



General Outdoor Fire Ban

The general outdoor fire ban forbids the lighting of any type of fire. The aim is to prevent field and forest fires where there is a high risk of wildfires.

Rules

Open flames are completely forbidden under a general outdoor fire ban, aside from uses in specific circumstances.

Outside the forest area, fire may be used for food preparation (permanently installed barbecue facilities, gas or electric grills), provided that the fire is supervised constantly and means of putting out the fire are available if need be (fire extinguisher, water hose, etc.).

Consequences

Remember that lighting a fire or operating a barbecue creates smoke which may compel someone to alert the fire services. In such a case, the fire services are officially obliged to turn up and intervene if necessary.

It goes without saying that any person who lights a fire bears complete responsibility for it and will be liable for any resulting costs and damages.

The responsible authorities reserve the right in any case to prevent the use of installed barbecue facilities and grills and to issue a fire ban for certain areas for an indefinite period of time.

In case of fire always alert the fire brigade immediately by calling 118!

The following inexhaustive list indicates the activities which are and are not permitted under a general fire ban:



Permitted activities

- ✓ Use of mobile gas or electric barbecues. They must be operated on a solid, non-combustible surface (e.g. concrete, flagstones, etc.);
- ✓ Closed wood fires (wood-fired oven, soapstone stoves, Swedish stoves, etc.) in a house, holiday home, or cabin with a smoke flue which meets the guidelines of the Swiss Association for Canton Fire Insurance Companies (VKF);

All these activities must be carried out under constant adult supervision, taking appropriate safety measures according to the situation. Necessary equipment (fire extinguisher, water hose, etc.) is to be kept ready for use.



Activities which are not permitted

- × The use of all types of mobile barbecues which burn wood or coal, including disposable barbecues;
- × The use of fixed barbecues which burn wood or coal in open or partially open shelters, even when equipped with VKF-compliant smoke flues;
- × The use of permanently installed fire pits (wood or coal). This includes both official, public fire pits and those in cabins, in the Alps, and on campsites;
- × Fires which are in direct contact with the ground;
- × The use of machinery which produces sparks which could set alight vegetation (welding torches, blowtorches, angle grinders, etc.);
- × The disposal of ash and barbecue waste outdoors;

These rules should inform everyone across the whole district of the applicable measures and code of conduct under a general fire ban.