



FOREST FIRE UPDATE

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FOR **JUNE 10, 2025** **KENORA 020/KENORA 014**



An aerial view of the Kenora 20 fire area looking south from near Wabaseemoong, May 22.

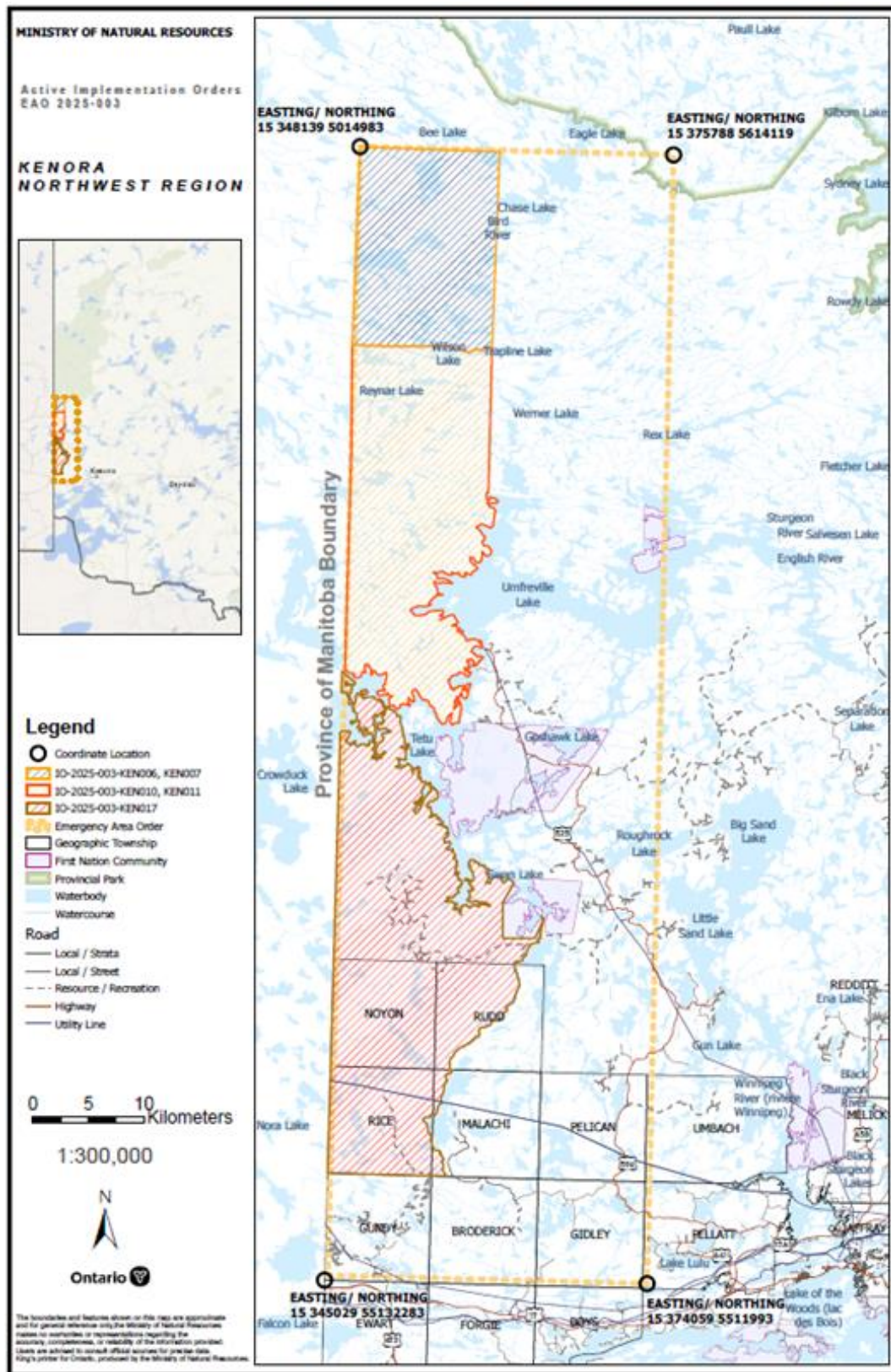
Current Fire Situation

- This will be the final edition of the Kenora 20 / Kenora 14 fire update newsletter. Ongoing updates and changes to area restrictions can be found in the Northwest Region section of [Ontario.ca/fireupdates](https://ontario.ca/fireupdates), or by calling the Northwest Region Fire Information Officer listed on the webpage

Kenora 20

- New revisions to the Implementation Order that previously restricted access to areas near the fire's east perimeter, such as Malachi Lake, take effect at 08:00 on June 10. See travel restrictions page for details.

