

Comox Valley FIRE BAN Information
For immediate Release
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COMOX VALLEY EXHIBITION ANNOUNCES 2015 FIRE PROTECTION PLAN

The Comox Valley Exhibition in partnership with the Comox Valley Regional District and the City of Courtenay announce their 2015 strategic fire safety plan for the Comox Valley Exhibition Grounds; focusing on increased fire prevention, education, public safety, additional onsite water resources and a heightened presence from fire department staff. Fire safety has always been of the utmost importance at the Comox Valley Exhibition, and this year existing resources will be boosted due to the extreme fire hazard warning placed on the Comox Valley. To reduce the risk of fires in the campground and food prep areas, festival organizers have placed a fire ban on propane fire pits and charcoal cooking devices. Cooking appliances must be 4 feet off of the ground at all times or they will not be permitted, such as cook stoves and barbecues.

A member of the Courtenay Fire Department will be on site to ensure all fire regulation are compliant. Accessible water stations throughout the Comox Valley Exhibition Grounds, around the clock security and clearly marked designated smoking areas will greatly increase the safety of the event and reduce the risk of fires. In addition, there will be 35,000 gallons of water available (3 Comox Valley Exhibition water events) for use in case of emergencies.

Kurt MacDonald, Courtenay Deputy Fire Chief has stipulated:

- Fires are not permitted on the site
- A fire extinguisher must be readily available when using a barbeque
- Barbeques must not be used on the ground
- All power distribution centres equipped with faucets must also have a hose attached or a 5 gallon bucket available (with a combination of each throughout the grounds)

The Comox Valley Exhibition Team reminds everyone to please enjoy the exhibition safely and responsibly. If you are a smoker, exhibition organizers ask that you ensure that all cigarette butts and matches are safely disposed of in a proper receptacle and never placed on the ground. If you wish to bring a cook stove or barbecue, these apparatuses must be 4 feet off of the ground and have someone watching the stove and tending to food at all times.