



UNIT FIREGUARD PLAN

HOW YOUR UNIT FIREGUARD PLAN WORKS

DUTIES

When you arrived at camp, you were oriented and trained in the use of the unit fireguard plan. It is your responsibility as a unit leader to train your unit members in fire prevention, fire detection, reporting, and fire control. Only implement fire control techniques that can be done quickly and safely.

Study the procedures outlined on this chart and then train your staff and youth members. Post the chart for all to see and follow. At some camps local changes are made in these suggested procedures. All exceptions, however, should be made on the written recommendation and with the approval of local fire authorities.

Organize to make the fireguard plan work by appointing capable fire wardens and deputies.

FIRE WARDENS AND DEPUTIES

The unit leader for each campsite assigns a unit fire warden and deputy, who may serve for the entire camp session or alternate with others. For Cub Scout camps, these should be adults. Youth leaders fill those functions at Boy Scout and Venturing camps under adult supervision.

Everyone in the unit should feel responsible for fire prevention, but additional personnel may be assigned daily to assist the unit fire warden and deputy during a fire emergency or drill with accounting for everyone in the unit and conducting an evacuation. In Cub Scout camps, parents and/or den chiefs may be assigned to help. For Scout camps, patrol leaders are logical choices. For small treks, the entire crew may be made responsible.

The unit fire warden and the deputy:

- Train all unit members in the fireguard plan
- Know where all fire equipment is located
- Complete this unit fireguard chart

- Verify that all cooking, heating, and campfires are completely out when not attended
- Conduct a fire drill once a week at the direction of the camp fire warden
- Report any fire hazards to the camp fire warden, immediately
- Are ready to evacuate and account for everyone in the event of an emergency
- Check fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, and carbon monoxide detectors if the unit sleeps in cabins

If a small fire breaks out, the person discovering it should take immediate action. Time is the most important element in the suppression of a fire.

Some examples of fire control techniques are:

- **Immediately send someone to seek assistance, send a runner for help, and/or dial the camp office or 911.**
- **Douse fire with water or sand.**
- **Smother fire with a lid.**
- **In the event of a canvas tent fire, simply kick out the end tent poles if it can be done safely.**

Remember: Campers should not be involved in firefighting.

In making daily inspections of the unit campsite, the unit fire warden should follow the fire-prevention suggestions found throughout this chart as a guide. Campsite equipment will vary according to your camp. Results of the daily inspection should be posted on the chart in the space provided.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®



POLICY ON THE STORAGE, HANDLING, AND USE OF CHEMICAL FUELS AND EQUIPMENT

PURPOSE

This policy directs Boy Scouts of America members how to safely store, handle, and use chemical fuels and equipment. Safety and environmental awareness concerns have persuaded many campers to move away from traditional outdoor campfires in favor of chemical-fueled equipment for cooking, heating, and lighting. Be aware that chemical fuels and equipment create very different hazards than traditional wood, charcoal, and other solid fuels; this policy defines how to address those hazards.

Before any chemical fuels or chemical-fueled equipment is used, an adult knowledgeable about chemical fuels and equipment, including regulatory requirements, should resolve any hazards not specifically addressed within this policy.

DEFINITIONS

Chemical Fuels—Liquid, gaseous, or gelled fuels.

Approved Chemical-Fueled Equipment—Commercially manufactured equipment, including stoves, grills, burners, heaters, and lanterns, that is designed to be used with chemical fuels.

Prohibited Chemical-Fueled Equipment—Equipment that is handcrafted, homemade, modified, or installed beyond the manufacturer's stated design limitations or use. Examples include alcohol-burning "can" stoves, smudge pots, improperly installed heaters, and propane burners with their regulators removed.

Recommended Chemical Fuels—White gas (Coleman fuel); kerosene; liquefied petroleum gas fuels, including propane, butane, and isobutane; vegetable oil fuels; biodiesel fuel; and commercially prepared gelled-alcohol fuel in original containers.

Chemical Fuels not Recommended—Unleaded gasoline; liquid alcohol fuels, including isopropyl alcohol, denatured ethyl alcohol, and ethanol; and other flammable chemicals that are not in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions for chemical-fueled equipment.

STORING, HANDLING, AND USING CHEMICAL FUELS AND EQUIPMENT

- An adult knowledgeable about chemical fuels and equipment should always supervise youth involved in the storage, handling, and use of chemical fuels and equipment.
- Operate and maintain chemical-fueled equipment according to the manufacturer's instructions and in facilities or areas only where and when permitted.
- Using liquid fuels for starting any type of fire—including lighting damp wood, charcoal, and ceremonial campfires or displays—is prohibited.
- No flames in tents. This includes burning any solid, liquid, gel, or gas fuel; including tents or teepees that feature or support stoves or fires; and any chemical-fueled equipment or catalytic heaters.
- Store chemical fuels in their original containers or in containers designed for immediate use. Securely store any spare fuel away from sources of ignition, buildings, and tents.
- During transport and storage, properly secure chemical fuel containers in an upright, vertical position.

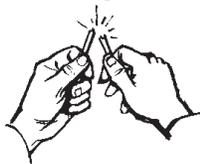


Unit Fireguard Chart

Fill out and post this chart.

Unit	Unit leader
Camp	Unit campsite
Dates	

We will prevent fires by:



Breaking matches in two after using.



Putting fires COLD OUT with water.



Feeling with fingers to test heat.



