per current Alberta Transport rates
  8. Consumables used such as Fire foam and HazMat supplies: \$ As per invoice cost



9. Commercial water delivery to incident:	\$ As per invoice cost
10. MD public works water delivery to incident:	\$ As per current Alberta Construction rates Schedule (2017 - \$115/hour)
<b>11. Fire Inspection Fees:</b>	
File search (fire inspections and investigations)	\$ 35.00 per search
Fire investigation services (per investigator)	\$ 75.00 per hour
Fire investigation photos (printed)	\$ 3.00 per copy
Fire investigation photos (digital)	\$ 35.00 per CD
Fire Inspections requested by owner or insurance company	\$ 75.00 per hour
Research, Preparation and Service of Orders	\$ 75.00 per hour
Follow up inspection with outstanding Fire Code Violations	
First re-inspection	\$ 50.00
Second re-inspection	\$ 100.00
Third re-inspection	\$ 200.00
Fourth and subsequent re-inspection	\$ 400.00

### **SCHEDULE “B” – OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

1. Members of the MD of Taber Regional Fire Service and the Vauxhall Regional Fire Authority departments - Enchant, Grassy Lake, Hays, Taber Regional and Vauxhall Regional shall follow the council approved operating guidelines in accordance with their local Level of Service bylaw. The guidelines will be reviewed annually. Copies of the guidelines are available at all five departments.
2. If a Fire Department organizes a social function or a large number of Members are expecting to attend a social function within the community, the Fire Chief will establish a list of that Fire Department's Members who will respond to any incidents during the time of the social function and for eight (8) hours following the social function. These Members will ensure that they are capable of responding, to any Incidents during the time frame for which they are assigned.
4. The Fire Chief may limit the number of Members who may operate Apparatus or Equipment.
5. The Fire Chief will ensure the inspection and maintenance of Equipment, Apparatus, and protective clothing and will maintain records of same.
6. The Fire Departments will endeavour to adhere to the Standard Operational Guidelines adopted by the Municipality and may implement additional guidelines as required by the specific Fire Department.
7. All Members will be available for Fire calls in accordance with the mechanisms established by the Fire Chief.
8. The Fire Chief or designate will submit a Fire Report completed by a Safety Codes Officer in the Fire Discipline, on the form prescribed by the Administrative Items Regulation of the Safety Codes Act, to the Fire Commissioner's Office within 30 days following each reportable Fire attended.
9. The Fire Chief or designate will immediately notify the Fire Commissioner's Office when a Fire is suspicious in nature or results in death or serious injury as per the regulations adopted under the Safety Codes Act.

10. The Fire Chief or designate will submit an Incident report on the prescribed form to the Municipality as soon as is reasonable following each incident attended, as outlined below as demonstrated in "Schedule "F" attached.

The report will include the following information:

- 10.1 date and time of the incident
- 10.2 location of the incident
- 10.3 property owner name, address and phone number
- 10.4 occupant or premises name, address and phone number (if different from the owner) nature and particulars of the incident
- 10.5 total time spent attending the incident
- 10.6 insurance agent, if known or determined
- 10.7 Equipment and Apparatus used in attending the incident
- 10.8 names of personnel dispatched and time spent by each member attending the incident.

11. The Fire Chief or designate shall ensure that a record is made of all resources utilized at an Incident.

### SCHEDULE "C" - WAIVER

#### ***Municipal District of Taber*** **FIRE CONTROL WAIVER AGREEMENT**

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

The **Municipal District of Taber**, through its agent: \_\_\_\_\_, (the Senior Fire Department Officer on Scene)

of the \_\_\_\_\_ Fire Department (name of Fire Department), in consideration of a fire(s) which has occurred on the real property located at \_\_\_\_\_ (Legal Land Description) on this date,

owned or occupied by \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of Owner(s)/Occupier(s))

of \_\_\_\_\_ (Address and Telephone #), and

in full knowledge that said fire(s), while currently deemed "**Under Control**", in that it is not growing in size or intensity, and is not considered by either the owner/occupier or the Senior Officer of the Fire Department, likely to cause a nuisance, risk or danger to any person or persons, including the users of public roadways, highways or railways,

or to be a risk to threaten any additional combustible or flammable material, equipment, buildings, agricultural products, adjacent property or any other item not currently involved by the fire, has **not** been completely extinguished and therefore poses a potential risk of spreading.

