



SHIRE OF
HARVEY

Firebreak Notice and Bush Fire Information

BUSH FIRE SEASON
2021-2022



**REPORT ALL
FIRES TO 000**

www.harvey.wa.gov.au

Important dates



**Firebreak/Hazard
Prevention work to
be completed by
30 November 2021**



**Firebreak/Hazard
Prevention work to
be maintained until
26 April 2022**

Burning periods for the Shire of Harvey



RESTRICTED

2 November 2021
–
14 December 2021



PROHIBITED

15 December 2021
–
14 March 2022



RESTRICTED

15 March 2022
–
15 May 2022

Please note, the Restricted Burning Period dates are subject to change due to variable weather conditions. You should always call your Bush Fire Control Officer or a Shire Ranger to check prior to lighting up.

Burning is prohibited on days where the Fire Danger Rating is Very High or above.

A Total Fire Ban may be declared at any time. If declared, a person must not light any fire or undertake any activity that may cause a fire.

Fire Danger Ratings change daily. To check the fire danger rating go to **[emergency.wa.gov.au](https://www.emergency.wa.gov.au)**

Firebreak Notice

Responsibilities:

Notice is hereby given to all owners of land within the Shire of Harvey that pursuant to the powers conferred in Section 33 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*, you are required to carry out fire prevention work in accordance with the requirements of this Notice, on or before 30 November 2021.

As a landowner you have a responsibility to manage your property to reduce the risk of bush fire. This notice informs you of what actions you must take to manage your property and the dates when those actions must be adhered to.

Infringements

The Shire will be inspecting properties for compliance from 1 December 2021.

The penalty for failing to comply with this Notice is a fine not exceeding \$5000 and 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.

Variations to this Notice

If you consider it to be impractical to meet the requirements of this Notice, you may apply and seek approval from the Shire in writing no later than **1 November 2021**, for permission to provide firebreaks in alternative positions or to take alternative action to abate fire hazards on the land.

Special Work Orders

The Shire retains the ability to issue Special Work Orders pursuant to Section 33 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*, to individual landowners should additional works be necessary for a potential fire hazard that may exist on a property. These can be issued at anytime during the year.

Bushfire Management Plan

All properties that are subject to a Bushfire Management Plan as a result of a subdivision or development approval or an approved treatment plan, must comply with the requirements of such plans in their entirety.

Fire season preparation

Firebreaks

Rural Land/ Special Rural Land	<p>Firebreaks not less than 3 m wide with a 4 m high Vertical Axis must be provided and maintained in the following positions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Within 10 m inside and along all boundaries of all land. (b) So as to divide the land into areas of not more than 120 ha (300 ac). (c) Around all groups of buildings, haystacks and fuel installations but not closer than 6 m. (d) Irrigation areas – owners or occupiers may be exempt from all or part of the requirements of the above. As an exemption will be required, please contact the Shire's Ranger Services.
Urban Land/ Special Residential 2024m² or less	All flammable material on the entire property (noting that this does not include living trees, shrubs, plants and lawn under cultivation) is to be reduced and maintained to a height of less than 5 cm.
Urban Land/ Special Residential exceeding 2024m²	<p>Firebreaks of at least 2 m wide with a 4 m high Vertical Axis must be provided and maintained within 6 m of the inside of all external boundaries of the land.</p> <p>Cleared hardstand areas and reticulated grassed areas maintained in a green state may be considered acceptable as an adequate firebreak.</p>
Fuel and/or Gas Depots	Maintain the land clear of all flammable materials for 20 m from any edge of the storage unit.
Plantations	
Boundary Firebreaks	Provide 15 m wide firebreaks immediately adjoining all external boundaries of the planted area. The outer 10 m will be cleared of all flammable material while the inner 5 m (closest to the trees) kept in a reduced fuel state.
Internal Firebreaks	Provide 6 m wide firebreaks so as to divide the land into areas of not more than 30 ha.
Special Risks	Provide 15 m wide firebreaks immediately adjoining the Special Risk.
Power Lines	Provided a firebreak in accordance with Western Power specifications along power lines where they pass through or lie adjacent to planted areas.

