



## THE BURNING ISSUES

### TIPS WHEN LIGHTING FIRES IN THE OPEN AIR

#### **Fuel:**

Plan to light stumps and heavy fuels after the end of summer because they can burn and smoulder for weeks (burn after the dry season when Fire Dangers are low).

#### **Permits:**

Always obey permit conditions.

#### **Fire Breaks:**

Clear at least 3 metres around the area to be burnt to stop the fire escaping. Larger fires require wider fire breaks – seek advice.

#### **Notification:**

Notify neighbours and the Rural Fire Authority on the day you are undertaking large burns to avoid confusion that your burn is a wildfire requiring a 111 response.

#### **Environmental:**

Check with your Regional Council for any smoke emission or other Resource Management Act constraints before burning.  
Do not burn plastics, rubber or toxins.

#### **Smoke:**

Ensure smoke from your burn does not create a nuisance or smoke hazard to others.

#### **Weather:**

Before lighting up check the long range weather forecast (48 hour) and ensure light winds are forecast. Windy conditions spell trouble and weather conditions can quickly change.

#### **Supervision:**

Fires often scape when no one is present. It is a legal requirement to supervise and patrol your fire until it is completely out.

#### **Be Prepared:**

Fires do escape! Have fire fighting equipment and a good water supply handy.

If you need further advice or help please make contact with us on the numbers below:

**0800 OK 2 LIGHT**  
**0800 065 2 54448**

**ENQUIRE@TRFA.CO.NZ**