Smokey’s Wildfire Prevention Detectives Skills Test

Like the song* says, Smokey Bear can spot a wildfire “before it starts to flame.” Can you? Test your Wildfire Detective skills with these outdoor scenes. Need help? Look for the answers at the bottom of the poster.

1. What wildfire prevention advice would you bring to this party?

2. Patrol this backyard for behaviors that could cause a wildfire. How many can you see?

3. Can you tell these friends the safe way to leave a campsite?

Be smart, don’t let a wildfire start. Only YOU can prevent wildfires!

Answers

* Listen to Smokey Bear’s song at www.SmokeyBear.com/vault/#!prettyPhoto[1950sR]/0/.

1. This campfire is too large for safety; position the campfire away from low-hanging branches and in the middle of a 10-foot diameter area cleared to bare ground; NEVER use gasoline to start any fire; ALWAYS have a bucket of water and a shovel nearby to put out your campfire; extinguish the fire burning in the grill; don’t park in tall grass as it can catch fire from the exhaust system.

2. Where legal, burn yard debris in a covered container; NEVER burn yard debris on a windy day; position the fire away from low-hanging branches in a 10-foot diameter area cleared to bare ground; have a garden hose ready to extinguish the fire; adjust the grill controls to avoid flame ups; NEVER allow children near a fire without adult supervision; ALWAYS keep your eyes on any outdoor fire. Be sure to check with local agencies that regulate outdoor residential burning to ensure that your fire meets all rules and laws. Even better: use a chipper to compost small branches, leaves, and other yard debris.

3. Position the campfire in the middle of a 10-foot diameter area cleared to bare ground; circle the fire with rocks to create a barrier; pile kindling and firewood at the edge of the cleared area; store matches away after you’ve lit your fire; use plenty of water to extinguish a campfire — with a shovel, stir the water and ashes together into a muck, then drown the ashes again, and check to be sure they are cold before you leave. If it’s too hot to touch, it’s too hot to leave.