

Fact Sheet

2

Harvesting Firewood for Personal Use

This fact sheet provides information on harvesting firewood for personal use in Yukon. If you require further information please contact your local Client Services & Inspections office or visit the Forest Management Branch online at www.forestry.gov.yk.ca

Can I harvest firewood to heat my home?

Yes, the Forest Management Branch issues permits free of charge authorizing the harvest of up to 25 m³ (11 cords) per year for personal use fuel wood (firewood). These permits are intended for people who want to cut firewood for their own (non-commercial) use, such as for heating their home.

How do I obtain a personal use fuel wood permit?

Applications can be made at your local Client Services & Inspections office. You will typically receive your personal use permit at the time of application. The permit will authorize you to harvest up to 25 m³ (11 cords) of firewood per year. The permit will also outline any conditions you must meet including the approved location for harvesting.

Where can I cut my firewood this year?

Your local Client Services & Inspections representative can help you find a suitable area to harvest. Alternately, you may request an area of vacant crown land, although its suitability must be approved by a Forest Officer.

As part of your permit, you will receive a map indicating the permitted harvest area. Harvesting within the permitted area is one of the conditions of your permit and there may be timing restrictions on harvesting. It is your responsibility to ensure that you understand the conditions of your permit and are cutting only in the authorized area and during the designated times.

Remember to carry your permit with you when cutting and transporting wood in Yukon.

Contacts

**Yukon Government
Energy Mines and Resources
Forest Management Branch**

Physical Address:

Mile 918 Alaska Highway
Tel: (867) 456-3999
Toll Free: 1-800-661-0408
local 3999
Fax: (867) 667-3138
Email: forestry@gov.yk.ca

Client Services & Inspections Branch Districts:

Dawson City Office

Tel: (867) 993-5468
Fax: (867) 993-6233

Haines Junction Office

Tel: (868) 634-2256
Fax: (867) 634-2675

Mayo Office:

Tel: (867) 996-2343
Fax: (867) 996-2856

Carmacks Sub District Office

Tel: (867) 863-5271
Fax: (867) 863-6604

Whitehorse Office

Tel: (867) 456-3877
Fax: (867) 393-7404

Teslin Sub District Office

Tel: (867) 390-2531
Fax: (867) 390-2682

Watson Lake Office

Tel: (867) 536-7335
Fax: (867) 536-7331

Ross River Sub District Office

Tel: (867) 969-2243
Fax: (867) 969-2610

Other Agencies

Community Services Corporate Affairs

Tel: (867) 667-5314
Toll Free: 1-800-661-0408
local 5314
Fax: (867) 393-6251
-Business Registration

Energy Mines & Resources Land Management Branch Land Use

Tel: (867) 667-5215
Toll Free: 1-800-661-0408
local 5215
Fax: (867) 393-6340
-Land Use Permits

Highways & Public Works Transportation Maintenance Branch

Tel: (867) 667-5644
Toll Free: 1-800-661-0408
local 5644
-Access Permits to build roads
within the highway rights-of-way

Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board

Tel: (867) 667-5645
Toll Free: 1-800-661-0443

Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB)

Tel: (867) 668-6420
Toll Free: 1-866-322-4040

City of Whitehorse Planning & Development Services

Tel: (867) 668-8346
-Business Licence Bylaw 99-04

Can I cut firewood within my municipality?

Some municipalities allow harvesting within their limits. You will still require a permit and you will be required to cut within designated areas. Please contact your local Client Services & Inspections office to inquire about potential locations. You may also be subject to additional bylaws, regulations and responsibilities, depending on the municipality in question.

Can I cut in more than one location?

You may be permitted to cut in more than one area at a time, but the maximum volume you can harvest in one year, under the authority of the free of charge personal use fuel wood permit is 25 m³ (11 cords).

If I need more than 25 m³ this winter, what can I do?

If you require more than 25 m³ (11 cords) this winter, you may speak to the Client Services & Inspections representative about your options. You will require an additional permit, and you will be required to pay stumpage and fees on the volumes you harvest that exceed 25 m³ per year. Fees are only waived for the first 25 m³ of a personal use permit.

Can I sell the firewood I cut with this permit?

No, the Forest Resources Permit for personal use fuel wood is not intended for commercial endeavours. If you do wish to start a business selling firewood please contact your local Client Services & Inspection office about applying for a licence.

What will happen if I don't have a permit or I am harvesting where I am not authorized to?

Harvesting fuel wood in areas not authorized for harvesting, or harvesting without a permit can result in fines, confiscation of the wood, and possibly other charges being laid depending on the nature of the offence.

A note on compliance and enforcement in Yukon's forests:

Compliance and enforcement are a significant part of managing our forests for their long term health and to ensure that we can continue to realize the many benefits they provide. As a forest user, it is your responsibility to ensure you are complying with applicable laws, regulations and any terms and conditions outlined in permits and/or licences. For more information about your responsibilities and possible penalties for non-compliance read Fact Sheet #5, contact your local Client Services & Inspections office, or visit the Forest Management Branch online at www.forestry.gov.yk.ca