

Know before you go!

Drones and wildfires

The airspace around and over a wildfire is closed to all aircraft, including drones, except those directly involved in fighting fires.



While some emergency response teams use drones to fight wildfires, flying a drone over or near a wildfire without permission increases the risk that a firefighting aircraft will collide with the drone. If a drone is spotted in the area, emergency response teams need to ground their operations, which puts lives at risk.



You could face serious penalties, including fines and/or jail time, if you break the rules.



Canadian law requires all drone pilots to fly according to the *Canadian Aviation Regulations*, which state that only someone with permission can fly a drone over a wildfire, or within 9.3 kilometres (5 NM) of a wildfire.



Before flying a drone in the summer months, make sure there are no smoke plumes or active wildfires nearby. Check local sources of information, such as the [fire management agency website](#) (English only) for your region, and [NAV Drone](#), which provides real-time access to Notices to Airmen (NOTAMs) and restricted airspace information.

Canada.ca/drone-safety

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