

# CAMPFIRE SAFETY



Every year, almost 90% of wildfires are caused by humans. The #1 cause of wildfires is unattended or improperly extinguished campfires. Choosing the right spot, keeping an eye on the fire, and proper extinguishment can help reduce the risk of uncontrolled wildfire or burn injuries.

## SETTING IT UP

- Before picking a spot, make sure campfires are allowed in your area and observe local red flag burn bans. Check with your local fire official.
- Set up the campfire at least 25 feet away from structures and anything that can burn.
- Clear away dry leaves and other natural ground vegetation within 10 feet of the campfire.
- Keep an eye on the weather and avoid burning on dry, windy days.
- Never leave a campfire unattended and keep it small.
- Never use gasoline or other combustible liquids to start the fire.
- Place chairs a safe distance from the fire.
- Supervise children and pets.
- Maintain a three-foot "kid-free zone" around the campfire.



## BE PREPARED

- Avoid wearing loose-fitting clothing that can accidentally catch fire.
- Always have a hose, bucket of water, or shovel to put out the fire.
- **STOP, DROP AND ROLL** if your clothes catch on fire.
- If you get burned, cool the burn with cool water for 3 - 5 minutes. Cover with a clean, dry cloth.
- Get medical help if needed.



## PUT OUT THE FIRE

- Make sure the fire is completely extinguished before leaving.
- Apply water or dirt to all coals/flames. Stir with a stick and pour more water or dirt. Make sure there is no heat, glow, or flames remaining.



Campfire Safety  
with Smokey Bear



**FIRE SAFE**  
South Carolina   
A COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION PROGRAM