



ROWALLAN RECREATION & ADVENTURE CAMP

Fire Safety Policy & Instructions

Rowallan Camp is located in one of the many areas of Victoria that may come under the threat of a major bushfire. As a result, a number of procedures have been put in place for the safety of the visitors to the site.

To enable these processes to work correctly, it requires the hirer (you) to provide information and act accordingly with the following information.

These requirements are mandatory during the Fire Danger Period which is usually from late October to early April each year.



Definition:

Total Fire Ban (TFB)

A Total Fire Ban is declared by CFA on days when fires are likely to spread rapidly and could be difficult to control.

www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/total-fire-bans-and-ratings/central-fire-district

Fire Danger Period (FDP)

The Fire Danger Period is when CFA restricts the use of fire in the community. Each municipality is given a different date in the lead up to the fire season.

www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/fire-danger-period-restrictions/about-the-fire-danger-period

Fire Danger Ratings (FDR)

The Fire Danger Rating tells you how dangerous a fire would be if one started.

www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/total-fire-bans-and-ratings/about-fire-danger-ratings

Extreme or Code Red Fire Danger

ALL BOOKINGS AT ROWALLAN CAMP ARE CANCELLED ON DAYS OF EXTREME or CODE RED FIRE DANGER.

If you are already on site, you are required to leave the camp, however you are permitted to stay overnight and leave on the morning of the Extreme or Code Red day. The Rowallan Camp Ranger will contact you in the event of Extreme or Code Red Fire danger, but it is your responsibility to check the rating and make your own decision of when to leave.

By order of Scouts Victoria.

BEFORE YOU ARRIVE AT THE SITE:

- Provide a list of names of who will be attending to the Camp Ranger **ON ARRIVAL**. This is to allow the Ranger to know who and how many are on site and in the event of a major emergency the Ranger can provide adequate information to the emergency services. A Camper Register form is provided for your convenience.
- Check the expected Fire Danger levels for the area in which the camp is in. This can be obtained from the CFA website (www.cfa.vic.gov.au). Rowallan Camp is in the **Central** district.
- The leader in charge is to have read the Rowallan Emergency Management Plan booklet. [provided on our website: www.rowallan.org.au]

WHILE YOU ARE ON SITE:

- Read and review the Rowallan Emergency Management Plan booklet to fully understand the requirements of the Camp, evacuation procedures and contact details for emergency services. You can locate the EMP in the **RED FOLDER** [in HQ Camp 1st Aid room and in Warnock Lodge] and also located on the HQ Camp dining room pin board, and outside Forest Camp Warnock Lodge.
- Follow all abbreviated requirements outlined below regarding fire safety and the required procedures to ensure the safety of those in the camp.

On a day of Total Fire Ban (TFB):

- OPEN fires are NOT permitted at Rowallan Camp on days which have been declared a day of Total Fire Ban. You can obtain Total Fire Ban information from the Victorian Bushfire Information Line (VBIL) on 1800 240 667.
The phone located at HQ Camp can be used to call the Information Line.
- At HQ Camp the brick gas BBQ near the parade ground is permitted to be used because it is bricked in. Portable gas BBQ are not permitted.
- At HQ Camp there is a hose at the brick gas BBQ near the parade ground & a hose near the Kitchen door for use in case of fire.
- Total Fire Bans begin at midnight and end at 11:59 pm the same day. Declarations are typically made by 4pm the day before.
Note that Total Fire Bans may be declared consecutively.
- Strictly no fires in the HQ Camp or Forest Camp campfire circles nor any electrical work, grinding tools or chainsaws are to be used.
- There is a fire-protected building on the Rowallan Camp site at the Guide centre near the Ranger's Office. It has roof sprinklers to combat ember attack. You may be requested to go there by the Camp Ranger in the event of an Emergency.
- All Campers are to strictly follow the Ranger's instructions.
- In the Forest Camp a supply of water is available at various taps throughout the forest.
- If you decide to leave you MUST INFORM the CAMP RANGER.

During the Fire Danger Period:

- Ensure the day is not a total fire ban.
- NO external fires will be permitted unless approved by the Camp Ranger.
- All fires if approved must be monitored at all times and if not then to be extinguished.
- Cooking at the HQ Camp is permitted in the brick BBQ near the parade ground.
- Cooking at the Forest Camp must be carried out in gas camping stoves, or the ½ steel fire drums (stored in 4 locations along the roads).

Outside the Fire Danger Period

- Cooking at the HQ Camp is permitted in the brick gas BBQ near the parade ground.
- Cooking at the Forest Camp must be carried out in gas camping stoves, or the ½ steel fire drums (stored in 4 locations along the roads).
- Camp fires (not Bon fires) are permitted but only in the HQ Camp and Forest Camp Campfire circles.

NOTE: This document is an extract from the FIRE Procedures of the Rowallan Camp Emergency Management Plan. The camp users MUST ensure that they have read and understood the Emergency Management Plan which includes all the other Emergency procedures that may occur at the Rowallan Camp.

If you have any queries regarding the requirements above, please do not hesitate to contact the Camp Ranger.