



Firebreak Notice
and Bushfire
Information
2012-2013

For All Fires Phone 000

Shire President's Message

Over the past couple of years, Western Australia has experienced some of the most devastating bushfires in the State's history.

Enjoying a home amongst a bushland setting is a lifestyle choice for many in our community. The benefits are enormous, but so are the risks. That is why we need to be vigilant and continue to work together to ensure we are living in the safest possible environment.



*Shire President
Wally Barrett*

Bushfire safety is a shared responsibility, and if all members of the community maintain a proper level of preparedness, then the threat of bush fire can be significantly reduced.

This booklet outlines the Shire of Murray's legislative requirements to assist you to prepare your property to a standard, which will protect you and your neighbours from damaging bush fires.

Please take the time to read this booklet, it is a guide to help protect your home and the lives of your family. It details ways to ensure your property is less vulnerable to bushfire attack and will help you make the right choices should a bushfire threaten your property.

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Important Dates to Remember

Unseasonal weather conditions may cause the dates below to be varied. Please contact the Shire of Murray for details.

Restricted Burning Time 1

Permits Required

1 November to 14 December inclusive

Prohibited Burning Time

Burning Prohibited

15 December to 14 March inclusive

Restricted Burning Time 2

Permits Required

15 March to 30 April inclusive

Important Dates	Burning Garden Refuse	BBQ	Burning of the Bush
1 Nov – 14 Dec	See page 10	Yes	Permit Required
15 Dec – 14 Mar	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited
15 Mar – 30 Apr	See Page 10	Yes	Permit Required
Fire Danger Rating			
Low/Moderate	Yes	Yes	Yes
High	Yes	Yes	Yes
Very High	No	Gas/Electric Only	No
Severe	No	Gas/Electric Only	No
Extreme	No	Gas/Electric Only	No
Catastrophic	No	Gas/Electric Only	No

Firebreaks **must** be installed on or before the 30 November 2012 and maintained clear of flammable material up to and including 30 April 2013.

Fire Danger Rating and What it Means to

FIRE DANGER	RATING WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
<p>CATASTROPHIC 100+</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These are the worst conditions for a bush or grass fire • If a fire starts and takes hold, it will be extremely difficult to control and will take significant firefighting resources and cooler conditions to bring it under control • Spot fires will start well ahead of the main fire and cause rapid spread of the fire. Embers will come from many directions • Homes are not designed or constructed to withstand fires in these conditions • The only safe place to be is away from bushfire risk areas.
<p>EXTREME 75-99</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These are very hot, dry and windy conditions for a bush or grass fire • If a fire starts and takes hold, it will be unpredictable, move very fast and difficult for firefighters to bring under control • Spot fires will start and move quickly. Embers may come from many directions
<p>SEVERE 50-74</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homes that are prepared to the highest level, have been constructed to bushfire protection levels and are actively defended may provide safety • You must be physically and mentally prepared to defend in these conditions • The only safe place to be is away from bushfire risk areas.
<p>VERY HIGH 32-49</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These are hot, dry and possibly windy conditions for a bush or grass fire • If a fire starts and takes hold, it may be hard for firefighters to control • Well prepared homes that are actively can provide safety • You must be physically and mentally to defend in these conditions.
<p>HIGH 12-31</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a fire starts, it is likely to be controlled in these conditions and homes can provide safety • Be aware of how fires can start and reduce the risk
<p>LOW-MODERATE 0-11</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Controlled burning may occur in these conditions if it is safe – check to see if permits apply.

You and Your Family

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

YOU NEED TO ACT NOW

- Put your survival first and leave bushfire risk areas the night before or early in the day – this is your best option
- Act immediately – do not wait and see: leave now avoid forested areas, thick bush or long, dry grass take shelter if you cannot leave

YOU NEED TO GET READY TO ACT

- Only stay with your property if you are prepared to the highest level. This means your home needs to have been constructed to bushfire protection levels eg. enclosed eaves, covers over external air conditioners, metal flyscreens etc
- You must be well prepared and able to actively defend your home if a fire starts. This means you have the right equipment and resources to put out fires around your home eg. enough water supply, petrol/diesel portable pump, generator, protective clothing etc
- If you are not prepared to the highest level, leaving bushfire risk areas early in the day is your safest option.

YOU NEED TO BE AWARE

- Well prepared homes that are actively defended can provide safety. This means you have the right equipment and resources to put out fires around your home eg. enough water supply, petrol/diesel portable pump, generator, protective clothing etc.

