

Residential Indoor Wood Burning Bylaw

The Metro Vancouver Regional District enacted the Residential Indoor Wood Burning Bylaw in March 2020.

Each year from September 16 to May 14, to use a residential indoor wood burning appliance, owners and operators must:

- Follow Best Burning Practices (see below); and
- Submit a declaration of Best Burning Practices, and for urban homes register eligible appliances, by September 15, 2022.

Residential indoor wood burning is prohibited from May 15 to September 15, every year, unless it is the sole source of heat or it occurs in an off-grid home located outside the Urban Containment Boundary.

The bylaw does not apply if there is an emergency (such as a gas or electrical outage lasting 3 hours or more).

How to Follow Best Burning Practices



Use only clean, seasoned wood



Don't let your fire smoulder



Don't burn garbage, plastic or treated wood



Inspect and maintain your appliance



Burn small + hot fires



No visible emissions except when starting a fire



The Bylaw Introduces Phased-in Requirements



Best Burning Practices

Must be used when burning is allowed
(Examples: clean, dry wood, small, hot fires,
do not burn garbage).

**Starting
May 2021**

Seasonal Prohibition

You cannot burn between May 15 and September 15
each year, unless it is your sole source of heat, you are
in an off-grid rural home, or during an emergency.

**Starting
September 2022**

Declarations and Registration

If you burn, you must declare your use of best
burning practices and, in urban areas, register
eligible appliances.

**Starting
September 2025**

Renewal and Restricted Use

Every three years:
You must renew any declarations and
registrations in urban areas. You cannot use
non-registered appliances within urban areas
except if your house-hold qualifies as low
income or during an emergency.

For more information go to
www.metrovancouver.org and
search 'residential wood burning'.



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