The Municipal District of Taber, through its agent under the terms of Bylaw # 1719, after determining no



## SCHEDULE "D" – FIRE PERMITS

# Burn Pits & Yard Clean Up Burning Permit

**Before you light the fire, please read and understand the responsibilities and risks you take on by obtaining this fire permit.**

### **FIRE PERMITS ARE REQUIRED BY LAW**

Other than campfire and Municipal approved incinerators, any person lighting a fire for any purpose must have a valid fire permit.

Permits are available through the MD Ag Fieldman or the MD of Taber website [www.mdtaber.ab.ca](http://www.mdtaber.ab.ca)

### **WHEN ARE PERMITS REQUIRED?**

Fire permits are required year round, January 1st to December 31st inclusive. There are, however, provisions for a total ban on fires when required if the risk or danger of fires exists due to weather conditions. Any such bans will be announced through the press, radio, television, MD of Taber website and social media accounts.

### **GET A FIRE PERMIT**

Adhere strictly to the conditions stated on your fire permit. You may be liable for fire suppression costs or penalties as provided by law for any damage that may occur while burning or for failing to comply with the conditions as stated on your fire permit.

A fire permit is valid only for the period, which it is issued.

Upon issuing a permit, a fire guardian may specify any special fire control condition, which in his discretion, is important to safety.

The Municipal Council, for the purpose of fire control, may suspend or cancel all permits or prohibit the lighting of fires in any part or all of the Municipal District of Taber.

Upon suspension or cancellation of any permit, the person concerned must extinguish immediately any fire set according to his permit.

The general public may be notified of suspension or cancellation of fire permits through the press, radio, television, MD of Taber website and social media accounts. Upon such notification, all fires lit under the authority of a permit or any fire under the control or jurisdiction of a permit holder must be extinguished immediately.

## **REGULATIONS YOU NEED TO FOLLOW**

The fire must be set during the time and place indicated on the permit.

A fire permit is a legal document, which conditionally authorizes a person to burn debris at a time period specified on the permit. By obtaining a fire permit you have simply indicated your wish to burn. The responsibility for conducting a safe burn is yours.

Anyone who lights a burn pit fire under authority of a permit must:

- a) Call Taber police service to report the burn before you light the fire 403 223 8991
- b) Extinguish the fire before expiration or upon cancellation of the permit, or obtain a renewal
- c) Be able to produce and show the permit or the permit number to a MD of Taber CPO or a Regional Fire Service officer upon request
- d) Call Taber Police service to report your burn as "out" 403 223 8991

## **FIRE CONTROL**

Before lighting any burn pit fires, a permit holder must take precautions to ensure that the fire is kept under control at all times, such as

1. Do not light a fire when the wind is blowing at gusts of more than 20 km/hour according Environment Canada website for your specific area.  
[https://weather.gc.ca/forecast/canada/index\\_e.html?id=AB](https://weather.gc.ca/forecast/canada/index_e.html?id=AB)
2. Have an adequate water supply and manpower
3. Have fire extinguishers available
4. Be on the lookout for additional spot fires
5. When your burn is completed, speed up final extinguishing by dispersing and soaking any smoldering ash or accumulation of burned debris. Fires can remain dormant in large piles for long periods of time and usually surface when fire hazard conditions are extreme.
6. Persistent hot spots, left to burn out, must be well guarded. Continue to check completed burning projects to be sure no holdover fires are present.
7. Never leave the fire unattended at any time.

