



Fire Safety Badge

This badge must be earned in order to a Frontier Girl to build, tend, extinguish, or cook over an open flame. All requirements must be completed for each level. This badge must be earned again every time a Frontier Girl graduates to a new level in order to review the information.

Frontier Girls need to earn the Fire Building badge before being allowed to start a fire.

Otter - Do all requirements

- _____1. Otters are not allowed to build, tend, or put out fires. They may cook over a fire with supervision once they have learned the safety precautions below.
- _____2. Learn the Stop, Drop, and Roll technique to put out a fire on your body.
- _____3. Know the following safety precautions when dealing with fire:
 - A.) Keep all hair tied back away from the face in a way that will not allow it to accidentally fall into the fire.
 - B.) Make sure to wear close fitting clothing with no strings or loose sleeves that may fall into the flame. Always wear closed toes shoes when around a fire.
 - C.) Never play near the fire and always be aware of where other people are so that you will not accidentally knock them into the fire.
 - D.) Never put anything into or onto the fire without an adult's permission.
 - E.) Always have at least one large bucket of water or sand near every fire. Know what types of fires can be put out with water, and which need sand.
 - F.) Never put a marshmallow or other food directly into the flames. Always cook your food over coals. If your food does catch fire, do not remove it, but ask for an adult's help. Many children are burned each year by panicking and flinging a burning marshmallow off their stick onto themselves or another person.
 - G.) Always move slowly when around fire.
 - H.) Never leave a fire unattended.

Dolphin, Butterfly, and Eagle - Do all requirements

- _____1. Dolphins, Butterflies, and Eagles may build, tend, put out, and cook on fires only with adult supervision. The fire safety badge must be earned before being allowed to build the fire.
- _____2. Know all the safety precautions listed in Otter #2 & #3.
- _____3. Learn to make a safe fire site. A safe fire site is one where there is no danger of anything burning other than the fuel you put into the flames. Many camping areas already have metal fire rings, grills, or stone fireplaces, but you should always make sure that the area around them is cleared of leaves, old wood, dry grass or other items that may burn if a spark escapes or a coal is dropped.

If no fire site is provided at your campground, you will need to create one. First, clear an area 10ft in diameter (check state regulations for exact distance in your state) of all leaves, old wood, and grass. Then bring in dirt to form a pad at least 2ft in diameter and 3 inches thick in the center of your cleared area. The reason for the pad is that fire can actually travel underground through plant roots and pop back up several feet away from your campfire. You need to make sure you have enough of a pad to protect the ground from heat. There should be no overhanging branches over your site. Always make sure that fires are allowed at your campsite before building one.

Some locations do not allow open flame fires. Make sure to check what is allowed at your campground before building a fire. During fire season there may also be limitations on when and where you may build your fires. Make sure to follow all local rules and regulations.

_____ 4. Learn how to properly tend a fire.

- A.) Fires should be kept as small as possible and still be useful.
- B.) When adding fuel to a wood fire, slowly add one piece at a time to the center of the fire. Leave air spaces and only use the amount of fuel that you need. NEVER toss, throw, or drop fuel into a fire as it may throw sparks back up at you or others.
- C.) If you are in charge of tending a fire, never leave it until someone else comes to take their turn.
- D.) If a spark lands outside your fire circle, or a coal drops out of a camp grill, quickly sprinkle it with water. A spark should go out quickly, but a coal will remain hot until thoroughly soaked and crushed.

_____ 5. Learn how to properly extinguish a fire.

- A.) Let the fire die down until only ashes are left.
- B.) Using a long stick or shovel, stir the ashes, sprinkle them with water and then stir again. Repeat this process until there is no gray ashes left and the fire bed is cool. (Check this by placing a hand directly above the ashes. If you feel warmth, the fire is not out yet.) Never pour water directly onto a fire as it can cause hot steam and rock explosions.
- C.) Use a shovel to remove the ashes. Ask the campsite manager where you should dispose of them. Never place ashes in a trash bin or anywhere else until you are sure that all coals have been thoroughly extinguished.