Revisions to Travel Restrictions/Evacuation Order, June 10



Restrictions in effect - Kenora 20

Aviation, Forest Fire and Emergency Services has been advised that as recommended by the Ministry of Natural resources' Kenora District, an Implementation Order has been amended for areas near Kenora 20, under the Emergency Area Order EAO 2025-03 declared on May 13, 2025. The amended implementation order remains in effect for the purposes of public safety and/or effectual fire suppression,

1. All travel and use of roads including the White Road network and 100m west of Cygnet River on the Cygnet Lake Road is prohibited unless authorized by a travel permit.
2. All use of lakes and waterways within the red hatched area on the linked map: including Musk Lake, Jadel Lake, White Lake, Rice Lake, North Scot Lake and South Scot Lake, Simpson Lake, Somerville Lake, Vestal Lake, Victoria Lake Wing Lake and Brown Lake is prohibited.
3. All use and occupation of Crown Land, within the red hatched area identified on the attached Implementation Order map (Schedule A), is prohibited.

Evacuation Order of area

1. All persons must immediately evacuate the red hatched area indicated on the attached map unless authorized by a travel permit issued by the Ministry of Natural Resources.
2. All persons are prohibited from entering the red hatched area indicated on the attached map unless authorized by a travel permit issued by the Ministry of Natural Resources.

This Order is in effect at 8:00 a.m. CST June 10, 2025 until such time as the order is revoked.

Requests for travel permits can be directed to Conor Lee Kam, Kenora District Office of the Ministry of Natural resources at [807-620-7883](tel:807-620-7883) or by email at conor.leekam2@ontario.ca.

Restrictions revoked – Kenora 14

The Kenora District Office of the Ministry of Natural Resources has advised Aviation, Forest Fire and Emergency Services that the Implementation Order that had been in place in the area of wildland fire Kenora 14 has now been revoked, effective June 9 at

8:00a.m. CST. All travel and use of roads and lakes in this area previously identified are available. All use and occupation of Crown Land previously identified is now available.

Questions can be directed to Conor Lee Kam, Kenora District Office of the Ministry of Natural resources at [807-620-7883](tel:807-620-7883) or by email at conor.leekam2@ontario.ca.

Restrictions in effect - Kenora 32

Aviation, Forest Fire and Emergency Services has been advised that as recommended by the Ministry of Natural Resources' Kenora District, an Implementation Order is now in effect for the purposes of public safety and/or effectual fire suppression, for areas near Kenora 32 (KEN032) under the Emergency Area Order EAO 2025-003 declared on May 13, 2025.

1. All travel and use of roads including Werner Lake Road is prohibited unless authorized by a travel permit.
2. All use of lakes and waterways within the blue and orange area East of the Manitoba border, North of the Winnipeg River and west of the English River and Umfreville Lake, including Shinewater Lake, Huston Lake, Calvary Lake, Davidson Lake, Reynar Lake, Bain Lake, Burton Lake and Wilson Lake is prohibited.
3. All use and occupation of Crown Land, within the blue and orange hatched area identified on the attached Implementation Order map (Schedule A), is prohibited.

Evacuation Order of area

1. All persons must immediately evacuate the blue and orange area indicated on the Implementation Order map unless authorized by a travel permit issued by the Ministry of Natural Resources.
2. All persons are prohibited from entering the blue and orange area indicated on the Implementation Order map (link below) unless authorized by a travel permit issued by the Ministry of Natural Resources.

This Order is in effect at 08:00 a.m. CST on June 5, 2025 until such time as the order is revoked.

Requests for travel permits can be directed to Conor Lee Kam, Kenora District Office of the Ministry of Natural resources at [807-620-7883](tel:807-620-7883) or by email at conor.leekam2@ontario.ca.

Drought conditions persist in area

The lack of significant rainfall throughout the month of May in Northwestern Ontario is a significant driver of the wildland fire situation in the region and the Manitoba boundary area in particular. Forest fuels can quickly become dangerous before spring green-up. If there's little rain for a long time, the soil can lose moisture at different depths.

Drought conditions in the soil allow fires to 'dig-in', burning deeper and requiring more resources and time to properly extinguish. Dry soils also make an area more receptive to lightning fires, allowing them to smoulder for days following a lightning strike and emerge as surface conditions dry out.

Presently, the entire Northwest Fire region is experiencing a moisture deficit that it is estimated would require 20-80 mm of rainfall to moderate depending on the location.

Be aware of dangerous trees

Forest areas that have been impacted by fire activity can hold unseen hazards.

Tree roots are often compromised by fire, or the organic soil in which they are anchored is burned away leaving them more likely to fall unexpectedly, especially in high winds. Avoid lingering in burned areas if possible and be extra cautious of potential hazards if travelling through these areas.



This picture shows how organic soil can be burned away, destabilizing tree roots.



A fallen tree as a result of a root system destabilized by a wildland fire.

How can sprinklers stop a forest fire?



A values protection setup during training at Kenora Fire Management Headquarters.

Wildland Fire Management uses terms such as 'values protection' to describe the sprinkler systems that are often deployed throughout a community as a protective measure against approaching fires.

If deployed at least a few hours in advance of the arrival of a fire, these systems have proven to be effective at preventing structure loss. The overlapping sprinklers create a humidity zone around buildings that prevents burning embers transported by wind from transferring onto flammable building materials.

A values protection setup during training at Kenora Fire Management Headquarters.

FireSmart building practices and landscaping is also another great way to remove flammable fuels around building to prevent a fire's ability to approach your home.



Kenora area firefighters train to erect sprinkler lines as fire barriers.

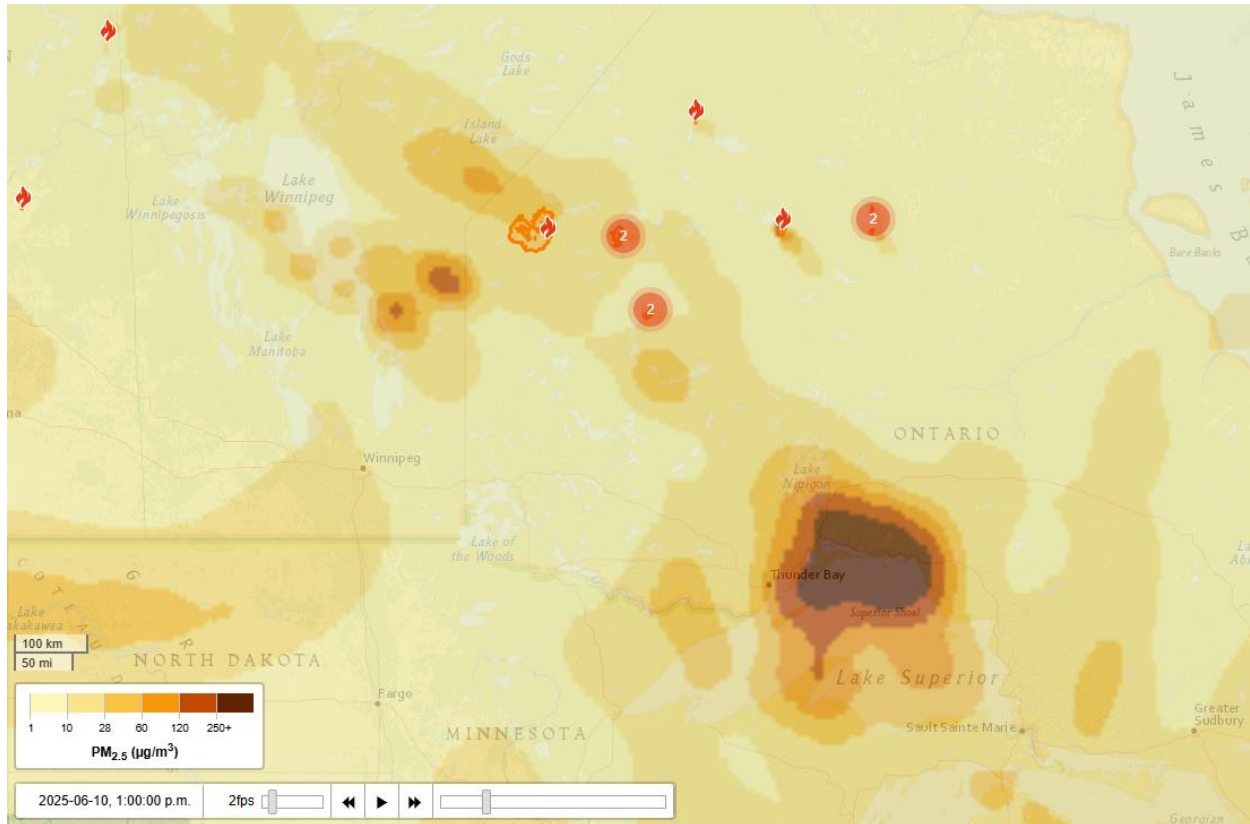
Do you have concerns about wildland fire smoke?

Given the present wildland fire situation across Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, smoke drift will likely continue to be an issue for local communities for several weeks to come.

Here are a few tips to reduce your exposure to smoke:

(Source Ontario Ministry of Health)

- Pay attention to the [Air Quality Health Index](#) (AQHI), special air quality statements or other indicators of smoke levels in your community. If necessary, **limit outdoor activity and strenuous physical activities**. If you feel unwell have difficulty breathing, stop altogether.
- Stay **indoors and keep windows and doors closed**. If it is too warm, turn on the air conditioning if possible. If you do not have air conditioning and it is too warm to stay inside with the windows closed, seek out local cooling or [cleaner air spaces](#).
- Use the **best quality air filter** that your ventilation system can handle based on manufacturers' recommendations. Be sure to run the fan mode and put the system on recirculate.
- Use a **portable air purifier to filter particles** from wildfire smoke. For more information on selecting a portable air purifier that is appropriate for your needs, refer to the "[Using an air purifier to filter wildfire smoke](#)" factsheet.
- Reduce sources of indoor air pollutants and protect your indoor air from wildfire smoke infiltration.
- If you need to work outdoors, check with your provincial occupational health and safety associations or your employer.
- If you need additional support during a wildfire event, contact your local jurisdiction for information on local cooling or cleaner air spaces. Community centres and other public spaces can also provide a break from the smoke.
- **Take care of your mental health** during a wildfire smoke event. Anyone who is having trouble coping with symptoms of stress, anxiety or depression should seek help from a health professional. These resources are available free of cost to anyone experiencing mental health problems. Don't be afraid to reach out if you need help:
 - [Health 811](#)
 - [Mental Health Support](#)
 - [Kids Help Phone](#)
 - [Hope for Wellness Helpline for Indigenous peoples](#)



To find out how smoke is drifting across North America, consult [FireSmoke.ca](https://firesmoke.ca) to access an interactive fire map showing current active fires and smoke forecast conditions.

Extreme fire hazard and restrictions

While the fire situation with Kenora fires 20 and 14 has improved to a degree that it has been deemed safe to return to the community, please be advised that the potential for very active fire behaviour can return to the area with fair weather and high winds.

A restricted fire zone remains in place for the majority of the Northwest Region.

Take steps to protect your homes from wildland fires

Wildland fires naturally occur in many of Canada's wildland ecosystems. With many homes constructed in or near these areas, known as the wildland/urban interface, homeowners must take extra measures to reduce the risk of wildland fire to your home and neighborhood.

