

Update #20

The current update remains unchanged from the May 15th, 2021 update #18.

The RM of Piney remains under a State of Local Emergency and Council has issued a complete burn ban. The wildland fire is now contained, but still not under control. Current weather conditions are not favourable; the forecast includes high temperatures, low relative humidity and high winds. The forecast results in extreme fire danger. Crews continue to work hot spots and heavy equipment is uncovering patches of ground fire.

Provincial fire attack crews remain on site and additional crews have arrived from out of province. The perimeter of the fire has been scanned by aerial thermal cameras to help identify hot spots requiring attention. Two helicopters are dedicated to the fire to provide aerial support. Heavy equipment is working the fire lines. Provincial initial attack crews have been redeployed to other provincial fires, as many fires burn uncontrolled within the province. The public is reminded to remain vigilant.

The Sandilands Main Market Road remains closed and may open in the next couple of days if crews continue to make progress on extinguishing the fire. Fire crews continue to utilize this road for access to the burn area.

A complete burn ban for the RM of Piney and southern Manitoba is now in place. No burning of any solid fuel is permitted; this includes campfires, burn barrels and outdoor stoves. Only propane barbeques and propane fire pits are permitted.

The RM of Piney will utilize our E-Newsletter to provide regular updates. Go to the RM of Piney website at www.rmofpiney.mb.ca to subscribe to the E-Newsletter. We encourage those not using Facebook to subscribe to our E-Newsletter. The RM also regularly updates the municipal information line at 204-437-2845.

The Municipality remains confident in the efforts completed to protect lives and private property. A great deal of gratitude is expressed to those that have dedicated time to protect our communities, assist and support our provincial and municipal fire fighters. Should the situation change, and there is the need to notify residents, the RM shall start actively notifying those affected by the change in events. The communities of Sandilands, Woodridge and St. Labre are not at risk. Travel to properties in these communities is permitted.

The wildland fire updates will be provided once a day. The RM will provide another update May 18th, 2021 at 11:00am, unless there is a change in the risk to the public.