

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Tuesday, August 9, 2016



RE: Closure of wooded areas in the Town of Kentville

KENTVILLE, NOVA SCOTIA - KENTVILLE, NOVA SCOTIA - As the Province announces restrictions to all travel and activities within forested areas, the Town of Kentville is closing The Gorge trail and pocket parks around the Town until the Provincial ban is lifted. Miner's Marsh and the Kentville Trail System will remain open, and will be monitored by Town staff.

"The purpose of this closure is to reduce the risk of fire in our wooded areas, and we feel that the Gorge is our most sensitive park," said Mark Phillips, Chief Administrative Officer. "Conditions in the province are extremely dry, and we want to keep our residents and infrastructure safe," he added.

"The Kentville Trail System and Miner's Marsh will remain open because these trails consists of a wide paved or solid walking surface that is less susceptible to ignition," said Rachel Bedingfield, Director of Parks and Recreation. The Town is cautioning people to stay on the trail and not enter wooded areas. "Residents are reminded that smoking is absolutely prohibited on all of our trails and in all of our parks throughout the year," Bedingfield added.

The Province of Nova Scotia announced today that the fire burning at Seven Mile Lake in nearby Annapolis County has grown to cover 140 hectares, and as a result announced closures of all wooded areas in the province.

The Town of Kentville closure will remain in effect until the Province of Nova Scotia lifts the restrictions in wooded areas of the province. To report a wildfire in Nova Scotia, call 1-800-565-2244, or call 911. For more information about Kentville parks and trails, please visit kentville.ca/community/parks-rec/.

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Additional Information:

Press Release: Province Announces Restrictions During Wildfires
<http://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=20160808005>

To Report a Wildfire in Nova Scotia:

<http://www.novascotia.ca/natr/forestprotection/wildfire/firecentre/report-wildfire.asp>