

# ABANDONED MINES - STAY OUT! STAY ALIVE!

Mining in Ontario provides jobs and wealth for the province. Our long and proud mining history has been responsible for much of Ontario's social and economic growth, as well its development. World renowned mining camps such as Sudbury, Red Lake, Timmins, Hemlo, Cobalt and Kirkland Lake have produced various minerals for over a hundred years, making Ontario a world leader in mineral production.

## Abandoned Mines Are Scattered Throughout the Province

There are over 5,700 abandoned mine sites scattered throughout the province that exhibit over 16,000 mine features. Of these, approximately 4,000 sites could potentially be hazardous to public health and safety, or to the environment. These hazards range in size, from small exploration sites consisting of open pits, trenches or exploration shafts, to large scale operations that contain many mine hazards.

## Dangerous, Deceptive, and Deadly

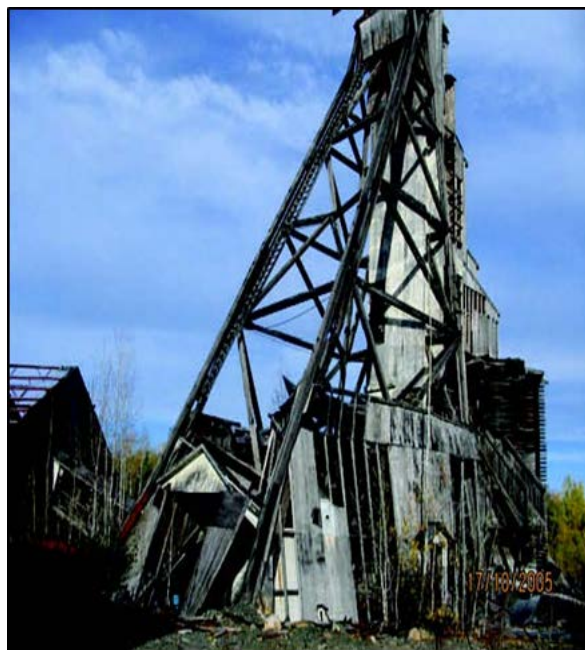
Due to the wide variety of mining methods used throughout Ontario, mine hazards may not be easily recognizable. Some may be hidden, while others may not seem dangerous. Abandoned mine sites can be fascinating, but deadly attractions. Although fatalities in Ontario have been rare, fatalities do occur in North America every year due to a variety of different mine hazards. The best way to be safe is to Stay Out! Stay Alive!

## Abandoned Mine Dangers:

- Surface openings (shafts, raises, adits)
- Highwalls and open pits
- Buildings and surface structures (office buildings, headframes, laboratory buildings)
- Deadly gases, explosives, toxic chemicals
- Dangerous animals (bears, wolves, snakes)
- Waste rock piles
- Tailings management areas

## Things to Remember:

- ✓ There are no safe abandoned mines
- ✓ Pay attention to hazard warning signs and do not enter fenced off areas
- ✓ Do not try to rescue someone yourself; call for help immediately
- ✓ Stay Out! Stay Alive!



**As appealing as abandoned mines may seem, they could kill or injure you unexpectedly!**

Developed through a partnership with the Mineral Development and Lands Branch and the Emergency Management Security Unit of the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines