

# FAQ's

**HOME KIT™**  
*the homeowner's protection against fire*

A1. NPE-Free Barricade ® II is the result of 10 years of research and testing to eliminate nonylphenol ethoxylates (NPEs) and petroleum distillate from the original Barricade formula. NPE-Free Barricade ® II has been approved for use by the US Forest Service in a wide range of firefighting functions including application by large air tankers, smaller Single Engine Air Tankers (SEATs), helicopters using buckets as well as firefighters on the ground using fire engines. Barricade ® II is the first and only liquid fire gel concentrate that has been approved for use by the Forest Service that does not contain toxic chemical additives known as NPEs and petroleum distillate oils. Environmental organizations have called upon the U.S. Forest Service to ban the use of other firefighting chemicals that contain NPEs.

Barricade ® II was specifically developed for use by commercial and government entities where a large quantity of gel is used or there is frequent contact by firefighters.

Q2. IS NPE-FREE BARRICADE ® II ON THE FOREST SERVICE QUALIFIED PRODUCTS LIST (QPL)?

A2. Yes. The Forest Service placed Barricade ® II on the QPL in early 2006.

Q3. DO YOU HAVE A VIDEO THAT SHOWS HOW TO USE THE QUIKATAK SYSTEM AND THE ATAKPAK SYSTEM?

A3. Yes we have developed an instructional video for those products. The video is included when you place your order.

Q4. HOW DOES THE EDUCTOR NOZZLE WORK?

A4. Both the QuikAtak and Atak Pak eductors are specifically engineered to deliver a pre-determined amount of Barricade ® II from the container into the stream of water. This engineering is designed to create the optimum mixture for use on structures. (Except for cleanup, never pour water directly into Barricade ® II Fire Blocking Gel.)

The Quik Atak eductor nozzle is designed for use with the 1-gallon container. The Atak Pak eductor nozzle is designed for use with the Atak Pak™ and has a hand-hold for ease of use. The Atak Pak system also has a shut off valve between the back pack and the nozzle allowing water-only feed through the nozzle. This feature also allows the operator to vary the amount of concentrate passing into the water stream depending on the type of fire control desired. For example, less concentrate would be required for broadcast application on landscape than for structure protection.

Both nozzles are designed for delivery of 15 GPM at 80 psi and are equipped with 1 and 1 ½ inches hose fittings.

Q5. WHERE SHOULD I SPRAY THE BARRICADE WHEN A FIRE IS COMING?

A5. Barricade can be used on houses, shake roofs, decks, doors, windows, eaves, fences, outbuildings, sheds, dog houses, log piles, brush, shrubbery, trees, haystacks, cars, boats, grilles, LP and propane tanks. Remember, it is not so important to completely encase the home in gel. The eaves, windows, doors, decks and wood shake roofs are most important to coat. Asphalt shingles do not need to be coated unless a tree or some other exposure is nearby.

Personal safety is paramount. Do not put yourself in danger during the approach of wildfire.

Note: Defensible space is very important.

Q6. CAN I USE WELL OR RIVER/LAKE WATER?

A6. Yes, Barricade can be used with well and natural water.

Q7. IS BARRICADE DANGEROUS? WHAT DO I NEED TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT?

A7. Barricade is a very safe product. It will not harm you or the environment. If you read the Material Safety Data Sheet, it states that the concentrate can be irritating to the skin and eyes. If it does get on your skin or in your eyes, simply flush with water.

**BARRICADE®**  
**Fire Blocking Gel**

# FAQ'S **Continued**

Q9. DOES IT HURT THE BARRICADE CONCENTRATE IF IT FREEZES OR GETS TOO HOT DURING STORAGE?

A9. We do not recommend allowing the concentrate to freeze or get to temperatures above 120° Fahrenheit. Repeated exposure to these temperatures could have a negative effect on our product.

Q10. ONCE I APPLY BARRICADE HOW LONG CAN I EXPECT IT TO LAST?

A10. Depending on weather conditions such as sunlight, wind and humidity, Barricade can be expected to last from a minimum of 6-8 hours to a maximum of 24-36 hours. The thicker you apply the gel the longer it will last. We recommend that after its initial application, you lightly mist the gel with water. The applied gel is under-hydrated and it will continue to swell and offer additional protection.

Note: If the Barricade gel begins to dry out it can be re-hydrated by misting it lightly with water.

Q11. HOW THICK SHOULD THE GEL BE APPLIED?

A11. We recommend coating the object until it is white. This usually means a coating of about ¼" thick.

Q12. HOW DO I CLEAN UP AFTER USING BARRICADE?

A12. When the danger has passed, rinse the Barricade gel off with plain water and a pressure nozzle. It will take a while to rinse off the Barricade, especially if you have applied a very thick coating. Basically what you are doing is over hydrating the product until it breaks down. If the Barricade gel has been left on for an extended period of time re-wet the gel and let it re-hydrate. This will make it easier to clean off. In a worst case scenario it may have to be pressure cleaned.

Once you have finished using either system, the entire unit should be disassembled. Each component should be flushed thoroughly with water until all Barricade residue is gone. NOTE: Soaking the components in warm or hot water will make the cleanup easier. Please see the Cleanup and Trouble Shooting portion of our Video.

A special clean-up tool is included with the AtakPak.

Q13. WILL THE BARRICADE GEL HURT THE PAINT ON HOMES?

A13. On a well maintained home the Barricade gel will not affect the paint. On a home or object that has not been painted in many years, the Barricade gel will actually clean the painted surface. This may cause it to look different from the rest of the painted surface.

Q14. CAN BARRICADE EXTINGUISH MAGNESIUM FIRES?

A14. Tests of Barricade on burning magnesium alloy have shown that the use of Barricade can greatly reduce the amount of time and water required to extinguish a fire involving magnesium. Water alone will not immediately extinguish burning magnesium; it is immediately dissociated into hydrogen and oxygen, adding fuel to the fire. The use of firefighting foam is also not effective, because the air bubbles just add oxygen to the flames. But Barricade Fire Gel helps to hold the water in suspension, and can smother the fire with cooling effectiveness. Professionals agree that treating surrounding flammables is a good first step before attacking the magnesium fire.

Q15. IS SPECIAL PROTECTIVE GEAR REQUIRED FOR MIXING ADN APPLICATION?

A15. No. Special protective clothing and respirators are not required.

**BARRICADE**<sup>®</sup>  
**Fire Blocking Gel**