Fire often spreads directly from tree to tree and can produce sparks and embers that may travel distances of two kilometres. These embers may land on trees or homes well ahead of the fire and create multiple fire situations. It is important to be aware of the dangers of sparks and embers when creating a FireSmart property.

The FireSmart Home Ignition Zone highlights three key areas that need to be managed to lessen the wildfire risk to your home. Although the Immediate Zone is the most vital, it's important to mitigate risks in all three zones.

[Be FireSmart | ontario.ca](https://www.fire-smart.ca/ontario)

FireSmart 101 is a free, one-hour online course offered by FireSmart Canada. The FireSmart 101 online course is designed to teach homeowners and community members how to protect their properties from wildfires. It covers essential topics such as understanding wildfire behavior, creating defensible spaces around homes, and implementing FireSmart principles to reduce fire risks. The course is user-friendly and provides practical tips to help you make your home and community safer.



[FireSmart 101](#)

QR code to register and take FireSmart 101



[HIZ-Self-Assessment-8.5x11-WEB.pdf](#)

QR code for a pdf. Version of the home ignition zone self-assessment



IMMEDIATE ZONE 0–1.5 metres

The Immediate Zone is an area that is clear of flammable materials, starting with the house and extending out to a 1.5 metre perimeter around the home and attached structures, including decks.

Reduce the chance of:
wind-blown embers igniting your home by starting with these proactive steps:

- Choose non-combustible building materials when constructing or renovating your home.

- Clear vegetation and flammable materials down to mineral soil and cover with fire-resistant materials like gravel, brick, or concrete.
- Avoid planting woody shrubs or trees. If any are present, prune and maintain them regularly.

INTERMEDIATE ZONE 1.5–10 metres

Elements in the Intermediate Zone are managed so they don't carry fire to your home. Here are a few actions you can take to reduce your home's vulnerability:

- Plant fire-resistant vegetation and select non-flammable landscaping materials.
- Avoid the use of woody debris, including mulch.

- Keep flammable items like firewood piles, construction materials, patio furniture, tools, and decorative pieces out of this zone.
- Move trailers, recreational vehicles, storage sheds, and other flammable structures into the Extended Zone. If that's not possible, store firewood inside your fire-proofed

- garage, shed, or other ember resistant structures.
- Use non-flammable ground cover, like a gravel pad, underneath and 1.5 metres around trailers, recreational vehicles, propane tanks, and sheds.

EXTENDED ZONE 10–30 metres

The goal in the Extended Zone is not to eliminate fire, but to reduce its intensity. If your community extends into this zone, a few important steps you can take include:

- Selectively remove evergreen trees to create space between them (at least 3 metres of

horizontal space between the single or grouped tree crowns).

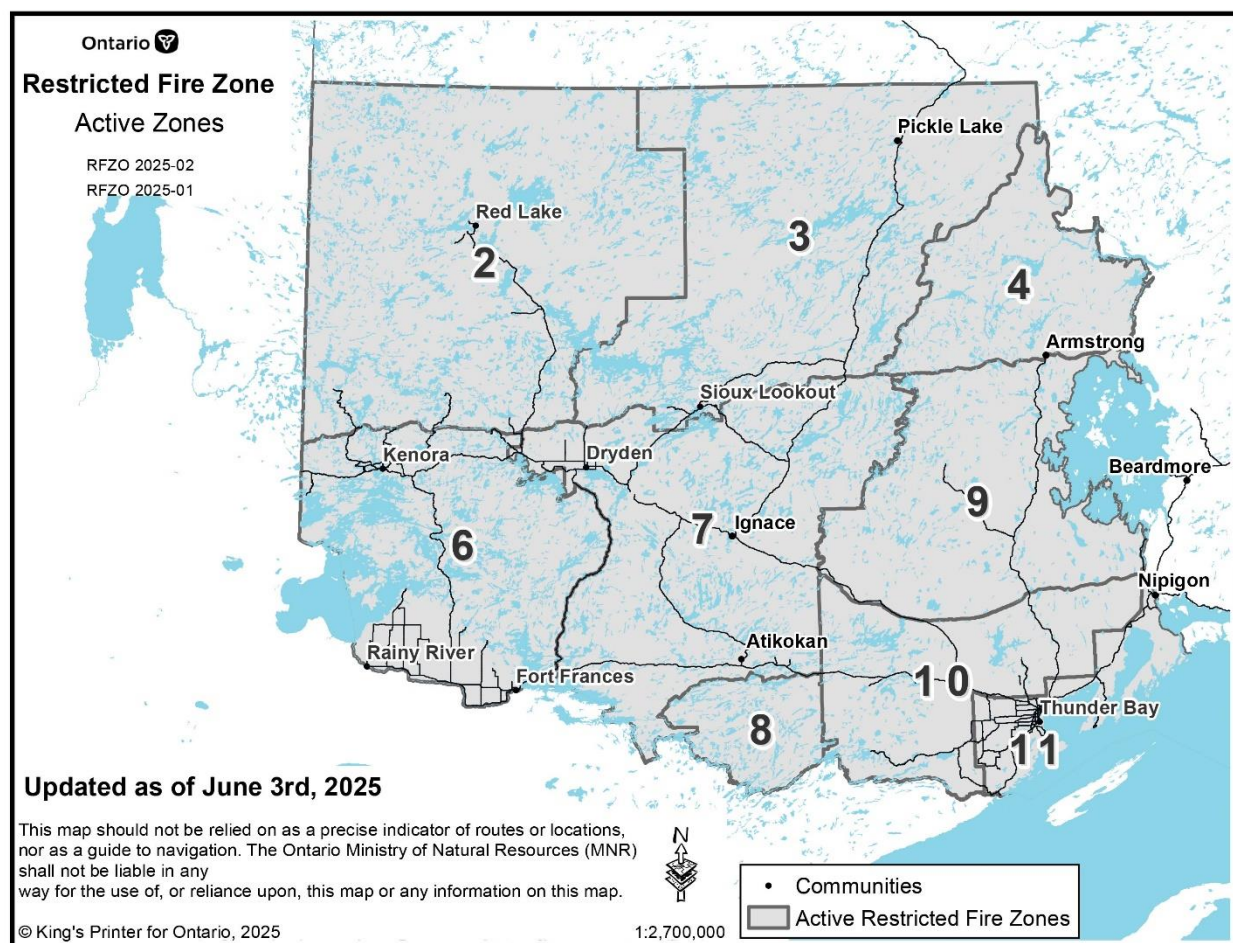
- Remove all branches to a height of 2 metres from the ground.
- Regularly clean up fallen branches, dry grass, and needles to eliminate potential surface fuels.

- Continue to apply these principles if your property extends beyond 30 metres. Work with your community in overlapping zones and seek guidance from a forest professional if affected by other conditions like steep slopes.

Get started on your FireSmart™ journey! [FIRESMARTCANADA.CA](https://firesmartcanada.ca)

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Restricted Fire Zone in effect



Due to the extreme forest fire hazard, the Ministry of Natural Resources will be declaring a Restricted Fire Zone effective Friday, May 16 at 12:01 am local time for a portion of the Northwest Region (zones 2, 3, 6, 7, 8). The area impacted will be from the Southwest corner of the USA, Manitoba and Ontario border, North along the Manitoba border to West of the midway point of Weeskayjahk Ohtahzhoganeeng Provincial Park, East to North of Wabakimi Provincial Park, South along the Western border of Wabakimi Provincial Park to the Eastern border of Quetico Provincial Park until the USA border, then back West along the USA/Canada border to the Manitoba Border.

