

ROOTS & SHOOTS



A Newsletter About the People and Activities of the Port Hawkesbury Paper Woodlands Unit

Critical Reminders About Fire Safety



Due to the current dry conditions, Nova Scotia is experiencing a heightened risk of forest fires. All forest workers are urged to exercise extreme caution while operating in the woods. Be aware of your surroundings and follow fire prevention protocols to avoid spark ignition. During current provincial forest closures, comply with restricted travel zone permit requirements. Your vigilance is crucial to protecting our forests, communities, and fellow workers. Let's work together to prevent wildfires.

Port Hawkesbury Paper has outlined critical measures to prevent wildfires during fire season (March 15 to October 15) for staff and contractors. Please review these essential fire safety practices and equipment requirements for

operations within forest protection areas. Key takeaways include:

- **Seasonal Fire Risks:** Dry conditions, flammable vegetation, and human activities significantly increase wildfire risks. Most wildfires are human-caused and preventable through proactive measures.
- **Fire Equipment Preparation:**
 - Ensure proper firefighting equipment is available, including charged and inspected fire extinguishers, shovels, and back tanks.
 - Detailed fire equipment requirements are outlined based on the number of workers and site machinery.
- **Machinery Safety:** Chainsaws, ATVs, and other equipment must have functional spark arrestors and be free from debris that could ignite.
- **Smoking Protocol:** Smoking is prohibited in non-designated areas. Cigarettes must be extinguished fully to prevent accidental fires.
- **Emergency Preparedness:** Workers must know their exact location and understand the emergency response protocol for promptly addressing fires.
- **Immediate Reporting:** Fires or smoke sightings should be immediately reported by calling **1-800-565-2224**.

By following these guidelines, PHP staff and contractors can effectively reduce wildfire risk and enhance workplace safety. Equipment tables and configurations are also included for quick reference in ensuring compliance during fire season.

[Click Here to Download the Fire Safety Document](#)

Woodlands Adverse Weather Policy



Port Hawkesbury Paper (PHP) prioritizes safety against lightning-related risks in accordance with their Adverse Weather Policy, even though lightning is not explicitly addressed in Nova Scotia's Occupational Health & Safety Act. Key points from this policy include:

Immediate Actions: At the first sign of lightning, employees and contractors must stop all operations and seek shelter in sturdy buildings or metal-enclosed vehicles.

Shelter Guidelines: Avoid small, unstable structures like tents and continue to monitor weather conditions, maintaining shelter until 20 minutes post the last thunder sound.

Post-Storm Safety: Ensure no downed power lines are present before resuming operations, which are allowed only after a 20-minute wait from the last thunder.

Safety Precautions: Do not touch metal parts or wired devices during storms, as these increase lightning strike risks.

First Responders: Be trained in basic first aid and CPR, especially since lightning victims can be safely touched and might need immediate resuscitation.

Communication: Use reliable methods to update workers on storm status and operations resumption.

These comprehensive measures help reduce and eliminate the risks associated with lightning, ensuring the safety of all PHP outdoor workers.

For more details, please review the safety measures to ensure worker safety during adverse weather conditions.

[Click Here to Download Details on Lightning Safety](#)



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt Out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

120 Pulp Mill Road | Port Hawkesbury, Nova Scotia B9A1A1 CA

This email was sent to .

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

emma®

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.