Clearing all burnable material 4 to 6 feet away from the fire or as required by law.

FLAMMABILITY WARNING CAMPING SAFETY RULES

NO TENT MATERIAL IS FIREPROOF, AND IT CAN BURN WHEN EXPOSED TO HEAT OR FIRE. FOLLOW THESE RULES:

- Only flashlights and battery-powered lanterns are permitted in tents. **NO FLAMES IN TENTS** is a rule that must be enforced.
- Stoves, heaters, lanterns, lighted candles, matches, or other flame sources should **never** be used in or near tents.
- Do not pitch tents near open fire.
- Do not use flammable/combustible chemicals near tents or open flames: hand sanitizer, bug killer or repellent, or spray cans of paint, deodorant, or hair spray.
- Use a ground-fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) when using outlets or extension cords to supply electrical power to tents.
- Always extinguish cooking and campfires properly.
- Obey all fire laws, ordinances, and regulations.
- Keep campers informed on a daily basis of your camp's fire danger.

All Scouts should immediately seek adult help, sound the alarm by yelling "Fire!", and not attempt to fight any fire. If adult help is not readily available, the Scout(s) should continue to sound the alarm, send a runner for help, and/or dial the camp office or 911.



Boy Scouts should earn the Fireman's Chit before they are allowed to start and attend fires.

TYPICAL FIRE DANGER SIGNS IN CAMP



**Unit Campsite
Fire Prevention Assignments**

First-Day Warden: _____
 Fire Danger Level: _____
 Equipment Checked (Y/N): _____
 Fire Hazards Noted and Reported
 (Y/N): _____

Second-Day Warden: _____
 Fire Danger Level: _____
 Equipment Checked (Y/N): _____
 Fire Hazards Noted and Reported
 (Y/N): _____

Third-Day Warden: _____
 Fire Danger Level: _____
 Equipment Checked (Y/N): _____
 Fire Hazards Noted and Reported
 (Y/N): _____

Fourth-Day Warden: _____
 Fire Danger Level: _____
 Equipment Checked (Y/N): _____
 Fire Hazards Noted and Reported
 (Y/N): _____

Fifth-Day Warden: _____
 Fire Danger Level: _____
 Equipment Checked (Y/N): _____
 Fire Hazards Noted and Reported
 (Y/N): _____

Sixth-Day Warden: _____
 Fire Danger Level: _____
 Equipment Checked (Y/N): _____
 Fire Hazards Noted and Reported
 (Y/N): _____

Seventh-Day Warden: _____
 Fire Danger Level: _____
 Equipment Checked (Y/N): _____
 Fire Hazards Noted and Reported
 (Y/N): _____



SOUND ALARM



**DROP CANVAS TENTS IF
NECESSARY AND SAFE
TO DO SO**

IN CASE OF FIRE

Reporting and Assembly Instructions

At some camps, local changes are made in these suggested procedures. All exceptions, however, should be made on the recommendation and with the approval of local fire authorities.

IN A UNIT CAMPSITE

1. Sound the alarm by yelling "Fire!" and then notify the first adult you see, then report to a camp officer or the camp fire warden.
2. Extinguish a fire only if it can be done quickly and safely.
3. When the central alarm is sounded to warn the camp, quickly mobilize in your unit. Move to your preassigned point immediately and await directions.
4. A runner reports to the camp office for instructions from the camp fire warden.
5. In the event of a tent fire, drop the tent if it's safe to do so and let professionals fight the fire.

OUTSIDE UNIT CAMPSITE

1. If you discover a fire anywhere in camp, report immediately to the camp office so the alarm may be sounded and fire authorities notified.
2. Camp fire warden sounds the central alarm, and your unit follows steps 3 and 4 above.
3. Remember: Campers should not be directly involved in the firefighting process.

In case of a fire in our campsite,

we will notify _____

Camp fire warden

and follow the instructions of our unit fire warden.

Firem'n Chit Requirements

This certification grants a Cub Scout the right to carry fire-lighting devices (matches, lighters, etc.) to build campfires under adult supervision. The Cub Scout must show their Scout leader an understanding of the responsibility to do the following:

1. I have read and understand use and safety rules from the Scouts BSA Handbook.
2. I will build a campfire only when necessary and when I have the necessary permits (regulations vary by locality).
3. I will minimize campfire impacts or use existing fire lays consistent with the principles of Leave No Trace. I will check to see that all flammable material is cleared at least 5 feet in all directions from fire (total 10 feet).
4. I will safely use and store fire-starting materials.
5. I will see that fire is attended to at all times.
6. I will make sure that water and/or a shovel is readily available. I will promptly report any wildfire to the proper authorities.
7. I will use the cold-out test to make sure the fire is cold out and will make sure the fire lay is cleaned before I leave it.
8. I follow the Outdoor Code, the Guide to Safe Scouting, and the principles of Leave No Trace and Tread Lightly!

The Cub Scout's "Firem'n Rights" can be taken away if they fail in their responsibility, and the Firem'n Chit must be re-earned after crossover into the Scouts BSA program.

Pack 601 Cub Scout Fire Safety Rules

- Stay outside the fire ring. Do not even touch it when a fire is lit. If you are not cooking, stay away from lit camp stoves.
- Walk calmly around campfires and lit camp stoves, and take play elsewhere.
- Once it's in, it stays in.
- Only put things into the fire with permission.
- Move sticks gently and slowly, even if there's burning food on them.
- Keep stick tips away from people.