

# Dutch village evacuated as precaution due to wildfire smoke

April 22 2020

---

A village of 4,000 people in the southern Netherlands was evacuated early Wednesday as smoke from a wildfire in a nearby national park drifted over homes, authorities said.

Residents of Herkenbosch, a village close to the German border and 200 kilometers (124 miles) southeast of Amsterdam, were ordered out of their homes as a precaution due to concerns about high levels of carbon monoxide in the smoke, Mayor Monique de Boer said.

"In the times we're living through—the corona era—we don't take the decision lightly to move people from [home](#) to evacuation centers," De Boer said.

Residents were allowed to leave in their own cars or in transport organized carefully by authorities who also were concerned about residents who may be infected with the coronavirus.

People with confirmed infections were directed to a "corona hotel" in the nearby town of Roermond, the local municipality said.

The fire was burning through trees in the Meinweg National Park and it was not immediately clear when residents would be allowed to return home. Two tanks from the army were sent to the [park](#) Tuesday to help firefighters cut containment lines.

Several wildfires have broken out in recent days in the Netherlands in

parks that have been dried out by weeks of dry, sunny weather. Earlier this week, a Dutch nursing home where several residents were infected with the coronavirus was evacuated due to another wildfire.

© 2020 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed without permission.

Citation: Dutch village evacuated as precaution due to wildfire smoke (2020, April 22) retrieved 11 July 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2020-04-dutch-village-evacuated-precaution-due.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.