

# 2024 - 2025 FIRE HAZARD REDUCTION NOTICE

## FIRST AND FINAL NOTICE TO ALL OWNERS AND OCCUPIERS OF LAND IN THE SHIRE OF BROOKTON

In accordance with Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954, you are required to carry out fire prevention work on land owned or occupied by you as set out in this Notice by the dates specified. If the requirements of this Notice are not met by the due date, or are not completed to the satisfaction of an inspecting officer, an infringement will be issued.

This Order sets out the measures that you must take to prepare your property for the fire season.

They are aimed at preventing the outbreak of a bush fire or preventing the spread or extension of a bush fire.

All owners and occupiers of land within the Shire's district are required to, before 1st of November in each year, clear fire breaks and take measures in accordance with this order up to and including the 14th of April the following year.

**The maximum fine for failure to comply is \$5,000. Council can also enter upon the land and carry out required works at the owner/occupier's expense.**

**RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD**  
19 SEPTEMBER TO 31 OCTOBER  
1 MARCH TO 14 APRIL

**PROHIBITED BURNING PERIOD**  
1 NOVEMBER TO 28 FEBRUARY

**BURN WITH CARE**  
15 APRIL TO 18 SEPTEMBER

**PLEASE NOTE: Fire Danger Rating for a particular day can over rule permits.**

## HARVEST AND VEHICLE MOVEMENT BANS AND TOTAL FIRE BAN

Harvest & Vehicle Movement Bans are imposed by Local Government under the Bush Fires Regulations 1954 Section 38A and Section 24C, when prevailing and/or anticipated weather conditions and/or when availability or response capacity of the local firefighting resources are reduced. A Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban may be imposed for any length of time but is generally imposed for 'heat of the day' periods and may be extended or revoked as weather conditions change. During a Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban, the use of engines, vehicles, plant and machinery is prohibited in order to mitigate the associated risk of causing or contributing to the spread of a bushfire.

Total Fire Bans (TFB) are declared by the Department of Fire & Emergency Services (DFES) following consultation with Local Governments due to extreme weather conditions or widespread fires stretching firefighting resources. During a TFB the lighting of any fires in the open air and any other activities that may start a fire are prohibited, including:

- All open air fires for the purpose of cooking/camping, i.e. wood fuel barbeques, candles, pizza ovens.
- Incinerators, welding, grinding, soldering, gas cutting, angle grinders and lawnmowers.

## COMMUNICATION OF HARVEST & FIRE BANS

All bans will be communicated via the Shire's SMS system, Harvest and Ban Hotline (phone 9487 8128). If you are a farmer or contractor and would like to receive notification by SMS on Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans please phone the Shire office on 9642 1106 with your name, organisation and mobile phone number.

**HARVEST BAN HOTLINE**  
**08 9487 8128**

**TO REGISTER FOR SMS ALERTS**  
**08 9642 1106**



# WORK REQUIRED TO BE UNDERTAKEN



## TOWN SITE LAND

**PROPERTIES EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN 2,023m<sup>2</sup> IN SIZE. Are required to be fire hazard reduced by:**

- Reduction of the vegetation fire hazard to a maximum height of 75mm. All slashed material is to be removed.

**PROPERTIES OVER 2,023m<sup>2</sup> IN SIZE. Are required to be fire hazard reduced by:**

- Construction and maintenance of a 3m wide minimum bare earth unobstructed trafficable firebreak within 3m of the property boundaries (footpaths and roads or road verges are not to be accepted as firebreaks); or
- Reduction of the vegetation fire hazard to a maximum height of 75mm including the removal of slashed material, unless an exemption is granted by the Chief Executive Officer in consultation with the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and VFRS Captain.



