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Media Bulletin - Manitoba

April 30, 2015

PROVINCE ADVISES HIGH WINDS FORCE CANCELLATION OF BURNING PERMITS

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship advises that effective immediately, all burning permits issued in the eastern and central regions of Manitoba have been cancelled due to dry conditions and the forecast of continued high winds.

This affects an area extending from the United States border on the south, through the Interlake to Gypsumville and Berens River in the north and east to the Ontario border. Manitobans are reminded that no open burning is allowed without a permit between April 1 and Nov. 15, and all current permits are cancelled until conditions improve.

Anyone with questions about when burning can resume should contact the nearest Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship office and check with their municipal office to ensure no additional local restrictions are in place.

With the forecast for continued warm weather and strong winds, some travel restrictions are under consideration if conditions warrant. In addition to the provincial permit cancellation, rural municipalities may also impose burning bans or restrictions. A complete list of rural municipalities with burn bans or restrictions is available at www.gov.mb.ca/wildfire/burn_conditions.html.

All-terrain vehicles (ATV) users are also reminded that they can play a role in protecting against wildfires. Anyone using an ATV must use spark arrestors. Check areas around the engine and exhaust frequently, and carefully remove and extinguish any debris. Operators are also reminded to be prepared by carrying a fire extinguisher, small axe and shovel.

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