

FIRE SAFETY

Clear area of all debris/avoid area with overhanging branches

Construct a fire ring surrounded by rocks

Have a bucket of water, shovel and a fire extinguisher nearby and ready to put out a fire

Gather wood and stack in separate piles away from fire area. Do not use green or freshly cut wood.

There are three different kinds of wood needed for a successful campfire

- Tinder - small twigs, wood shavings, dry leaves or grass, dry needles, bark or dryer lint. This should start to burn immediately with a lighted match.
- Kindling - small sticks 1" around or less
- Fuel- larger wood that keeps the fire going

Elements required for a fire to burn properly. When one of these three things are removed, the fire stops burning. Example -- Water cools fuel below ignition point, dirt cuts off the oxygen supply.

- Fuel- material that will burn
- Heat - enough heat to bring fuel to ignition
- Air - to provide oxygen to burning process

Directions

- Start with a couple hands full of tinder loosely piled in the center of your fire ring.
- With your back to the wind and match protected by the cup of your hand, ignite tinder with a match. Discard used match into the fire.
- Slowly add more tinder. You may need to blow softly at the base of the fire.
- Once the tinder has fully started to burn, slowly add some smaller pieces of kindling. Keep close together but allow space for air.
- Gradually increase the size of the kindling you add to the fire.
- When you have a good fire going, add the fuel one piece at a time as described below. Allow for adequate air flow.

Types of Fires

- Tepee Fire - good for quick cooking since the heat is concentrated in one spot. Lay the fuel over your kindling like a tepee.
- Crisscross Fire - good for a long lasting fire with a lot of coals. Excellent for a campfire. Lay the fuel over the kindling in a crisscross pattern.

Fire Starters

- Use pine cones covered with wax
 - Newspaper cut into strips (3"-4" wide). Roll up and tie with string. Cover with melted wax.
 - Take 100% cotton balls and thoroughly rub Vaseline into them. Keep in a ziplock bag.
 - Use lint from your dryer as a fire starter.
 - Bundle about 10-12 Diamond brand "strike-anywhere" wooden kitchen matches together with waxed dental floss. The heads of the matches should all be pointing in the same direction. Generously soak the bundle of matches (except heads) in melted paraffin wax to waterproof and to provide a long burn time. Dip heads lightly only to waterproof them. Simply strike on flat rock to ignite.
 - Newspaper crumbled into a ball
 - Use dried pine needles
- Note: When melting wax, only use a double boiler set up. Melted wax can easily ignite. Have a fire extinguisher handy in cause of emergency.**

Colorful Fire Starters and Fire Logs

You can add beautiful colors to your campfire while demonstrating the predictability and awesome design of God's world.

Fire Logs

- Select a large log and bore several holes about 1 inch in diameter in the log. Pack each hole with sawdust that has been soaked in a solution of one of the following chemicals. You may combine

several colors in one log, or have one log for each color. Either way you will have beautiful colored flames in your campfire. Most of the chemicals will be available at your local grocery store, hardware store or drug store.

- Calcium Chloride used to melt ice Orange
- Sodium Chloride (Table Salt) Yellow
- Potassium Nitrate (Salt Peter) Violet
- Copper Sulfate (Bluestone) used to treat disease in cattle feet Blue
- Cream of Tartar Violet
- Boric Acid Antiseptic Eye Wash (Borox) Green

Fire Cubes

Separate the cups of an egg carton by ripping or cutting in between them. Stuff the individual cups with the sawdust soaked in one or more of the chemical solutions. Set the little cups among the kindling and watch for the various colors to appear.

Safety with Fire

- NEVER build a fire near tents or other flammable items.
- NEVER use flammable fluids to start a fire.
- NEVER leave fire/camp stove/cooking unattended.
- Build a fire only as big as you need.
- Don't wear loose-fitting clothing when cooking
- Keep long hair tied back. Especially with children and roasting sticks.
- Keep combustibles away from the fire.
- Do not deep fat fry or Flambé with other objects less than 7 feet away.
- Remove trash accumulations regularly.
- Keep surfaces clean and free of grease.
- Keep a fire extinguisher on hand and know how to use it.
- [Check out the Smokey Bear website](http://www.smokeybear.com/) <http://www.smokeybear.com/>

Extinguishing a Fire

- Make sure to completely extinguish fire.
- Scatter ashes or embers out.
- Sprinkle with water. Stir with a stick. Repeat.
- Drench charred logs.
- Repeat until everything is cold.

Propane Safety

- Check for the smell of propane
- Check cylinders or tanks for exterior rust, dents and date
- Check that disconnected cylinders are plugged and piping is capped
- Check the liquid level gauge on the tank or cylinder
- Cylinders are stored outdoors or an open area in an upright position
- Have shut off valves firmly closed when the appliance is not being used
- Keep away from heat sources when not being used on a stove
- Make sure they are secured
- Make sure children know this is dangerous and not to touch.
- Keep out of reach of children when not in use and supervised when in use.