**REMEMBER! WHEN YOU ARE WORKING WITH FIRE, ONE WRONG MOVE CAN MEAN DISASTER.**

## **Items PERMITTED to Burn**

Section 1(1) (d) of the Substance Release Regulation AR 124/93 of the Environmental Protection Enhancement Act which regulates the release of substances into the environment including the release into air, water and land states:

- i) straw and stubble
- ii) grass and weeds
- ii) leaves and tree pruning's
- iv) brush and fallen trees on newly cleared land or associated with logging operations
- v) used power, telegraph and telephone poles that do not contain wood preservatives
- vi) wooden materials, which do not contain wood preservatives, from the construction or demolition of buildings
- vii) solid waste from sawmills or planing mills with an annual production of less than 9500 cubic metres of lumber
- viii) solid waste from post and pole operations that does not contain wood preservatives
- ix) solid waste from tree harvesting operations

## **Items NOT PERMITTED to Burn**

Section 2(1) (n) of the Activities Designation Regulation AR 211/96, "Prohibited debris" means any inflammable waste that, when burned, may result in the release to the atmosphere of dense smoke, offensive odours or toxic substances and includes BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO the following materials that **MAY NOT** be burned:

- i) Repeals AR 184/99 s2
- ii) animal manure
- iii) pathological waste
- iv) non-wooden material
- v) wood preservatives
- vi) combustible material in automobiles bodies
- vii) tires
- viii) rubber or plastic, or anything containing or coated with rubber or plastic or similar substances, except rubber or plastic attached to shredded scrap steel
- ix) solid waste from sawmills or planing mills with an annual production in excess of 9500 cubic metres of lumber
- x) used oil
- xi) wood or wood products containing substances for the purpose of preserving wood

# Field and Bale Stack Burning Permit

**Before you light the fire, please read and understand the responsibilities and risks you take on by obtaining this fire permit.**

## **FIRE PERMITS ARE REQUIRED BY LAW**

Other than campfire and Municipal approved incinerators, any person lighting a fire for any purpose must have a valid fire permit.

Permits are available through the MD Ag Fieldman or the MD of Taber website [www.mdtaber.ab.ca](http://www.mdtaber.ab.ca)

**When burning a field or bale stack an inspection must be completed by the Ag Fieldman before a permit will be released. A minimum of 24 hours' notice is required during business days Monday – Friday. Burn permits are not processed on weekends or statutory holidays.**

## **WHEN ARE PERMITS REQUIRED?**

Fire permits are required year round, January 1st to December 31st inclusive. There are, however, provisions for a total ban on fires when required if the risk or danger of fires exists due to weather conditions. Any such bans will be announced through the press, radio, television, MD of Taber website and social media accounts.

## **GET A FIRE PERMIT**

Adhere strictly to the conditions stated on your fire permit. You may be liable for fire suppression costs or penalties as provided by law for any damage that may occur while burning or for failing to comply with the conditions as stated on your fire permit.

A fire permit is valid only for the period, which it is issued.

Upon issuing a permit, a fire guardian may specify any special fire control condition, which in his discretion, is important to safety.

The Municipal Council, for the purpose of fire control, may suspend or cancel all permits or prohibit the lighting of fires in any part or all of the Municipal District of Taber.

Upon suspension or cancellation of any permit, the person concerned must extinguish immediately any fire set according to his permit.

The general public may be notified of suspension or cancellation of fire permits through the press, radio, television, MD of Taber website and social media accounts. Upon such notification, all fires lit under the authority of a permit or any fire under the control or jurisdiction of a permit holder must be extinguished immediately.

## **REGULATIONS YOU NEED TO FOLLOW**

The fire must be set during the time and place indicated on the permit.

The number of fires set at one time and minimum equipment needed may be specified on the permit.

A fire permit is a legal document, which conditionally authorizes a person to burn debris at a time period specified on the permit. By obtaining a fire permit you have simply indicated your wish to burn. The responsibility for conducting a safe burn is yours.

Anyone who sets a field / bale stack fire under authority of a permit must:

- e) Call Taber police service to report the burn before you light the fire 403 223 8991
- f) Extinguish the fire before expiration or upon cancellation of the permit, or obtain a renewal
- g) Be able to produce and show the permit or the permit number to a MD of Taber CPO or a Regional Fire Service officer upon request
- h) Call Taber Police service to report your burn as "out" 403 223 8991

## **FIRE CONTROL**

Before lighting any field fires / bale stacks, a permit holder must have the pre-inspection completed as well as the following safety precautions in place before a permit is issued.

