The FireSmart Community

You never know when a fire can strike. But, if you're FireSmart, you have a better chance of saving your home, yard, outbuildings – even your family and yourself.
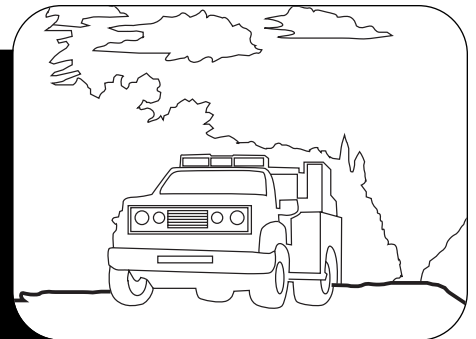
With awareness and responsible practices, we as individuals can make a difference by preventing fires from starting and protecting ourselves against fires. We can help to preserve and protect both our natural resources and our property.

Saskatchewan Environment has prepared this and other fact sheets as companion pieces to the FireSmart video series, which provides information on fire safety and helps you reduce the risks of wildfire to your property.

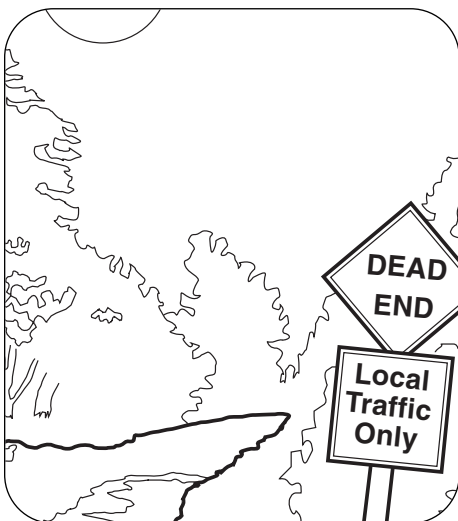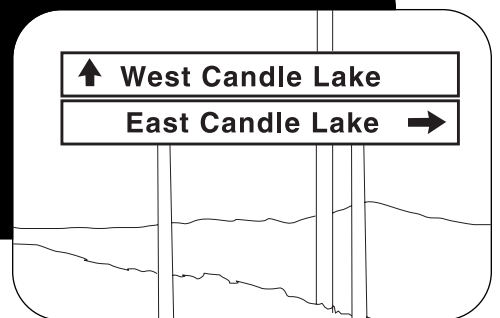A FireSmart community is one that is prepared for a wildfire.

1. Roadways should be at least 7.3 metres wide to allow for emergency vehicles and emergency evacuations

- putting some thought into the layout and construction of roadways can save lives

2. Communities at high fire risk should have two access routes

- this creates alternate routes in case one is blocked

West Candle Lake
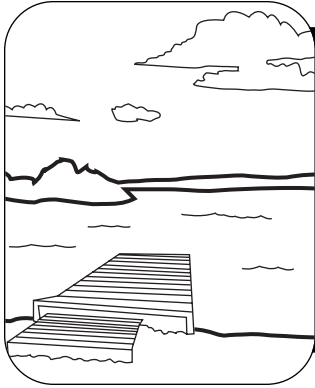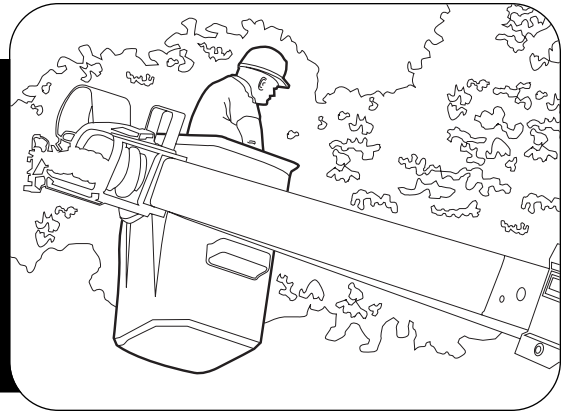East Candle Lake →

DEAD END

Local Traffic Only

3. All roads should be well marked and dead end roads should be no longer than 90 metres

- if a fire starts, road signs provide clear reference points for emergency vehicles

4. Power lines cause a number of fires each season

- use underground power lines when possible
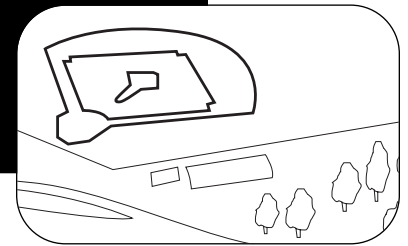- clear all trees away from overhead power lines

5. Make sure your community has a good water source

- hydrants and other water sources should be checked and maintained regularly

6. Locate parks, trails and ball diamonds strategically

- green spaces can be used to separate buildings from dry forest vegetation

7. Get involved in your community's FireSmart planning

- FireSmart planning is a collaborative effort that the whole community can be proud of

Remember, if your fire goes wild, you may be held liable to pay for damages. For tips on fire safety or reducing wildfire risks, visit **www.se.gov.sk.ca** or contact your local Saskatchewan Environment office.

To report a wildfire, call Firewatch, toll-free at 1-800-667-9660.

Saskatchewan Environment

Be prepared... don't let your fire go wild.