WILDFIRE PREVENTION & RESPONSE GUIDE

FIRE RISK REDUCTION

- ◯ Mow grass and brush along all internal roads and around tree lots
- ◯ Avoid mowing or trimming after 10 a.m. on high-risk days
- ◯ Remove all slash piles, old pallets, dry debris, and dead wood
- ◯ Maintain 3–6m wide bare soil or mineral strips along boundaries
- ◯ Ensure breaks are free of flammable vegetation and regularly cleared

SAFE EQUIPMENT USE

- ◯ Avoid using chainsaws, brush cutters, or tractors after 10 a.m. during extreme fire conditions
- ◯ Use machinery only when absolutely necessary during high-risk periods
- ◯ All engines and chainsaws are fitted with spark arrestors
- ◯ Each vehicle and machine has a working fire extinguisher or water source
- ◯ Carry a shovel and fire rake on every vehicle in the field

EMERGENCY WATER SUPPLY

- ◯ A water tank or tote (minimum 500 gallons) is filled and ready
- ◯ Water pump (gas or PTO) is operational and nearby
- ◯ Quick access is available to ponds, dugouts, or streams
- ◯ Hose, back-pack pumps, shovels, rakes, and other tools are prepped
- ◯ Tools are stored in a marked, accessible firefighting kit

SITE ACCESS & SIGNAGE

- ◯ All access roads and trails are kept clear and wide enough for fire trucks
- ◯ A visible 911 civic address sign is posted at the property entrance
- ◯ Map of property with field layout is available for responders
- ◯ “No Smoking” signs are posted in all work, storage, and parking areas

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STAFF TRAINING & PLANNING

- ◯ Workers are trained to spot and report fire hazards
- ◯ A fire emergency plan is in place (muster point, evacuation routes, emergency numbers)
- ◯ Staff are briefed regularly on their roles and the emergency plan to ensure readiness

MONITORING & ALERTS

- ◯ Burn bans and fire risk levels are checked daily: https://novascotia.ca/burnsafe
- ◯ Subscribe to NS Emergency Alerts or installed the Alertable app
- ◯ Regularly monitor Fire Weather Index (FWI) and local forecasts
- ◯ Consider use of FireSmart or wildfire monitoring apps

IN THE EVENT OF A WILDFIRE

- ◯ Call 911 immediately; clearly provide your location, type and size of fire, any injuries, access points, & stay on the line until advised to disconnect.
- ◯ Only attempt to control fire if it is very small and safe to do so
- ◯ Evacuate all workers and account for everyone

POST-SEASON MITIGATION

- ◯ Remove leftover brush, pallets, and flammable waste before winter
- ◯ Thin dense tree stands to reduce fuel load for next season
- ◯ Assess your site and develop a long-term wildfire plan

RESOURCES

Burn Restrictions & Fire Index: https://novascotia.ca/burnsafe
FireSmart Canada: https://firesmartcanada.ca
NS Wildfire Info: https://novascotia.ca/wildfire

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