## RURAL LAND

**PROPERTIES EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN 100 HECTARES IN SIZE. Are required to be fire hazard reduced by:**

- Construction and maintenance of a 3m wide minimum bare earth unobstructed trafficable firebreak within 30m of the boundary of the property.
- Any activity that may start a fire on the property requires an operational independent mobile water filled firefighting unit with a water capacity of not less than 450 litres to be at the ready throughout the restricted and prohibited burning period. Trailer type units must be attached to a towing vehicle and slip-on units must be attached to the tray of the vehicle in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
- Construction of a 5m wide minimum bare earth unobstructed trafficable firebreak within 15m of and surrounding all buildings, sheds, fuel storage including drums and flammable chemicals, silos and fodder stacks as well as hay stacks within a shed or within 400m from any infrastructure including operational generators and stationary motors.

**PROPERTIES AND AGGREGATED LAND OVER 100 HECTARES IN SIZE. Are required to be fire hazard reduced by:**

- Construction of a 5m wide minimum bare earth unobstructed trafficable firebreak within 15m of and surrounding all buildings, sheds, fuel storage including drums and flammable chemicals, silos and fodder stacks as well as hay stacks within a shed or within 400m from any infrastructure including operational generators and stationary motors. Excluding seed cleaners as they are deemed part of the harvest operations.
- Hay and straw stacks in open paddock areas awaiting pickup and removal are not required to be surrounded by a firebreak.
- Provision on the property of an operational independent mobile water filled firefighting unit with a water capacity of not less than 450 litres to be at the ready throughout the restricted and prohibited burning period. Any activity that may start a fire must be accompanied by a trailer type unit that must be attached to a towing vehicle and/or a slip-on unit that must be attached to the tray of the vehicle in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

### Note:

- During any period when harvesting operations are being conducted an operational independent mobile firefighting unit must be located in the same paddock, or within 50m of the paddock and be kept full of water at all times. The responsibility to supply the firefighting unit is that of the landowner. Harvesting operations includes the use of augers and seed cleaning units, other than when used in a silo compound where surrounded by more than 15 metres cleared area.

# LAND OWNERS AND OCCUPIERS

## PLANTATIONS

Is an area of planted trees, other than a windbreak, within the gazetted townsites exceeding 3 hectares and outside of a townsite exceeding 10 hectares.

- A. Boundary firebreaks: a 15m clear area is required on all boundaries of plantations and along public roads. This clear area must have a minimum trafficable surface of 5m minimum of clear bare earth and a minimum vertical clearance of 4m. The remaining 10m must be maintained in a low fuel condition, i.e. Closely mowed, grazed or sprayed.
- B. Compartment firebreaks: internal firebreaks between compartments of up to 30 hectares must be a minimum of 6m wide and for compartments over 30 hectares a minimum of 10m wide. In all cases a 5m trafficable surface and a minimum 4m vertical clearance should be maintained to allow access by firefighting appliances.
- C. Firefighting water supplies: must be designed and constructed to enable heavy duty firefighting equipment to access the water supply in accordance with DFES Guidelines for Plantation Fire Protection 2011 or as revised.  
A copy of these Guidelines is available from the Shire Administration office upon request.
- D. Firefighting equipment must be provided by the plantation owner to the minimum standards recommended in the DFES Guidelines for Plantation Fire Protection 2011 or as revised.

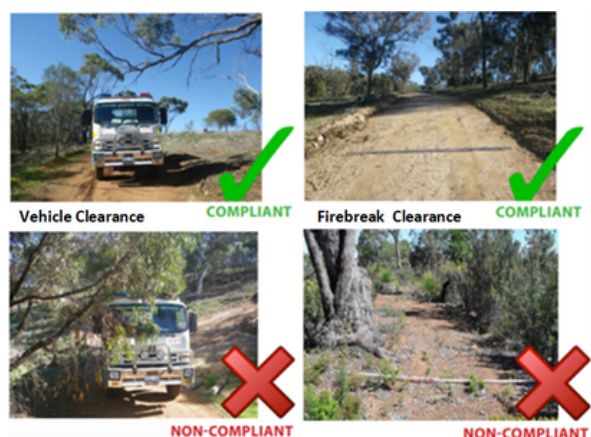
Paragraphs **A** to **D** do not apply to established plantations which have received planning approval and have an approved fire management plan as part of the planning approval. Owners and managers of such plantations must comply with the conditions of their fire management plan.