- Check your bushfire survival plan
- Monitor conditions
- Action may be needed
- Leave if necessary

Total Fire Bans

A Total Fire Ban is declared by FESA following consultation with Local Governments because of extreme weather conditions or when widespread fires are seriously stretching fire fighting resources.

When a Total Fire Ban is declared, it is illegal to do anything that is likely to start a fire.

That means if a Total Fire Ban is in place you **must not**:

- Cook outside using an open fire.
- Undertake 'hot work' such as metal work, grinding or the like unless you have an exemption.
- Use any vehicles or machinery in bushland or a paddock unless it is for agricultural purposes.
- Use a chainsaw, grass trimmer, lawn mower or plant in bushland, a paddock, or any other areas where their use is likely to cause fire.

During a Total Fire Ban you will still be able to:

- Use a gas cooker or barbecue with an enclosed flame or an electrical stove at home or in a designated area. Many recreation sites have gas or electric barbecues installed, which may be used at any time.
- Continue agricultural activities provided a Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban has not been implemented.
- Smoke – but you must extinguish your cigarettes or cigars properly and safely dispose of the butt.
- Undertake any work covered by a current exemption as long as you meet any special conditions that apply.

You could be fined up to \$25 000 or jailed for 12 months or both if you ignore the Total Fire Ban.

An exemption may be granted if you can show you are taking proper steps to prevent any fire spreading and can control and put out any fire that might start.

For all information on Total Fire Bans contact the FESA Total Fire Ban Information Line on 1800 709 355 or visit www.fesa.wa.gov.au.



Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans

Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans are issued by Local Governments under the *Bush Fires Regulations* 1954 Section 38A, and/or Section 24C.

Bans will be imposed when the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer is of the opinion that the use of engines, vehicles, plant or machinery during the Restricted or Prohibited Burning Times is likely to cause a fire or contribute to the spread of a bushfire.

A Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban may be imposed for any length of time but is generally imposed for the 'heat of the day' periods and may be extended or revoked should weather conditions change.

The responsibility remains on the individual to ensure that any activity undertaken is not likely to start a fire and that a Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban is currently not in place.

To find out if a Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban has been imposed you need to contact the Shire of Murray on 9531 7777 or your local Fire Control Officer.

Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans will be broadcast on ABC Local Radio and other media outlets.

The Shire of Murray now has the ability to broadcast "Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans", "Total Fire Bans" and other topical Shire information via SMS alert.

If you would like to receive notification of current Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans via SMS please email to mailbag@murray.wa.gov.au including your full name and mobile telephone number.

Hot Works

If you are using a welder (oxyacetylene or arc), or gas flame for heating or cutting, or operating a power operated abrasive cutting or grinding disc of any kind, during the Restricted or Prohibited Burning Times, you must have at least one fire extinguisher present and be surrounded by a five metre cleared area.

Your local Fire Control Officer or an authorised officer of the Shire may impose additional conditions.

Extreme care should be exercised to prevent sparks from igniting dry grass/leaves etc.

All hot work operations are prohibited on a day when a Total Fire Ban has been declared or where a Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban has been implemented.

Vehicle and Machinery Operations

The operation of vehicles and farm machines may create a bush fire risk.

- Farm machines should be kept clean of dust and vegetation.
- Fit spark arrestors to machinery exhausts.
- Check the underside of farm vehicles and machinery for any build up of straw or vegetation, particularly around exhaust systems and catalytic converters.
- Carry appropriate fire extinguishers that meet the requirements of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*.
- Vehicle and Machinery exhaust pipes must meet the requirements set out in the *Bush Fires Act 1954* if they are to be operated during the Restricted or Prohibited Burning Times.

Vehicles and machinery cannot be operated in areas of bush, crop, pasture or stubble, on days where a Total Fire Ban has been declared, unless it is for agricultural purposes.

The operation of all vehicles, including farm machinery is absolutely prohibited when a Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban has been implemented, except for the immediate welfare of animals, such as urgent feeding and watering of stock.



When and How to Burn

Outdoor Cooking

Gas and electric barbecues are permitted at any time.

Solid fuel barbecues, spit roasts, webers, pizza ovens and other cooking fires are absolutely prohibited during the Prohibited Burning Time.

During the Restricted Burning Times solid fuel barbecues, spit roasts, webers, pizza ovens and other cooking fires are prohibited on days where the Fire Danger Rating is Very High or above, or when a Total Fire Ban has been declared.

At all other times barbecues may be used at home if constructed in a way to prevent the escape of sparks or burning material and a three metre firebreak has been cleared.

Somebody must be in attendance at all times and a means of extinguishing the fire must be on hand.

Burning of Bush and Grass on any Land

The burning of the bush, which includes grass is totally prohibited during the Prohibited Burning Time.

During the Restricted Burning Times a 'Permit to Set Fire to the Bush' permit must first be obtained from your local Fire Control Officer prior to burning occurring.

Permits issued will specify the standard and any other conditions which must be adhered to.

'Permits to Set Fire to the Bush' can be obtained from the Fire Control Officer in your area, refer to the map and contact information detailed on page 26.

Burning of Garden Refuse and Rubbish

The burning of garden refuse or rubbish in an incinerator or on the ground is totally prohibited on all land in the district during the Prohibited Burning Time.

During the Restricted Burning Times, the burning of garden refuse and rubbish is prohibited on land that is 4000m² or less. On land that is 4000m² or greater, small heaps (up to 1m³) may be burnt on the ground, without a 'Permit to Set Fire to the Bush', between 6pm and 11pm but only if it is completely extinguished before midnight on the same day, a 5 metre firebreak has been cleared and at least one able bodied person remains in attendance.

The burning of garden refuse and rubbish is prohibited on any day where the Fire Danger Rating is Very High or above or if a Total Fire Ban has been declared.

The Shire of Murray Health Local Laws prohibits the burning of any plastic, rubber, food scraps, green garden materials which cause the generation of smoke or odour in such quantities as to cause a nuisance to other persons.

Safety Measures and Hints for Burning

- Check the current weather observations and the forecast to ensure the winds are not too strong.
- Don't burn more than you can control.
- Notify your neighbours of any proposed burn.
- Make sure you have a sufficient water supply onsite to completely extinguish the fire.
- Wear appropriate protective clothing.
- Make sure smoke and sparks will not cause a nuisance to your neighbours.
- Clear surrounding areas of flammable material.
- Burn against the wind.
- On a sloping block, burn from the top down.
- Remain in attendance until the fire is completely extinguished.
- Continue to recheck the burn site to ensure it is completely out. There should be no smoke or embers present.

Alternatives to Burning

There are a range of alternatives to burning waste which will not harm the environment nor cause health problems for you or your neighbours.

Grass can be slashed, grazed or reduced with herbicide to reduce fuel loads. This may be a practical alternative particularly if erosion is a concern or in areas which are difficult to access.

Ratepayers and residents are encouraged to dispose of their green waste and garden refuse via the two annual green waste verge collections.

Shire of Murray ratepayers and residents are also able to dispose of their green waste and garden refuse at the Corio Road and Dwellingup Waste Transfer Stations.

Garden refuse (particularly grass clippings, leaves and twigs) can also be used as a mulch or compost in the garden to improve soils and the growth of plants.

If you have large quantities of green waste (branches, tree trunks) you can arrange for mobile mulching services to mulch the material onsite.

Mulching and composting at home avoids the need to burn off and is an environmentally friendly way to deal with green waste. For further information regarding composting, please contact the Shire of Murray Environmental Services on 9531 7777.

Mulch piles should be no larger than 5 cubic metres to reduce the risk of spontaneous combustion and piles should have a 3 metre firebreak firebreak surrounding the pile.

Advice is Available

Further advice on when and how to burn off is available from your local Fire Control Officer or the Shire of Murray Community Emergency Services Coordinator or Ranger Services on 9531 7777.

Prepare Act Survive

Bushfires happen every summer, they can start suddenly and without warning. People have been killed or seriously injured, and homes destroyed during bushfires. If you live in or near bush, fire is a real risk to you and your family.

You need to understand the bushfire risk to your family and home so you can make decisions now on what you will do if a bushfire starts.

Fire fighters are preparing for the bushfire season and will do everything they can to make your community safe. Many fire fighters are volunteers and take time away from their families during bushfires.

You need to help them by developing your Bushfire Survival Plan and preparing your home to make it as safe as possible.

Whether you choose to leave for a safer place, or you choose to actively defend, preparation is the key to your survival.

Information is available to help you prepare your home, family and business and develop a plan so you can act to make sure you survive.

Before summer starts you need to decide what you will do if a bushfire threatens.

- **Prepare** your family, home or business – know your bushfire risk and have a Bushfire Survival Plan.
- **Act** on the fire danger ratings – put your preparations into action, do not wait and see.
- **Survive** by monitoring conditions if a fire starts – know the bushfire warning alert levels and what you will do if you are caught in a fire.

For further information please contact FESA on 9323 9300 or visit www.fesa.wa.gov.au

Protecting your Property

Preparing for fires is essential to living in our fire prone landscape. Having a plan is the primary step to ensuring the survivability of your property and the welfare of you and your family.