Permits to burn

1. Permits to burn are required for the whole of the Restricted Periods and must be obtained from the Bush Fire Control Officer.
NOTE: Fire Control Officer has the right not to issue a permit.
2. Any special conditions imposed by the Bush Fire Control Officer when issuing permits must be strictly adhered to.
3. The permit holder shall give notice of his intention to burn to:
 - a. The Shire Office no later than 24 hours prior to the day when the burning is to take place. **Weekend burning must be notified by Friday at 4pm on 08 9729 0300.**
 - b. The owner and/or occupier of adjoining land.
 - c. The nearest Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), if the land is situated within 3 km of State Forest Land, National Parks, Nature Reserve and other DBCA lands on 08 9735 1988.
4. **Period of notice** to neighbours prior to burning cannot be more than 28 days or less than four days, although lesser notice may be determined by the mutual agreement of all neighbours.
5. Burning under permit is permitted during the Restricted Burning period on Sundays and Public Holidays.
6. All landowners and occupiers who suffer a bush fire have an obligation to assist each Bush Fire Control Officer to compile a Fire Report form.
7. Garden refuse burnt on the ground (**up to 1 m³**) may be lit only between 6pm and 11pm without a permit and must be completely extinguished with water or earth by midnight. All flammable materials are to be cleared from within 3 m of all points of the site of the fire and a person must be in attendance at all times until the fire is completely extinguished.
8. Any incinerator to burn rubbish must be properly constructed – an open drum with or without a lid, is not an appropriate incinerator and also requires the approval of the Manager Environmental Health Services.

NOTE: Burning of garden refuse and incinerators is not permitted within the prohibited burning period.

9. With reference to items 7 and 8 of this summary, burning may not take place if the Fire Danger Rating for the day is Very High or Extreme.

NOTE: The lighting of all fires whether they are in or out of the restricted burning period is the sole responsibility of the person lighting the fire and due caution should be observed, including taking into account adverse weather conditions.

Key contacts

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

Michael Papalia – 0439 922 606

Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (South)

Wayne Jackson – 0418 940 929

Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (North)

Vaughn Byrd – 0404 800 302

Area Bush Fire Control Officers

Contact a Bush Fire Control Officer between the hours of **9am and 5pm Monday to Friday**. Please note, 48 hours notice is required prior to burning.

1.	Peter Simpson	Leschenault, Australind, Parkfield and Wellesley	0419 989 660
2.	Peter Simpson	Binningup	0419 989 660
3.	Wayne Jackson	Myalup	0418 940 929
4.	Darryl Wilson	Yarloop	0499 406 393
5.	Kevin Prowse	Uduc	0418 921 811
6.	Robert George	Brunswick Town, Roelands and Olive Hill	08 9726 1132 0417 173 553
7.	Vaughn Byrd	Harvey Hills and Benger	0404 800 302
8.	Derek Everington	Cookernup	0448 197 723

Shire Officers

Waste and Community Safety Support Officer

08 9729 0344

Shire of Harvey Coordinator Ranger Services

08 9729 0350

Permit issuing only – Harvey and Australind townsites:

Ranger Services 08 9729 0333

Volunteer Brigades

Binningup Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade	Dario Nandapi	0429 201 534
Brunswick Fire and Rescue Service	Colin Keys	0456 111 175
Cookernup Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade	Derek Everington	0448 197 723
Eaton/Australind Fire and Rescue Service	Matthew Stoltzenberg	0456 957 281
Harvey Fire and Rescue Service	Scott Britza	0409 015 047
Harvey Hills Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade	Doug Buist	0450 302 511
Leshenault Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade	Michael Papalia	0439 922 606
Myalup Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade	Brett Parkinson	0400 932 219
Olive Hills/Roelands Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade	Wayne Fenn	0448 767 681
Uduc Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade	Kevin Prowse	0418 921 811
Yarloop Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade	Matthew Anzellino	0437 411 614



Burning

Total Fire Ban (TFB)

TFBs are declared by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services on days of extreme weather or when widespread fires are seriously stretching firefighting resources. TFBs are generally declared the evening before they take effect. To find out if a TFB has been declared visit www.emergency.wa.gov.au or tune in to ABC (684/720AM) on your radio.

When a TFB is declared it prohibits the lighting of any fires in the open air and any other activities that may start a fire.

The ban includes all open air fires for cooking or camping. It also includes incinerators, welding, grinding, soldering or gas cutting. For more information including exemptions visit www.dfes.wa.gov.au/totalfirebans.

Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans (HVMB)

A HVMB, once declared by the Shire, prohibits all harvesting operations and all vehicle movements on a property (except for the essential watering of stock using a diesel powered vehicle).

HVMBs remain in place until midnight on the day called or until lifted (revoked) by the Shire.

A ban may be called on the basis of:

- Unfavourable fire weather conditions.
- Lack of firefighting resources due to existing commitments.
- Public holidays.

You can find out if a HVMB has been declared on the Shire's website www.harvey.wa.gov.au and Facebook page or by tuning into ABC (684/720AM) on your radio.



Definitions

Firebreak

A firebreak means a strip of land which has been cleared of all flammable material such as wood, leaves and grass that is likely to be ignited and capable of burning. It must be trafficable, meaning it must be accessible by a fire appliance and cleared of vegetation to a maximum height of 5 cm, without any obstruction to the vehicle. A firebreak cannot terminate or lead to a dead end.

