

# Tips For a Safe Controlled Burn



As a farmer, there are times when you have no choice but to start a controlled fire to burn things like windrows, grass, stubble and piles.

Before you burn, please consult your local RM Office to verify no fire ban is in place for your area and call and report your activity to the Control Burn line at 1-866-404-4911. If you plan to burn within 4 km of a provincial forest, please call your local fire base.

## **Dry grass, grain/hay fields and pastureland**

Reducing dry grass, hay and stubble will help prevent a yard fire from spreading, or stop a fire from entering your yard.

## **Barn barrels and fire pits**

Never leave your barn barrel or fire pit unattended when not in use.

## **Windrows**

Avoid building windrows on swamps/bogs and use a brush rake or excavator to reduce the amount of dirt in the rows.

## **Grass and stubble**

Blade or plow down to mineral soil, at least five metres around your burn, to create a guard that keeps the fire from spreading.

## **Piles**

Burn when there is no snow cover and frozen ground, whenever possible — and always re-pile and re-burn, if necessary, until the pile is completely gone.

## **When to burn**

The early mid-morning or late afternoon is your best time to burn.

## **When not to burn**

Do not burn under extremely dry conditions, at the end of the day, or when the forecast calls for high temperatures or windy conditions

## **Mow your lawn**

Short, green grass can help prevent the spread of grass fires.