



Wildfire Danger in the White Mountain NF

Frequently Asked Questions



- 1.) Is hiking, picnicking and camping still allowed in the White Mountain NF with the current fire danger?

Answer: Yes, as long as forest visitors follow current fire restrictions.

- 2.) What are the current fire restrictions?

Answer: Campfires are prohibited, except in designated developed recreation areas and campgrounds. **NO** Fires allowed in the following dispersed recreation sites: Tripoli Rd., Cherry Mountain, Gale River loop. Nor in Wilderness or back country areas. If it is not on the list of allowed campgrounds below a fire is **NOT** allowed.

- 3.) Which designated recreation areas and campgrounds are allowing campfires?

Answer:

Barnes Field Group Campground

Crocker Pond Campground

Dolly Copp Campground

Hastings Campground

Wild River Campground

Big Rock Campground

Campton Campground

Hancock Campground

Osceola Vista Campground/Group Campground

Russell Pond Campground

Sugarloaf I Campground

Sugarloaf II Campground

Waterville Campground

Wildwood Campground

Zealand Campground

Basin Campground

Blackberry Crossing Campground

Cold River Campground

Covered Bridge Campground

Jigger Johnson Campground

Passaconaway Campground

White Ledge Campground

4th Iron

- 4.) Within these designated developed recreation areas and campsites, where can I build a campfire.

Answer: These restrictions allow fires only in U.S. Forest Service provided metal fire rings, metal fire pits or pole mounted grills at designated campgrounds or picnic areas.

Will my fire be completely safe in the Forest Service metal campfire ring pits?

Answer: It will be legal and safer; however you should always have a shovel and bucket of water on hand to use in the event your campfire should get out of control. **NEVER LEAVE YOUR CAMPFIRE UNATTENDED!!**

For information on fire restrictions go to:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/whitemountain>



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5.) What should I do when it is time to extinguish my campfire?

Answer: Always drown your campfire with plenty of water. Stir the coals with the shovel, and add more water. You should be able to place your bare hand on the cooled coals and feel no heat. If no heat is detected then your fire is “out cold”!

6.) It's been raining and it's cold, can I make a campfire at my dispersed, non-developed camping site?

Answer: No, there has not been sufficient rainfall to completely eliminate the risk of wildfire. If you want to build a campfire, you will need to abide by the fire restrictions issued by the forest supervisor. Campfires can only be built in designated, developed camping sites. In those sites, the metal campfire ring provided by the forest service must be used. This will ensure fire safety.

7.) Do the State campgrounds have fire restrictions too?

Answer: Each agency has their own set of guidelines and restrictions. Be sure to contact the state park authorities for further information and guidance.

8.) Who ordered the fire restrictions?

Answer: The White Mountain National Forest Supervisor orders the fire restrictions based on drought conditions and increased wildfire occurrence.

9.) What should I do if I see someone being careless with fire on the White Mountain NF?

Answer: The public is encouraged to report illegal campfires, as well as smoke reports, to your local White Mountain NF District Office or call 911.

- Androscoggin Ranger District: 603-466-2713
- Saco Ranger District: 603-477-5488
- Pemigewasset Ranger District: 603-536-6100

10.) Can I still hike and enjoy the trails throughout the White Mountain NF?

Answer: ABSOLUTELY, but please hike safely and remember no fire use along the trail system. Should you see someone using fire along the trail please report it to the numbers listed above.

PLEASE TAKE EVERYTHING YOU BRING WITH YOU, BACK HOME WITH YOU! DO NOT LEAVE TRASH, INCLUDING HUMAN WASTE, IN THE FOREST!

Enjoy your time in the forest, but leave no trace of your visit!!

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