



PRESCRIBED BURN (BIINAAKZIGEWOK ANISHNAABEG) NOTICE FOR HIGH PARK

April 13, 2023

The City of Toronto is planning to undertake a prescribed burn in High Park this Thursday, April 13th. For more information, please call 311 or visit www.toronto.ca/trees and @TorontoPFR.

THE PARK WILL BE CLOSED TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC at 7 a.m.
It will reopen in the early evening, after the burn is complete.

It is expected that the prescribed burn will occur at approximately **11:30 AM** in High Park. Park users should expect limited access near active burn sites.

The highlighted areas on the map indicate the expected coverage of the burn. In consultation with the local Councillor, the City of Toronto is distributing this flyer to notify nearby residents who might be impacted by smoke.

A prescribed burn is an Indigenous practice to manage and care for the land. A prescribed burn is a deliberately set and carefully controlled fire that burns low to the ground and consumes leaf litter but does not harm large trees.

The 2023 burn continues the well-established program to restore Black Oak savannah, a rare vegetation community that is one of the most endangered ecosystems in the province of Ontario, and at risk of extinction in Toronto.

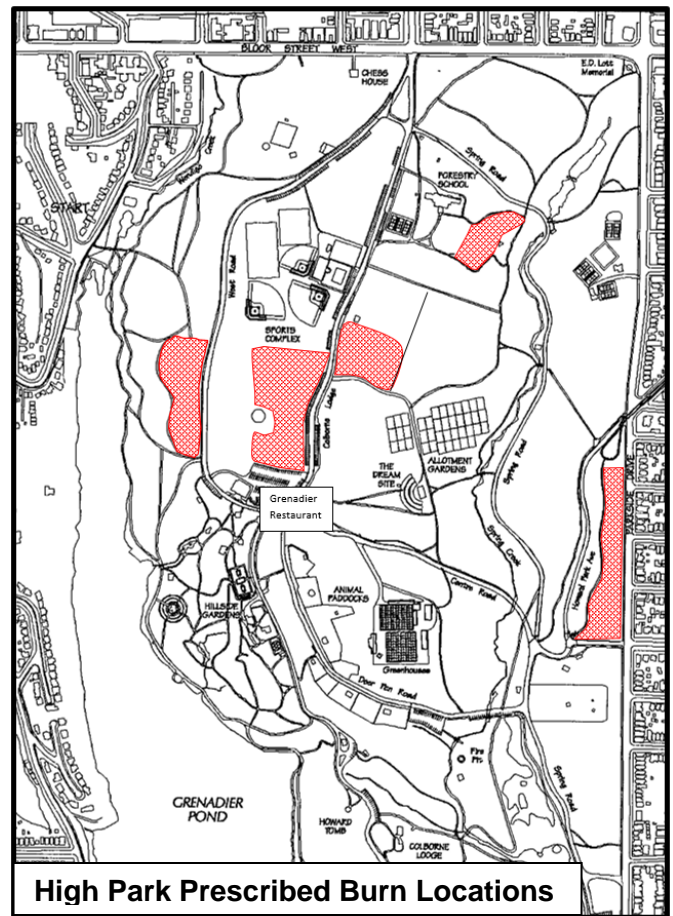
In collaboration with Indigenous Land Stewardship Circle (ILSC) and Elder Henry Pitawanakwat, the burn now holds the name of Biinaakzigewok Anishnaabeg, meaning “the responsibility for a cleansing fire by all Native Peoples” in Anishinaabemowin.

A Fire Boss with extensive experience in prescribed burning will conduct the burn with a qualified crew.

The burn will temporarily produce large amounts of smoke in the park.

Under ideal weather conditions, the smoke from the prescribed burn would rise and dissipate without affecting surrounding neighbourhoods. It is possible however, that weather conditions could change and that some smoke from burning vegetation may reach residential areas near the park.

Individuals with asthma and/or who are highly sensitive to poison ivy are advised to close windows and to stay out of the park on the day of the burn.



High Park Prescribed Burn Locations