

NOTICE No./18/DCS/2023
DATE 20/08/2023 TIME 14:00
NOTICE TO THE POPULATION

DANGER OF RURAL FIRE - PREVENTIVE MEASURES
NATIONAL EMERGENCY AND CIVIL PROTECTION AUTHORITY

1. SITUATION

According to information from the Portuguese Institute of the Sea and Atmosphere (IPMA), for the next few days, an increase in the risk of rural fire is expected, with emphasis on the following aspects:

- Increase in temperature, with maximum temperatures reaching values near 40°C and timely 44°C;
- The nights will have high minimum temperatures, with values exceeding 20°C in most parts of the territory, and even 25 ° C in some places in the Algarve, Alentejo and in Beira Interior;
- Gradual decrease of relative humidity, with weak nocturnal recovery;
- Winds up to 30 km/h dominating the northern quadrant, being up to 40 km/h during the afternoon and night on the west coastal band south of Cape Carvoeiro and in the highlands, temporarily from the eastern quad inland during the early morning and southwest in the Algarve;
- Very High Rural Fire Danger inland North and Central, Alto Alentejo and the Algarve.

Follow weather information at www.ipma.pt

2. EXPECTED EFFECTS

Increasing the speed of initial spread of fires due to the increased wind intensity and therefore increasing the difficulty of suppression actions.

This weather table also increases the likelihood of fires which translates into a potential increase in the number of rural fire incidents.

3. PREVENTIVE MEASURES

The National Authority for Emergency and Civil Protection (ANEPC) recalls that, according to with the legal provisions in force:

- It is FORBIDDEN to make Extensive Burning WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION. Find out in your council city hall or through 808 200 520;
- On very high and maximum fire risk days, it is FORBIDDEN to burn Stacked WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION or WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. Find out about your Town Hall or through 808 200 520;
- On very high and maximum fire risk days IT IS FORBIDDEN to use fire to the cooking of food throughout the rural space, unless used outside the critical zones and in places duly authorized for the purpose;
- On very high and maximum fire risk days, it is FORBIDDEN to fumigate or disinfect in apiaries unless fumigators have containment devices of sparks;
- On days of Very High and Maximum fire risk IT IS PROHIBITED to use mowers, brush cutters and shredders. Avoid using disc harrows.

The National Authority for Emergency and Civil Protection recommends the adequacy of behaviours and attitudes towards the situation of danger of rural fire, namely the adoption of the necessary preventive and precautionary measures, in accordance with the legislation in force, and paying special attention to the evolution of fire danger in this period.

Follow the fire danger evolution for the next few days at www.ipma.pt, www.icnf.pt, or at the Municipal Civil Protection Services and Fire Brigades.

4. HEAT. KNOW HOW TO PROTECT YOUR HEALTH FROM EXPOSURE TO THE SUN - RECOMMENDATIONS

To protect yourself from the heat, ANEPC reinforces the importance of:

- Increase water intake, at least 1.5 liters/day, equivalent to 8 glasses;
- Apply sunscreen with a factor greater than 30 every 2 hours;
- Wear a hat and light, loose and fresh clothes;
- Opt for light and fresh meals;
- Refresh yourself with water throughout the day.

Follow the recommendations of the Directorate-General for Health to protect yourself from the heat in:

www.dgs.pt

ANEPC | Communication and Awareness Division