

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

# The 21-Day Rule for Camping on Crown Land



Ontario is reminding people of rules and sharing tips for the camping season.

Much of Ontario's public lands are available year-round for recreational enjoyment, including camping on Crown land.

Canadian residents can camp for free on Crown land for up to 21 days at one site in a calendar year, unless the site has been restricted for a specific reason. After 21 days, the person and camping equipment must move a minimum of 100 meters to another location. This temporary use ensures

that sites are available to others and helps reduce environmental impacts.

[Non-Residents are required to obtain a Crown land camping permit](#) from the ministry, Ontario government offices, or through outside license issuers. The fee for a non-resident Crown land camping permit is \$9.35 per person per day, plus the federal Harmonized Sales Tax (HST).

## Planning to Camp on Crown Land?

Be sure to check if [camping is allowed on the public lands](#) where you plan to camp. Rules vary from site to site.

Please act responsibly to help protect the natural environment. Here are some tips:

- Always pick up litter and take garbage with you
- Avoid sensitive features such as wetlands, streams and wildlife habitat
- Respect other users of Crown lands
- Stay on existing trails
- Do not harm, kill or collect plants, trees, habitat or wildlife you do not have permission to hunt

Before lighting a fire, check [local fire warnings and restrictions](#) in the area. Never leave a campfire unattended and make sure campfires are completely extinguished before leaving the site.

## Additional Resources:

- [Camping on Crown land](#)
- [Check if camping is allowed in a conservation reserve](#)
- [Camp at one of Ontario's provincial parks](#)
- [Outdoor fire rules and permits](#)
- [Check current fire restriction zones](#)
- [Contact your local ministry district office](#)
- Contact the ministry Information Line: 1-866-667-1940.

To report a natural resources violation, call the ministry TIPS line at 1-877-847-7667 toll-free any time or contact your local ministry office during regular business hours. You can also call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

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