

CAMPFIRE SAFETY CHECKLIST FOR FAMILIES

SAFE CAMPFIRE HABITS FROM SETUP TO LIGHTS OUT. CHECK OFF EACH STEP EVERY TIME.

BEFORE YOU LIGHT

- Check campground fire rules
- Use designated fire rings only
- Clear a 10-foot radius (no gear)
- Skip the fire on gusty nights
- Water or extinguisher in arm's reach
- Buy local firewood (never haul it)

BUILDING A SAFE FIRE

- Start small (tinder, then kindling)
- Teepee or log cabin stack (airflow)
- Keep flames low (2-3 feet max)
- Burn dry, untreated wood only
- Place logs gently (no tossing)
- Never use gas or lighter fluid

KID SUPERVISION RULES

- Safety circle (3-4 feet from ring)
- No running or roughhousing
- Adults only tend the fire
- Roast seated (30-inch sticks)
- No loose strings or scarves
- One designated fire watcher (rotate)

PET SAFETY

- Leash tied 4-5 feet from the ring
- Ring stays hot for hours after
- Keep paws off embers and ash
- Tie-out away from cooking area
- Cool burned paws (water, call vet)

CAMPFIRE COOKING

- Stable grate (built-in or portable)
- Long utensils (12-18 inch handles)
- Lid nearby for grease flare-ups
- Oven mitts for pots and grates
- Cook over coals, not flames
- Never leave cooking unattended

PUTTING THE FIRE OUT

- Drown (water on coals and logs)
- Stir (expose hidden embers)
- Drown again (listen for hissing)
- Feel (back of hand near ashes)
- Never leave a fire unattended
- Fully out before bed, every night



SAFETY GEAR TO PACK

- Fire extinguisher (ABC, charged)
- Collapsible water bucket (fill first)
- Long matches or long-reach lighter
- Heat-resistant gloves
- Roasting sticks (30 inches min.)
- Fireplace shovel or trowel
- Burn kit (cream, non-stick gauze)

IF SOMEONE GETS BURNED

- Cool under running water (10 min.)
- No ice, butter, or toothpaste
- Cover with a non-stick bandage
- Blisters or face/hands (get care)
- Teach stop, drop, and roll early
- Know the nearest urgent care

PERSONAL NOTES & ADDITIONS

BEFORE YOU LIGHT, CHECK YOUR CAMPGROUND'S FIRE RULES!

Designated fire rings, local firewood, and posted fire rules at every location.
Visit camphappygrounds.com to explore all 14+ locations.