Prepare your property thoroughly well before the fire season. It will be too late to prepare when a serious fire is threatening. Fuel loads influence the bush fire intensity. If the intensity of the fire is low, then there are more options available to fire-fighters to suppress the fire.

You may also need to make provision for your pets and livestock.

Utilities such as telephone, power and water supply are often damaged during major bushfires and may not be available to you when you need them.

If you are well prepared, your property has a greater chance of surviving a bushfire.

Don't Fuel Fires

- Don't have thick vegetation right up to the walls of your home.
- Clear all flammable material from around houses sheds and fences.
- Store firewood, timber, petrol and kerosene well away from the house.
- Don't have flammable trees such as conifers near buildings.
- Clear all dead leaves out of gutters regularly.
- Remove dead trees and branches which, when burning, could drop on your roof.
- Remove rubbish regularly.
- Rake up leaves, twigs and dead material regularly.
- Burn off dry grass and vegetation at the approved times and in the approved manner.

Building Protection Zone

Buildings should be protected by a Building Protection Zone that meets the following requirements. On certain types of zoned land in the district this is mandatory, please also refer to page 22.

- Width: 20 metres measured from any external wall of the building.
- Location: within the boundaries of the lot on which the building is situated.
- Fuel load: reduced to and maintained at less than two tonnes per hectare.
- Flammable material to be reduced and maintained to a height of less than 5 centimetres.
- Trees (crowns) are a minimum of ten metres apart.
- Trees are pruned to remove low branches to a height of at least 2 metres.
- No tall shrub or tree is located within 2 metres of a building (including windows).
- There are no tree crowns overhanging the building.
- Fences and sheds within the Building Protection Zone are constructed using non combustible materials (e.g. colorbond iron, brick, limestone).
- Shrubs in the Building Protection Zone have no dead material within the plant.
- Tall shrubs within the Building Protection Zone are not planted in clumps close to the building i.e. within three metres.
- Trees in the Building Protection Zone have no dead material within the plant's crown or on the bole.

Hazard Separation Zone

Every building and its contiguous Building Protection Zone should be surrounded by a Hazard Separation Zone that meets the following requirements:

- Minimum width: 80 metres from the outer edge of the Building Protection Zone.
- Fuel load: reduced to and maintained at between 5 and 8 tonnes per hectare for jarrah/marri dominated forest and woodlands and below 12-15t/ha in mallee heath areas.

- Trees (crowns) are a minimum of 10 metres apart trees in the Hazard Separation Zone have no dead material within the plant's crown or on the bole.

Building in Bushfire Prone Areas

If you are planning to build or to undertake any building work in a bush fire prone area you are encouraged to comply with Australian Standard AS 3959–2009 'Construction of Buildings in Bushfire-prone Areas'.

This standard improves the ability of buildings to withstand attack from bushfires thus providing a measure of protection to the occupants and the building itself.

LP Gas Cylinder Safety

LP Gas cylinders should be restrained from falling over to ensure the safety valve operates as intended.

When considering how to restrain cylinders, the construction of your house needs to be taken into account.

For further information on LP Gas, see the EnergySafety publication "*LP Gas Cylinder Safety in Bushfire Prone Areas*".

Evaporative Air Conditioners

Your evaporative air conditioning unit can catch fire from embers resulting from bushfires or even small backyard fires that can happen in your neighbourhood. If a fire starts in your air conditioner, it can spread quickly throughout your home.

If there is smoke nearby, you should:

- Run the air conditioner to wet the filter pads.
- When smoke is over your home or ash starts to drop around your house, switch the air conditioner off.
- If the unit can run water over the filter with the fan turned off, continue to do so.
- If the water can't be run on its own, or if there is a power failure at the time, wet the air conditioner filter pads using a garden hose.

Keep checking your air conditioner and the area around your home for spot fires from embers until the danger has passed.

Insurance

Ensure your home and contents insurance cover is adequate. Take into consideration renovations, fixtures and additions such as swimming pools, sheds, gazebos, luxury fittings or new appliances.

Water Supply and Pumps

During a bushfire, it is likely you will lose power and water. Mains water pressure may drop or fail and as a result, if you are planning to actively defend, you will need to have an independent water supply. This should be a concrete or steel tank with a 20,000 litre capacity.

Exposed PVC pipes and fittings will melt in the heat of a fire so metal pipe fittings should be used for above ground applications. PVC and polyethylene pipes can be used for below ground applications and should be buried at least 30 centimetres.

In order to have a water supply for actively defending your home, you will need a generator with more than 1.5 kVa capacity to drive a home pressure pump or a petrol or diesel firefighting pump. All pumps should be able to pump 400 litres per minute (lpm) and must be shielded from the bushfire.

Hoses from the pump should be long enough to reach all corners of the home and should be fitted with a nozzle able to deliver 30 to 100 lpm. Fire hoses should be durable, flexible, able to withstand high temperatures and have UV protection.

To assist the local Bush Fire Brigades, tank fittings on domestic water tanks should be a 50 mm male camlock.

Prepare your pets and livestock

During a bushfire your pets will need water, shade and a safe place. If you have livestock that can be moved out of the area, allow yourself plenty of time to relocate them.

If possible, move larger animals to paddocks with little vegetation. At the start of the bushfire season consider slashing a paddock to create a safer area.

Pets and livestock are not allowed at public relocation centres so you need to consider this in your Bushfire Survival Plan.

Hazard Reduction Program

Autumn to Winter

- Conduct tree pruning around your property – remove lower branches; check that power lines are clear. Use a professional contractor if necessary.
- Reduce fuel levels around the house – clear long grass, leaves, twigs and other flammable material.
- Ensure petrol and other flammables are safely stored away from the main dwelling.
- Make sure your fire fighting equipment is in good working order and serviced where required.
- Make sure all residents are aware of your emergency plan and evacuation routes.

Spring

- Move woodpiles and stacked timber away from the main dwelling.
- Maintain grass/lawn to a height of 5cm or under.
- Clear gutters and remove any roof debris.
- Implement measures in accordance with this Firebreak Notice, your 'Variation to Firebreak Order' or your Fire Management Plan.
- Chemical spraying of firebreaks and low fuel zones – final applications and maintenance.

Summer

- Keep vegetation green around buildings, water lawns, trees and approved plants.
- Maintain firebreaks, Building Protection and Hazard Separation Zones and undertake regular clearing in accordance with this Firebreak Notice.
- Re-check fire fighting equipment, screens, water supplies and ensure gutters remain clear of debris.



Acceptable Firebreak

Long term Precautions

- Ensure firebreaks are prepared in accordance with the latest Firebreak Notice or any Variation to Firebreak Order or Fire Management Plan issued by the Shire.
- Ensure that any planting of wind breaks or trees is in accordance with the Firebreak Notice and will not be detrimental to fire suppression requirements in the years to come.
- Make sure that the buildings are safe – fit wire fly screens and shutters, fill any openings into roof/wall spaces, fit fire screens to evaporative air conditioners and have them operable to provide a water only supply.
- Give consideration to installing external building sprinkler systems and back up power for emergencies.
- Ensure the access to emergency water supplies has the correct fittings, is unobstructed and the route trafficable.
- Get basic training in fire fighting from your local Bush Fire Brigade or even join your local Brigade.
- Join or establish a local Bush Fire Ready Group.



Bushfire Ready Groups

Bushfire Ready is a community driven program established by FESA in collaboration with local government to increase the resilience of the community to bushfire risk.

Bushfire Ready aims to build community resilience by providing an opportunity for neighbours to network, share ideas and information and develop and implement strategies a to reduce their bushfire risk.

In a dangerous bushfire, a fire truck may not be available to protect every home. This means residents and homeowners need to be responsible for their own safety.

The Bushfire Ready program is self managed, flexible and community driven. Members decide when, where and how often they meet and what parts of the program they wish to use.

The program is coordinated by a trained volunteer Bushfire Ready facilitator and supported by local Fire Services personnel.

All Bushfire Ready group facilitators are required to be a member of a Bushfire Brigade, Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service or Volunteer Emergency Service.

Local government in collaboration with FESA play a vital role in facilitating activities to reduce bushfire risk throughout the community. Engaging with the community helps people to prepare, act and survive during bushfire season.

For further information about Bushfire Ready or to establish a group in your area call 9323 9300 or free call 1800 199 084.

Shire of Murray Firebreak Notice

Bush Fire Act 1954

Notice is hereby given to all owners and/or occupiers of land within the Shire of Murray that pursuant to the powers conferred in Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act, 1954, Council resolved on 5 July 2012 to adopt the following requirements to prevent the outbreak or spread or extension of a bush fire within the district.

Pursuant to the powers contained in Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954, you are hereby required to carry out fire prevention work in accordance with the requisitions of this notice on or before the 30 November each calendar year or within fourteen days of the date of you becoming the owner or occupier of the land, should this be after the 30 November. All work required by this Notice is to be maintained up to and including the 30 April the following calendar year. The work required by this Notice is based on the land size and zoning.

Definitions

For the purpose of this Notice the following definitions apply.

Authorised Officer means an employee of the Shire of Murray appointed as a Bush Fire Control Officer.

Building Protection Zone means the area within a distance of 20 metres from a dwelling (As defined in the Residential Design Codes of WA) measured from the external walls within the boundaries of the lot on which the dwelling is situated. The following work is required to be completed and maintained within a building protection zone. The fuel loading (flammable material) is to be reduced and maintained to a height of less than 5 centimetres. Tree crowns are to be maintained at a minimum of 10 metres apart. Tree crowns shall not overhang a dwelling and shrubs and trees within the zone are not to have dead material within the plant.

Firebreak means a strip of ground, of a prescribed width, constructed to a trafficable surface that is kept and maintained totally clear of all flammable material by scarifying, cultivating, ploughing, chemical spraying or other means, and includes the pruning and removal of any living or dead trees, scrub or other material encroaching into the vertical axis of the firebreak area.

Fire Management Plan means a plan that has been developed and approved by the Shire to reduce and mitigate fire hazards within a particular subdivision, lot or other area of land anywhere in the district.

Fuel Depot means an area of land, a building or structure where fuel, i.e. (petrol, diesel, kerosene, liquid gas or any other fossil fuel) is kept in any container or manner

Flammable Material means any plant, tree, grass, vegetable, substance, object, thing or material (except living flora including live standing trees) that may or is likely to catch fire and burn or any other thing deemed by an authorised officer to be capable of combustion.

Hills Landscape Protection Land means land zoned or defined as in the Town Planning Scheme as Hills Landscape Protection Land.

Plantations means any area of planted pines, eucalypt, hardwood or softwood trees exceeding 3 hectares in area.

Trafficable means to be able to travel from one point to another in a 4x4 fire appliance on a clear surface, unhindered without any obstruction that may endanger resources. A Firebreak is not to terminate without provision for egress to a safe place or a cleared turn around area of not less than a 19 metre radius.

Vertical Axis means a continuous vertical uninterrupted line at a right angle to the horizontal line of the firebreak to a minimum height of 4.5 metres from the ground.

Zoning means the land zoning description as recorded in the Shire of Murray property Rates Register.

The zoning of each property in the district is detailed on the annual Rates Notice issued.

Fire Prevention Requirements

1. Rural Zoned Land

- (a) A firebreak of at least 3 metres wide is to be constructed as close as practicable, but within 50 metres of the boundaries of the land, where the land abuts all made roads or railway reserves, Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) land or a Plantation.
- (b) If the Rural land abuts or adjoins “any other type of zoned land” a firebreak of at least 3 metres wide shall be constructed along that portion of the rural land that abuts the other zoned land and the firebreak/s are to be located immediately, where practical inside the boundary of the rural land where it abuts the above-mentioned land.
- (c) Firebreaks of at least 3 metres wide shall be constructed to surround all buildings, sheds, haystacks and fuel depots/storage areas on the land. The inner perimeter of the Firebreak is to be within twenty (20) metres of all buildings, sheds, haystacks and fuel depots/storage areas

2. Special Rural, Special Residential, All Special Use, Farmlet, Hills Landscape Protection Land and Rural Town site Zoned Land

- (a) Where the area of land is 20500m² (square metres) or less in size, all flammable material on the entire property shall be reduced and maintained to a height of less than 5 centimetres. Alternatively a firebreak can be installed in accordance with clause 2(b). (A mixture of bush fire fuel reduction work (mowing or slashing) and the installation of firebreaks are not acceptable on this sized lot, unless a variation is approved pursuant to Clause 6).
- (b) Where the area of the land is more than 20501m² (square metres) in size, a 3 metre wide firebreak shall be installed immediately inside all external boundaries of the land and immediately around any sheds and outbuildings on the land.
- (c) All land within this category definition, irrespective of size requires a Building Protection Zone to be installed and maintained.

3. Residential, Residential Development, Special Development, Industrial and all Other Zoned Land Not Specified

Where the area of land is 4000m² (square metres) or less, all flammable material on the entire property shall be reduced and maintained to a height of less than 5 centimetres.

Where the area of land is more than 4001m² (square metres) in size, a 3 metre wide firebreak shall be installed or constructed immediately inside all external boundaries of the land and also immediately surrounding all buildings situated on the land.

4. Plantations

Plantations established after the 30 November 1984 that exceeds 3 hectares in total area shall have a 10 metre wide firebreak completely surrounding the perimeter of planted trees. Each compartment of a plantation is limited to area of less than 30 hectares in size. Each 30 hectare compartment shall have a 10 metre wide firebreak surrounding the planted trees. Furthermore all plantations shall comply with requirements contained in the Fire and Emergency Services Authorities guidelines or standards for Plantation Fire Protection.

