


<b>Government of Alberta</b>  Transportation	<b>WILDFIRE PREVENTION SIGNS</b>		<i>Issued: MAR 2006</i>
			<i>Revised: MAR 2010</i>
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<b>RECOMMENDED PRACTICES</b>	PART A	HIGHWAY SIGNS	
	SECTION	MISCELLANEOUS SIGNS	
	SUB-SECTION	PUBLIC AWARENESS	

## General

Over the years Alberta has become a recognized leader in the area of fire management, planning and prevention.

Alberta's wildfire prevention philosophy focuses on mitigating the likelihood of large, high-intensity, high-severity fires and the risk associated with the use of fire in wilderness areas.

Wildfire Prevention signs are intended to raise public awareness about wildfire prevention in our province. The signs are informational and promotional in nature and provide information to the general public about provincial wildfire regulations and a telephone contact for use in emergency situations.

### *Eligibility*

Alberta Sustainable Resource Development (Forest Protection Division) is the initiator of the Wildfire Prevention sign program.

Alberta Sustainable Resource Development will need to apply for a permit from Alberta Transportation in order to place Wildfire Prevention signs along the highway. A letter and/or sign permit application, together with the proposed sign specification(s) and location(s), must be sent to one of Alberta Transportation's district offices.

A listing of Alberta Transportation district offices and an example of the required sign permit application form are provided at the following link:

<http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/Content/docType329/Production/distaddress.pdf>

Only sign designs approved by Alberta Transportation will be considered for placement within the right-of-way of the provincial highways.

After approving the application, the Alberta Transportation representative will issue a permit allowing the installation of Wildfire Prevention signs within the highway right-of-way.

## Standard

Wildfire Prevention signs are custom designed signs consisting of a support structure and one large panel containing a text message. The safety and aesthetics of the signs are the principal concerns for Alberta Transportation. The signs are permitted to display a simple message containing the following:

- Brief information message or slogan conveying the philosophy of the wildfire prevention program
- Program symbol or logo and emergency telephone number.

***Displaying other information about the program such as the website address or other advertising information will not be allowed on the Wildfire Prevention sign.***

Preferably, the sign should be constructed using light materials such as wood or aluminum panels in accordance with Alberta Transportation standards. Wildfire Prevention sign structures placed within the

clear zone must have a breakaway base. No heavy or rigid structures will be allowed within the clear zone. The standard size of Wildfire Prevention signs is 1.2 meters by 2.4 meters. For any new sign designs, the minimum lettering size is 100 mm for sign legibility.

Examples of current and approved Wildfire Prevention sign designs are included below:

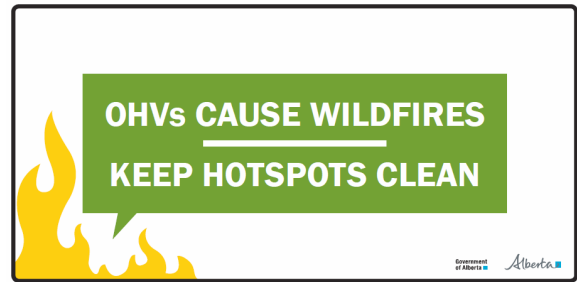


Figure 4 – Wildfire Prevention Sign 4



Figure 1 – Wildfire Prevention Sign 1



Figure 5 – Wildfire Prevention Sign 5



Figure 2 – Wildfire Prevention Sign 2

The Wildfire Danger sign is included below. It consists of a white and black background with a triangular cutout to show the level of wildfire risk. A multi-coloured pinwheel that can be manually turned is placed behind the sign. Turning the pinwheel changes the color and level of wildfire risk shown in the triangular cutout. The standard size of the Wildfire Danger sign is 1.22 meters by 1.42 meters (48" x 56") and the pinwheel measures approximately 1.2 meters in diameter.



Figure 3 – Wildfire Prevention Sign 3



Figure 6 – Wildfire Danger Sign

Any departure from the sign specifications, as well as any new sign designs will need to be approved by Alberta Transportation. Proposed new sign designs should be forwarded to Alberta Transportation, Technical Standards Branch for consideration and approval.

### **Guidelines for Placement**

Wildfire Prevention signs are placed within the provincial highway right-of-way. The number of signs will be established based on the local needs.

Alberta Transportation will work with the local Forest Protection Division to determine the appropriate number of signs and suitable sign locations. The following specific criteria should be applied when locating Wildfire Prevention signs along the highway:

- Signs must be placed no closer than six meters from the edge of the travel lane.
- No signs will be allowed within the median of a divided provincial highway.
- No signs shall be placed in or within 500 meters of construction zones.
- No signs shall be placed within 500 meters of an intersection in a rural area.

- Signs shall not obstruct a driver's sight lines of railway crossings, adjacent roadways or traffic upon intersecting roadways when such are viewed from a vehicle traveling past the intersection in any direction.
- In approving candidate locations of signs, the proximity of other roadway signs, such as regulatory, warning, information, directional and guide signs, will require consideration in the context of traffic safety, message continuity and signing clutter.

### **Installation and Maintenance**

The requirements for fabricating, installing and maintaining Wildfire Prevention signs are outlined in the Recommended Practices guideline entitled General Provisions for Installing Private Signs within the Highway Right-of-Way.

### **References to Standards**

<i>Recommended Practices</i> Section: General	Placement of Signs
<i>Recommended Practices</i> Section: General	General Provisions for Installing Private Signs Within the Highway Right-of-Way