



## PREVENTION MESSAGE

### Spring Burning

### *Before lighting a fire, think first!*

In the spring, before new growth appears, a few hours of sun are enough to dry grass or any other surface fuel. This also makes the surrounding forest extremely vulnerable to fire.

Several residents take advantage of this time of year to give their property a good cleaning. They burn dry grass, piles of branches or dead leaves. Do these activities sound familiar? **Before lighting a fire, read the following...**

Wind is your main enemy. In a split second, a gust of wind could pick up the fire and scatter it, often over great distances. Carelessness could make you lose control of your fire, set the forest ablaze, destroy your home, your cottage or that of your neighbour.

By taking a few safety precautions, you will reduce the risk of fire spreading to the forest.

- Ask the municipality about getting permission to light a fire.
- If it is possible to make a fire:
  - › Light the fire in a clearing, on mineral soil;
  - › Avoid making a fire when it is windy;
  - › Have on-hand the appropriate means to intervene promptly.



**A myth!**  
Contrary to popular belief, burning grass does not in any way promote new vegetation growth. Part of the grass's nutrients go up in smoke. As a result, the soil becomes impoverished and our environment polluted.

*A message from your fire department  
in collaboration with SOPFEU*