## SLASHER & ROTARY MOWER BAN

A ban applies to the use of slasher and rotary mowers from 1st December to 28th February during the hours of 6:00am to 6:00pm and from 6:00pm on the day before an extreme or above fire danger rating is forecast from Bureau of Meteorology, unless the use is:

- On a property within a townsite, of any size that is reticulated or;
- On a property outside the townsite, with the area being slashed or mowed is irrigated or reticulated and is less than 1 hectare.

**It is the landowner's responsibility, NOT the contractor, to ensure your property complies with the annual Fire Break Notice**



# FIRE CONTROL

## BUSH FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS

Burning permits can be obtained from your local Fire Control Officer. Please remember the Fire Control Officers are volunteers.

**Please plan ahead - do not contact a Fire Control Officer on the day you intend to burn and expect a permit, as it may not be granted. You must give notice to your neighbours and the Shire once the permit is granted.**

Please ensure you have the following information before calling a Fire Control Officer.

Name & contact details of no less than three (3) able bodied persons who will be attending the fire at all times.




- The address or property location numbers that the permit is to apply to.
- Firefighting equipment and resources to be present at the fire front.
- Size of burn to take place (area).
- Confirm that firebreaks are installed and a fire unit can access the area.

## BUSH FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS

<b>Chief Bush Fire Control Officer</b>  Murray Hall 0428 421 367	<b>Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer</b>  Travis Eva 0428 421 642	<b>Community Emergency Services Manager</b>  Jason Carrall 0448 494 027
<b>CENTRAL BRIGADE</b>	<b>EAST BRIGADE</b>	<b>WEST BRIGADE</b>
Anton de Lange .....0407 487 421 Troy Bassett.....0488 190 870 Brad Bassett .....0427 421 070	Bevan Walters..... 0427 426 061 Michael Eva ..... 0428 425 005	Tim Evans .....0439 424 010 Mark Whittington...0417 954 061

## REPORT ALL FIRES TO 000

## AUSTRALIAN WARNING SYSTEM

 <p><b>ADVICE</b> A fire has started but there is no immediate threat to lives or homes. Be aware and keep up to date.</p>	 <p><b>WATCH AND ACT</b> There is a possible threat to lives or homes. You need to leave or get ready to defend – do not wait and see.</p>	 <p><b>EMERGENCY WARNING</b> There is a threat to lives or homes You are in danger and need to take immediate action to survive.</p>
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The AWS is an easy to understand warning system to help you stay safe during an emergency, no matter where you are.

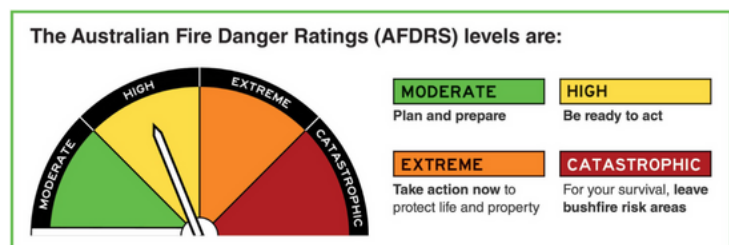
Recent changes to this system include changes to the bushfire warning colours, as well as new nationally consistent hazard icons on Emergency WA <https://www.emergency.wa.gov.au>

## FIRE DANGER RATINGS

The Fire Danger Rating (FDR) tells you how dangerous a fire would be if one started. The higher the FDR, the more severe a bushfire is expected to be.

It is vital that you are aware of the FDR for any areas you are travelling to or through.

You can find all the current FDRs for WA on Emergency WA at <https://www.emergency.wa.gov.au/#firedangerratings>



No Rating	Moderate	High	Extreme	Catastrophic
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