No open air burning, including campfires, is permitted within the boundaries of a Restricted Fire Zone. Portable gas or propane stoves may be used for cooking and warmth BUT must be handled with extreme caution. All burning permits are suspended. [Learn more about the fire restrictions here.](#)

Weather outlook – June 10-June 16

Tue 10 Jun	Wed 11 Jun	Thu 12 Jun	Fri 13 Jun	Sat 14 Jun	Sun 15 Jun	Mon 16 Jun
 20°C 40% Chance of showers	 19°C Mainly sunny	 18°C Sunny	 21°C Sunny	 21°C A mix of sun and cloud	 23°C A mix of sun and cloud	 22°C 60% Chance of showers
Tonight	Night	Night	Night	Night	Night	
 9°C 60% Chance of showers	 6°C Clear	 9°C Cloudy periods	 10°C Clear	 13°C Cloudy periods	 15°C 30% Chance of showers	

Weather overview for June 10

Overcast with showers and a risk of thunderstorms giving amounts 2 to 6mm with locally higher amounts in the 10 to 15mm range as yet another frontal system tries to work into southern areas of the west along the Lake of the Woods area. Winds will be out of the southwest south of Lake Nipigon shifting to the northwest to the north of the Lake as winds hold in the 5 to 15km/h, gusting to 30km/h range. Temperatures will reach into the mid teens in the north slowly rising to the low 20's Red Lake to Sioux Lookout southwards.

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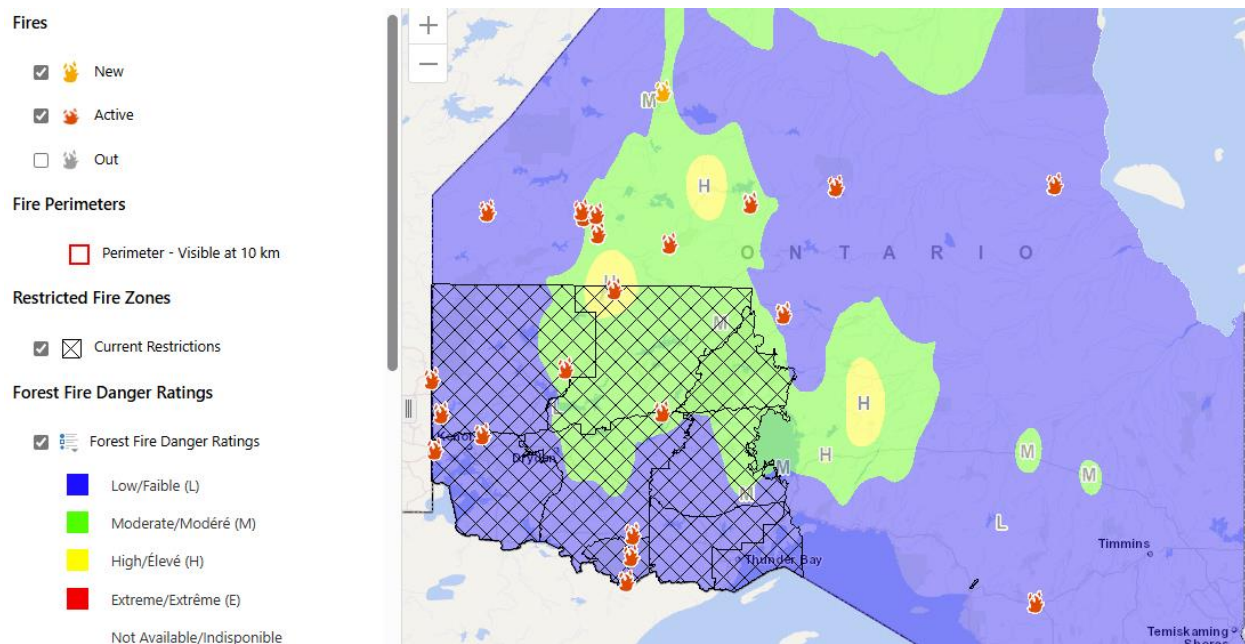
English - www.ontario.ca/page/forest-fires

French - www.ontario.ca/fr/page/incendies-de-foret

View our interactive fire map

To view our interactive fire map - featuring active fires, fire perimeters, and detailed boundaries of the Restricted Fire Zone - please visit:

<https://www.liaapplications.lrc.gov.on.ca/ForestFireInformationMap/index.html?viewer=FFIM.FFIM>



Ontario's interactive fire map, June 10, 2025, 08:00. The interactive fire map provides the forest fire danger rating as calculated by over 130 weather stations across Ontario's Fire Region. This changes throughout the day to reflect up to date weather information.