



LTL FIRE SAFETY

LIGHT THE LAKES

Fire Safety

Briefing

To Team Leader

Light the Lakes Fire safety outdoors - Flares, camping, countryside

Fire safety shouldn't stop when you leave your home. Carelessness outdoors can have fatal results. Barbecues, camping and caravanning all pose fire hazards which can destroy areas of countryside and delicate ecosystems. Dry ground in the summer adds to the dangers but care should be taken all year round.

Flare safety

To light flare safely and avoid injuries or damage to property and wildlife, follow this advice:

- make sure your flare is in good working order, if it is damaged ask for a replacement.
- keep a bottle of water nearby
- make sure your flare has the fuse exposed correctly and is lit and held away from your body and not near any fences, trees and shrubs
- use only recommended lighters provided with welcome pack
- keep children, and pets away from lit flares
- never leave a lit flare unattended
- after using the flare, make sure it is cool before trying to move it
- don't leave flares on grass or wooden benches as they stay very hot after use
- never light a flare inside a tent
- never light a flare on or over dry or dead grass or vegetation
- Please ensure you check for glowing debris from the flare across the local area. The dry weather can pose an additional risk from the Tinder dry fells and it is important that you raise your awareness of the open flame at these times.
- Once flare has cooled down, ensure that you take the used flare with you and dispose of them at home or your place of stay and NOT in the National Park Lake District.

Camping safety

Follow these precautions while camping to reduce the risk of fire:

- make sure that tents are at least six metres apart
- keep a torch handy for emergencies - don't use a lit candle

- don't use candles in or near a tent - torches are safer
- keep matches and lighters out of children's reach
- store flammable liquids and gas cylinders outside the tent and away from children
- don't use oil-burning appliances in or near a tent
- keep cooking appliances away from the walls and roof and anywhere they can easily be knocked over - they should not be used in small tents
- keep your cooking area clear of flammable material, including long grass
- don't smoke inside tents
- have an escape plan and be prepared to cut your way out of your tent if there is a fire
- make sure everyone knows how to put out a clothing fire

If there's a fire

- fires in tents spread quickly - get everyone out immediately
- telephone the fire and rescue service and give the exact location we recommend using What3Words and give the 3 word reference if possible or provide a nearby landmark, such as a farm or pub

Countryside safety - wildfires

While carefully planned and controlled fires (which usually take place between 1 September to 14 April) can be used by farmers to improve their land for grazing, many wildfires start due to carelessness, for example people discarding lit cigarettes or leaving campfires unattended. Deliberate setting of wildfires is illegal and is a criminal offence.

How to reduce the risk of wildfires

Follow these tips to reduce the risks of wildfires in the countryside:

- extinguish cigarettes and other smoking materials properly
- never throw cigarette ends out of car windows – they can ruin whole fields of crops
- don't leave bottles or glass in woodlands – sunlight shining through glass can start fires - take them home or put them in a waste or recycling bin
- minimise using open fires in the countryside

What to do if you see a fire

If you see a fire in the countryside:

- report it immediately to the Fire and Rescue Service
- do not try to tackle the fire if it can't be put out with a bucket of water – leave the area as quickly as possible, and preferably move downhill as a fire will spread more quickly uphill

If you see someone setting a fire, report it immediately to the Police 999.

Wildfires put lives at risk

They can result in tragedy because they:

- put people in the line of the fire at risk, including people lighting the fire, walking or camping in the local area and those living nearby
- endanger the firefighters who tackle them

- put the lives of the local community at risk as dealing with these types of incidents can mean firefighters are diverted from other emergencies

Cost of wildfires

As well as the large monetary cost spent on fighting wildfires, they can also destroy valuable timber, increase the treatment costs for drinking water and cause farmers to lose livestock and grazing lands.

Wildfires make the countryside less attractive and enjoyable for people to visit and can destroy the wildlife living there:

- nests and the young of birds that nest on the ground are destroyed
- mammals such as red squirrel lose their forest homes
- small animals like the common lizard are killed
- landscapes are scorched and less attractive until they recover



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