Flammable Fuel Storage

Includes all petroleum-based liquids, Liquefied Petroleum Gas, Liquefied Natural Gas, any other combustible liquid or gaseous fuel.

Flammable Materials

Accumulated fuel such as leaf litter, twigs, bark, grass over 5 cm in height, timber boxes, cartons, paper and any combustible material, capable of carrying a running fire but excludes living standing trees and shrubs.

Hay Stack

A collection of hay including fodder rolls placed or stacked together.

Irrigated Land

Land that is kept fully watered and maintained in a non-flammable state for the whole of the Restricted and Prohibited burning periods.

Plantation

Any area exceeding 3 ha planted for commercial gain. Including pine, eucalypt or other commercial value trees, excluding orchards and vineyards.

Special risks

Areas that adjoin public roads, railway reserves and power lines.

Trafficable

A firm stable surface, unhindered and without obstruction that a 4WD fire appliance is able to travel along from one point to another. A firebreak must not terminate without provision to escape to a safe place or a cleared turn around area of not less than a 20 m radius.

Urban Land / Special Residential

Residential, Commercial and Industrial land within a townsite or any other area subdivided for residential purposes.

Vertical Axis

A continuous vertical uninterrupted line at a right angle to the horizontal line of the firebreak.

Hazard Reduction Guidelines

Preparing 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, including pets and livestock.

Ensure that all firebreaks (if this is a requirement for your property) are maintained and totally clear of all flammable material either living or dead and they must be maintained in this state for the compliance period. Cleared hardstand areas and areas maintained in a green state may be considered acceptable as a firebreak.



Create a circle of safety around your home and other buildings.

20m

A 20 m circle is recommended by DFES.



Clear all rubbish, long dry grass, bark and material that may catch fire.



Cut long grass to a height of 5 cm.



Prune lower branches up to 2 m off the ground to stop a ground fire spreading into the canopy of the trees.



Create and maintain a minimum 2 m gap between your house and tree branches. Do not pile wood against or near your house.



Rake up leaves and other combustible materials from under trees.



Keep roof gutters and valleys clear of leaves and bark.



Hoses should be long enough to reach all parts of your house and use metal fittings as these are less likely to melt.



Building Envelopes have been allocated to all lots within Special Residential and some Special Rural areas. Clearing living vegetation outside the confines of the Building Envelope requires approval from the Shire.

In respect to fire breaks and hazard reduction the following is important;

1. The area outside the Building Envelope has been set aside as a tree retention area, to provide a vegetated buffer between individual properties. The clearing of any trees or substantial shrubs, with the exception of providing a fire break or a driveway, is not permitted unless approval has been obtained from the Shire.
2. The Shire requires the provision of a 2 m wide firebreak around the perimeter of all Special Residential lots prior to the 30 November, annually. Landowners should meander the firebreak around existing standing timber.
3. The Shire will permit the clearing of understory (grasses, shrubs, ground covers) to reduce the quantity of combustible material at ground level. It is important that all live standing trees and shrubs capable of growing to at least 3 m in height are not cleared in order to maintain the visual appearance of these areas.



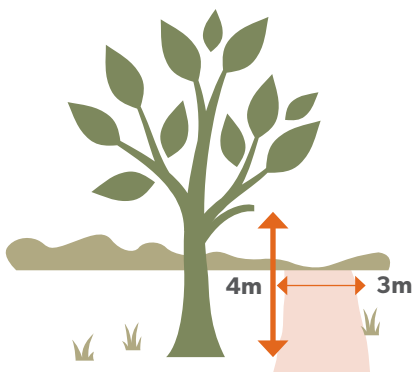
Make sure you have ample water and another power source as you may lose power in a fire. You may need a petrol/diesel generator powered pump to draw water from an alternative source, such as dams, pools or water tanks.



Have a bush fire survival plan and kit ready - visit **firechat.wa.gov.au** to prepare a plan, by having a five-minute fire chat with your family.



Check your home and contents insurance cover is adequate.



Stay informed



**REPORT ALL
FIRES TO 000**

Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans

For all up to date information regarding Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans, please tune in to the following:

ABC Local Radio

There will be designated tune-in times for listeners to hear harvest bans:

Weekdays 10.05am, 12.35pm and 2.05pm
 (1.05pm in Perth metro area)

Weekends 12.35pm and 2.05pm

Total Fire Bans

Information Line **1800 709 355**

dfes.wa.gov.au

emergency.wa.gov.au

ABC (684/720AM) Local Radio

DFES Emergency Info Line

133 337

Follow DFES on Twitter and Facebook
or listen to ABC Radio South West WA



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Visit www.harvey.wa.gov.au

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PO Box 500 Harvey WA 6220



@shireofharvey



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