



LAKEHEAD REGION
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

DEALING WITH BEAVER ISSUES

November 16, 2020



Beavers are found all over Ontario. While most commonly found in forests, beavers can also expand to unforested areas where waterways are bordered by trees and shrubs; this can lure beavers into parks and green spaces created by people. A beaver's life is dependent on logging for both food and shelter. Beavers can cut down an average of 216 trees per year, even felling trees up to 40 centimetres in diameter.

Dams and ponds created by beavers can sometimes be a nuisance on private land — flooding agricultural fields and forests, washing out roads and killing trees.

Landowners have two choices when it comes to dealing with beavers on their land: they can share their property with the visitors, or they can take steps to remove them.

Management of beavers on private land is the responsibility of the landowner. The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority (LRCA) does not participate in beaver control programs unless the source of the problem is on land owned or managed by the LRCA.

OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

MNR Website: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/preventing-conflicts-beavers>

DFO Website: <https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/index-eng.html>

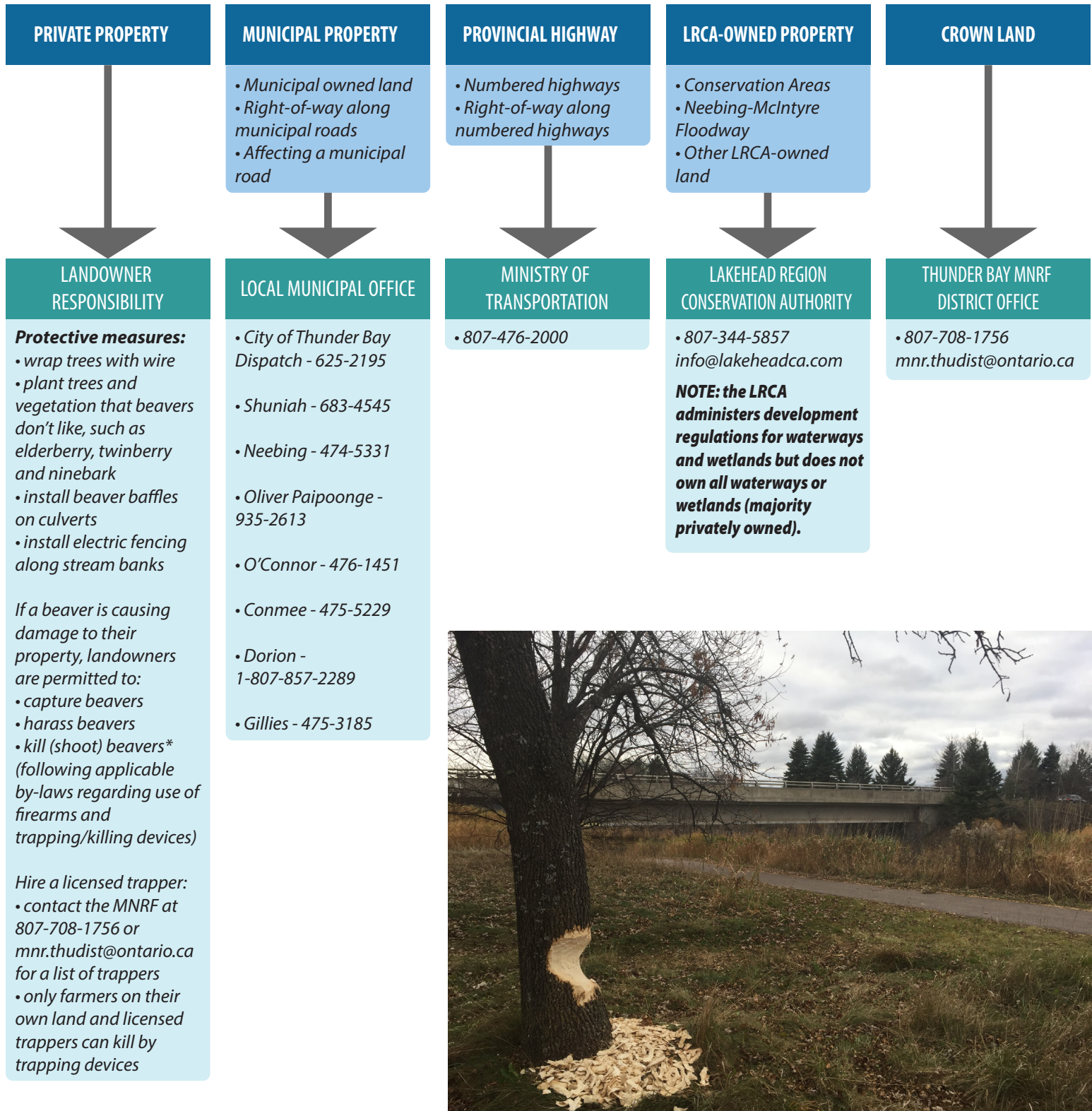
BEAVER DAM REMOVAL:

- For private property
 - see DFO Interim Code of Practice: <https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/codes/beaver-dam-barrage-castor-eng.html>
 - Hire a licensed trapper (recommended to outline contract in writing).
 - Landowner is liable for any downstream impacts resulting from dam removal, must be a slow gradual release.
- Consult the LRCA or MNR for dams on LRCA-owned land or Crown Land.

Please keep in mind: wild animals have the same basic needs as humans (food, water and shelter). Humans and wildlife can come into conflict from time to time, especially when animals are trying to meet their basic needs. These conflicts can often be prevented if people are willing to make small changes to how we think and act. As people and wild animals live side by side in Ontario, we all share responsibility for preventing and handling human-wildlife conflicts.

If you must take action against wildlife, please consider all your options and follow all relevant laws and regulations.

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Example of beaver activity along the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway.