What do Fire Restrictions Mean to Me?

Stage I Restrictions:

Under **Stage 1** fire restrictions, the following activities are prohibited:

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire or campfire except within a developed recreation site or improved site.
2. Smoking is prohibited, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, or a developed recreation site or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials.

Exemptions: Stage I

1. Persons with a written permit that specifically authorizes the activities prohibited within the fire restrictions.
2. Person using a devise solely fueled by liquid petroleum or LPG fuels that can be turned on and off.
3. Persons conducting activities prohibited within the fire restrictions that possess written authorization from the appropriate land management agency.
4. Any Federal, State or local office or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.
5. All land with in a city boundary is exempted.
6. Other exemptions unique to each agency/tribe.

Stage II Restrictions:

Under **Stage 2** fire restrictions, the following activities are prohibited:

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using fire or campfire are prohibited.
2. Smoking is prohibited, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, or a developed recreation site or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials.
3. Operating motorized vehicle off designated roads and trails.
4. The following activities are allowed only during certain hours. Allowable hours of operation differ from county to county, so please check with your local land management office or fire department to comply with your county restrictions.
    a) Operating a chainsaw, or other equipment powered by an internal combustion engine, please have 5-10 ft. clearance of all flammable materials around your generators and other internal combustible engines
    b) Welding or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame is prohibited.
    c) Using an explosive.

The person performing the activities is required for ensuring a fire patrol of one to two hours is performed after the activities listed in the exemptions above have ended.

Exemptions: Stage 2

1. Persons with a written permit that specifically authorizes the activities prohibited within the fire restrictions.
2. Persons using a fire solely fueled by liquid petroleum or LPG that can and turned on and off.
    a) Such devices can only be used in an area that is barren or cleared of all overhead and surrounding flammable material within 3 feet of the device.
3. Operating generators with an approved spark arresting device within an enclosed vehicle or building or in an area that barren or cleared of all over head and surrounding flammable materials within 3 feet of the generator.
4. Operating motorized vehicles on designated roads and trails.
5. Emergency repair of public utilities and railroads as per attached conditions
6. Persons possessing written authorization conducting specific activities listed within the fire restriction and with areas affected by fire restrictions.
7. Any Federal, State or local office or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.
8. All land with in a city boundary is exempted.
9. Other exemptions unique to each agency/tribe.

VIOLATIONS and LIABILITIES: for Both Stages I and 2 Fire Restrictions:

- The use of petroleum-fueled stoves, lanterns or heating devices is allowed, providing such devices meet the fire underwriter's specifications for safety.
- Operating or using any internal or external combustion engine without a properly installed and maintained spark arresting device is prohibited during both stages of fire restrictions.
- The use of fireworks is prohibited during both stages of fire restrictions.
- You can be fined up to $5,000 individually or $10,000 for an organization and imprisonment up to 6 months for violating restrictions and closures.
- You can be held liable for all suppressions costs and damages if it is determined that your actions cause a wildfire start.
- An exemption does not absolve an individual or organization from liability or responsibility for any fires started by the exempted activity.

ANSWERS TO COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING FIRE RESTRICTIONS:

Q. Can I use my charcoal grill or propane stove?

A. Use of campfires, charcoal grills and stove (wood, charcoal, and coal burning) are prohibited. Any stove or grill that will leave a hot coal or ash is prohibited. Persons using a fire solely fueled by liquid petroleum or LPG that can be turned on and off are allowed.

Q. Can I have a campfire if I clear the dry grass away from my camp?

A. Under Stage 1 fire restrictions, campfires are only allowed in developed campsites or improved sites. Improved sites are those that utilize a metal ring installed into the ground. Fires in dispersed sites are prohibited under both fire restriction levels, even if all burnable material is cleared away from the campsite.

Q. Can I burn my tikki torches

A. Tikkki torches are prohibited because they utilize a wick and open flame.

Q. Can I smoke if I put it the cigarette out when I'm finished?

A. Smoking is permitted within an enclosed vehicle or building or within a developed recreation site or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials. All other locations within the boundaries of the fire restrictions are prohibited.

Q. Can I attend a campfire if I'm not the person who started it?

A. Under Stage 1 fire restrictions, a campfire is allowed in developed or improved campsites. However, under Stage 2 fire restrictions, even attending a campfire is prohibited and a fine may be imposed.

Q. During fire restrictions, how am I supposed to cook my food while I am camping?

A. Stoves or grills utilizing liquid petroleum or LPG that can be turned off and leave no hot residue is allowed. During Stage 2 fire restrictions, heat generating devices can only be used an area void of burnable material such as overhanging limbs and grass within 3' of the device.

Q. How much can I be fined if I violate the fire restrictions?

A. You can be fined up to $5,000 individually or $10,000 per organization, plus up to six months in prison. Also, if it is determined that your actions caused a wildfire, you can be held liable for the cost of suppressing the fire. It's just not worth it!