

This Week in Fire!

By Norm Gladish
MNR Fire Prevention Technician

Rain and cool temperatures during the second week of June allowed for lifting the Restricted Fire Zone (RFZ) status in the North Central Region. If you are travelling East or West of this region, RFZ's are still in effect. White Lake Park, for example, is just inside the Northern Region, where campfires are still not permitted. This may seem strange to people in rain-soaked Terrace Bay District, but there are still 123 fires burning in drier areas of our province, to date.

Across the country, Ontario has been hardest hit by forest fires this year, with 1,334 fires to date. Quebec and Alberta were next with 637 and 501, respectively. New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have seen 263 and 230 fires each, while Saskatchewan and B.C. have had 496 and 483. All provinces have experienced a busy fire season so far this year.

People commonly imagine forest fires as raging infernos, moving swiftly over tree tops, consuming all fuel in sight. However, this is not always the case, as forest fires are affected by the combination of fuel, tree species in the area, the condition of the wood (wet or dry), the weather and local topography. It is important that fire fighters are aware of these various conditions because they result in different types of fires, each requiring a separate strategy for initial attack and safety of manpower.

The three basic types of forest fires are: surface, sub-surface and crown.

The SURFACE fire is the most common type of forest fire. It burns through brush, trees, leaves, grass and other forest litter. It burns on the ground, occasionally damaging the bark of trees, which may lead to torching. When this occurs, evergreens almost explode into a ball of

flame, as gases are given off by the hot needles.

SUB-SURFACE fires burn beneath the forest floor. They are the most difficult to detect and subsequently suppress. This type of fire can smolder for extended periods of time, burning peat, roots and decaying vegetation, before breaking through to the surface, often far from the source of the fire. Such fires emerged this spring in the drought conditions of the Northwest Region. Lack of moisture allowed these fires to survive all winter. Suppression was necessary in early spring to prevent spreading.

The CROWN fire is the most dangerous and destructive of all forest fires. It is also spectacular, therefore often seen in media clips, movies or magazines, despite its relative rarity. A crown fire burns in the tops of trees — the forest canopy. When fanned by high winds, flames from this type of fire race across tree tops faster than a human can run. The fire can quickly spread over a large area burning only tree tops. The forest floor may burn later, causing a re-burn of the same fire.

Since any forest fire may include all three types of burning during its life span, forest fire fighters must be aware of the possibilities on their particular fire, by quickly surveying the scene before landing and beginning initial attack. Fire behaviour is briefly studied while a source of water is being located. With this information, a crew leader is ready to instruct his men on how to attack the fire. Radio communication from air to ground by the fire boss will keep him informed of changes or new developments until the fire is under control.

It is only through team work and the efforts of many people that any forest fire can be successfully controlled.

Happy Anniversary

Valeida & Pete
from,
Adey, Roger & David



Township
of
Schreiber

PUBLIC NOTICE

Please be advised that the regular July meeting of the Council of the Township of Schreiber will be held
July 5, 1988 at 7:00 p.m.
instead of July 12, 1988.
Please govern yourself accordingly

Reeve & Council

ROSSPORT FISH DERBY DANCE

JULY 8TH, 1988 - 8:00 P. M. TO 1:00 A. M.
ROSSPORT COMMUNITY HALL
MUSIC BY G A R - SORRY NO MINORS
\$10.00 / PERSON

ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE JULY 6TH, 1988
AT THE ROSSPORT COMMUNITY HALL 7:00 P. M.

Bus will be supplied to leave Rosspport hall at 1:30 a.m. to travel to Schreiber, Terrace Bay & all stops in between for anyone needing a ride.

ROSSPORT FISH DERBY COMMITTEE

How about camping without blackflies or mosquitoes!

Camping on beautiful Lake Superior Island.
Campsites with picnic tables, Eureka tents & B.B.Q.
FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Boat rentals, charter fishing or touring.

If you want to spend time on Lake Superior,
Chuck can help you have a GREAT TIME on Lake Superior.

Chucky's Charter
& Boat Rentals
Rosspport, Ont. P0T 2R0
(807) 824-2185



FREE FROM **ZAP**

Electrical Safety

Booklets for You & Your Family

Check beside FREE items you want

Also indicate: English French

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adult/Youth Safety Tips | <input type="checkbox"/> School Book Cover |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comic Book | <input type="checkbox"/> Farming Safely Near Power Lines |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prevent Electrical Fires | <input type="checkbox"/> Electrical Workers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Childrens' - Colouring Book | <input type="checkbox"/> Construction Workers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Childrens' - Punch Out Card | <input type="checkbox"/> Lifesaver Outlet (GFI) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Construction Site Poster | <input type="checkbox"/> Shop Electrical Danger Poster |

Clip and send with your name and address to:

Safety - Box 4036 Station 'A'
Toronto, Ontario, M5W 2N4

ontario.hydro