5. Storage of Cut or Stockpiled Timber Products

On all land in the district except, land specified as Industrial, Non Rateable or Reserve Land the owner or occupier of the land shall not keep or permit to be kept any cut, stockpiled or windrowed timber products (manufactured or natural) unless the material is in piles of less than 15 metres long, 5 metres wide and 3 metres high. Every pile of cut, stockpiled or windrowed timber product larger than 12 cubic metres is to be completely surrounded by a 10 metre wide firebreak.

6. Variations

If it is considered to be impractical for any reason to clear firebreaks or establish other arrangements as required by this Notice, the owner or occupier of land in the district may apply for a variation by contacting the appropriate area Fire Control Officer prior to the 14 November each calendar year to arrange for an onsite inspection to discuss the alternate methods of fire

prevention. Variations may be approved by the Shire for a 1, 3 or 5 year period, subject to the owner and/or occupier of the land remaining the same. If a request to vary this Notice is not approved, the requirements of this Notice apply.

7. Fire Management Plans

Where a Fire Management Plan (FMP) exists for a specified area or property as required by the Town Planning Scheme or subdivision approval or for an individual or group of properties, compliance with all requirements of the FMP are required in addition to any further requirements within this Notice.

8. Special Works Order

The requirements of this Notice are considered to be the minimum requirement for fire prevention work not only to protect individual properties but the district generally.

A Separate Special Works Order may be issued to individual landowners pursuant to Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954 to carry out further hazard removal and/or reduction work with respect to anything upon the land, where in the opinion of an authorised officer it is likely to be conducive to the outbreak and/or the extension of a bush fire.

9. Dates to Remember

Restricted Burning Time:

1 November to 14 December each year (inclusive) and 15 March to 30 April each year (inclusive, and as varied pursuant to Section 18 of the Bush Fires Act 1954).

Prohibited Burning Time:

15 December 2012 to 14 March 2013 (inclusive, and as varied pursuant to Section 17 of the Bush Fires Act 1954).

The above dates are subject to variation and any alterations will be published in a local newspaper circulating within the district.

10. Camp or Cooking Fires (25(1)(a) Bush Fires Act 1954)

The lighting of camp or cooking fires is prohibited on all land within the Shire of Murray during the Prohibited Burning Time. This prohibition does not apply to a gas appliance which does not consume solid fuel comprising of a fire, the flame of which is encapsulated by the appliance.

11. Burning of Garden Refuse and Rubbish (24G Bush Fires Act 1954)

The burning of garden refuse or rubbish is prohibited on all land under 4000m² (square metres) in size during the Limited Burning Time that would otherwise be permitted under Section 24F.

For the purposes of this Clause “Limited Burning Time” means the 1 November each calendar year through until 30 April the following calendar year (inclusive, and as varied pursuant to Sections 17 & 18 of the Bush Fires Act 1954).

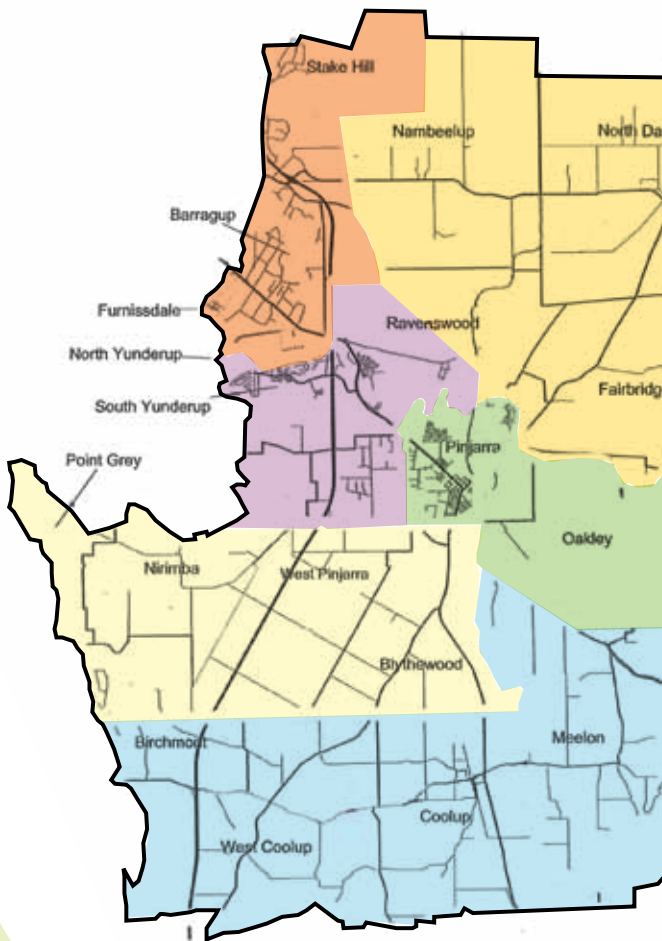
On land larger than 4001m² (square metres) the burning garden waste and rubbish that would otherwise be permitted under Section 24F is prohibited absolutely during the Prohibited Burning Time.