### **The fire must be monitored and kept under control at all times.**

1. Disk around the area to make a fire guard, be sure the fireguards are wide enough so the fire cannot cross over, large fires can carry sparks a considerable distance in the wind. It is a requirement that the tractor and disc remain on site in case the fire gets out of hand.
2. Do not light a fire when the wind is blowing at gusts of more than 20 km/hour according Environment Canada website for your specific area.  
[https://weather.gc.ca/forecast/canada/index\\_e.html?id=AB](https://weather.gc.ca/forecast/canada/index_e.html?id=AB)
3. Have a water truck, adequate water supply and manpower on hand.
4. Have fire extinguishers available
5. Be on the lookout for additional spot fires
6. Light only as much as you can keep under control with the equipment you have on hand.
7. When your burn is completed, speed up final extinguishing by dispersing and soaking any smoldering ash or accumulation of burned debris. Fires can remain dormant in large piles for long periods of time and usually surface when fire hazard conditions are extreme.
8. Persistent hot spots, left to burn out, must be well guarded. Continue to check completed burning projects to be sure no holdover fires are present.

At the discretion of the fire guardian an allowance regarding disking and water supply may be granted if there is a presence of heavy snowfall on the ground or extremely wet conditions.



**REMEMBER! WHEN YOU ARE WORKING WITH FIRE, ONE WRONG  
MOVE CAN MEAN DISASTER.**

## **Items PERMITTED to Burn**

Section 1(1) (d) of the Substance Release Regulation AR 124/93 of the Environmental Protection Enhancement Act which regulates the release of substances into the environment including the release into air, water and land states:

- iii) straw and stubble
- iv) grass and weeds
- ii) leaves and tree pruning's
- x) brush and fallen trees on newly cleared land or associated with logging operations
- xi) used power, telegraph and telephone poles that do not contain wood preservatives
- xii) wooden materials, which do not contain wood preservatives, from the construction or demolition of buildings
- xiii) solid waste from sawmills or planing mills with an annual production of less than 9500 cubic metres of lumber
- xiv) solid waste from post and pole operations that does not contain wood preservatives
- xv) solid waste from tree harvesting operations

## **Items NOT PERMITTED to Burn**

Section 2(1) (n) of the Activities Designation Regulation AR 211/96, "Prohibited debris" means any inflammable waste that, when burned, may result in the release to the atmosphere of dense smoke, offensive odours or toxic substances and includes BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO the following materials that **MAY NOT** be burned:

- i) Repeales AR 184/99 s2
- ii) animal manure
- iii) pathological waste
- iv) non-wooden material
- v) wood preservatives
- vi) combustible material in automobiles bodies
- vii) tires
- viii) rubber or plastic, or anything containing or coated with rubber or plastic or similar substances, except rubber or plastic attached to shredded scrap steel
- ix) solid waste from sawmills or planing mills with an annual production in excess of 9500 cubic metres of lumber
- x) used oil
- xi) wood or wood products containing substances for the purpose of preserving wood

**SCHEDULE "E" – FALSE ALARM AND CONTROLLED BURN WITHOUT PERMIT CHARGES**

For false alarms and controlled burns without a permit the following charges will apply:

First offence \$150.00

Second offence \$250.00

Third offence \$500.00



**Brief Description of Incident:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Actions Taken to Mitigate Incident:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Owner:** \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Occupant:** \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Owner/Occupant Notified?**       No       Yes: By whom? \_\_\_\_\_

Utilities

**Electric:** On  Off  Provider: \_\_\_\_\_ Arrival Time: \_\_\_\_\_

**Gas:** On  Off  Provider: \_\_\_\_\_ Arrival Time: \_\_\_\_\_

**Water:** On  Off  Provider: \_\_\_\_\_ Arrival Time: \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Agencies**

RCMP:      Member: \_\_\_\_\_      File No. \_\_\_\_\_

Other F.D.: \_\_\_\_\_      Officer: \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Agent: \_\_\_\_\_      Policy No: \_\_\_\_\_

**Safety Codes Officer/Investigation Required?**       Yes       No

If Yes, Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Time Notified? \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Notes/Unusual Events:**

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Completed By: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_