The effect of this clause is that the burning of garden refuse or rubbish in an incinerator or on the ground on land that is 4000m² (square metres) or less in size is prohibited during the Limited Burning Time and the burning of garden refuse or rubbish in an incinerator or on the ground is prohibited on all land within the district during the Prohibited Burning Time.

12. Penalties

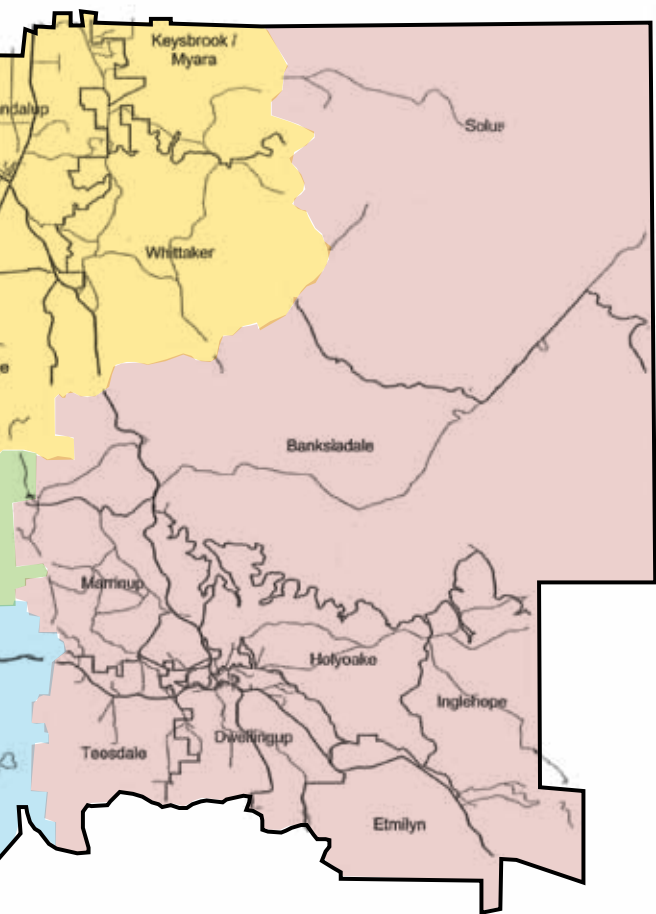
The penalty for failing to comply with this Notice is a fine not exceeding \$5,000. A person in default is also liable whether prosecuted or not to pay the costs of performing the work directed by this Notice if it is not carried out by the owner and/ or occupier by the date required by this Notice.

Permit Issuing Officer's Map



Permit Issuing Officers contact information

- Zone 1** Jim Camplin 0409 909 063 or (08) 9531 1101
- Zone 2** Robert Wilson 0417 916 468 or
Christine Thompson (08) 9535 6080
- Zone 3** Michael Webster 0427 882 201 or
(08) 9530 1006



- Zone 4** Kevin Jones 0417 996 806 or (08) 9531 1608
- Zone 5** Ben Armstrong 0429 777 500 or David Turner 0427 775 914
- Zone 6** Lance Pitter 0438 246 500
- Zone 7** Douglas McLarty 0407 728 446

General Contact Information

For all fires Phone 000

Fire and Emergency Services Authority
(08) 9323 9300

Department of Environment and Conservation
(08) 9295 9100

Total Fire Ban Information Line
1800 709 355

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
Robert Wilson 0417 916 468

Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officers
Ben Armstrong 0429 777 500
Michael Webster 0427 882 201

Pinjarra Volunteer Fire and Rescue
Brigade Captain
Kevin Jones 0417 996 806



Ph: (08) 9531 7777

Fx: (08) 9531 1981

mailbag@murray.wa.gov.au

Postal Address: PO Box 21
Pinjarra WA 6208

www.murray.wa.gov.au

Feedback on this booklet is welcome. Please send any comments by post or email, or phone the Shire's Community Emergency Services Coordinator

For All Fires Phone 000