



SHIRE OF
HARVEY

Firebreak Notice and Bush Fire Information

BUSH FIRE SEASON
2022–2023



**REPORT ALL
FIRES TO 000**



For more information
harvey.wa.gov.au

Important dates



**Firebreak/Hazard
Prevention work to
be completed by
30 November 2022**



**Firebreak/Hazard
Prevention work to
be maintained until
15 May 2023**

Burning periods for the Shire of Harvey



RESTRICTED

2 November 2022
to 14 December 2022
(midnight)



PROHIBITED

15 December 2022
to 14 March 2023
(midnight)



RESTRICTED

15 March 2023
to 15 May 2023
(midnight)

**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
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 2022.

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 2022.

The penalty for failing to comply with this Notice will/may result in a fine being issued to the maximum of \$5000. 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 2022**. Please complete the form on the Shire's website harvey.wa.gov.au/services/fire-and-emergency-management 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 any time 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.

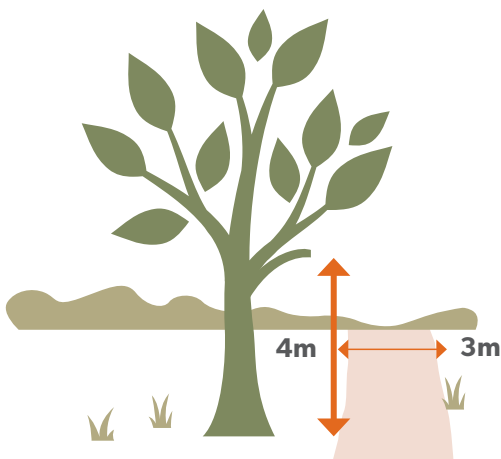
Firebreaks

Rural Land

Firebreaks not less than 3m wide with a 4m high Vertical Axis must be provided and maintained in the following positions:

- Located within 10m of all boundaries of the property/land.
- So as to divide the land into areas of not more than 120ha.
- Around all groups of buildings, haystacks and fuel installations but not closer than 6m.

Irrigated land that is kept fully watered and maintained in a non-flammable state for the whole of the Restricted and Prohibited burning periods may not require a firebreak.



Fuel and Gas Depots

Maintain the land clear of all flammable materials for 20m from any edge of the storage unit.

Plantations

Provide 15m wide firebreaks immediately adjoining to external boundaries of the planted area. The outer 10m be cleared of all flammable material while the inner 5m (closest to the trees) kept in a reduced fuel state.

Provide internal 6m wide firebreaks so as to divide the land into areas of not more than 30ha.

Fire Season Preparation

Residential/Special Residential exceeding 2024m²

Firebreak of at least 2m wide with a 4m high Vertical Axis must be provided and maintained in a non-flammable state within 6m of the property boundaries.

Cleared hardstand areas and reticulated grassed areas maintained in a green state are acceptable.

Residential/Special Residential 2024m² or less

All flammable material on the entire property (noting that this does not include living, standing trees, shrubs, plants and lawn under cultivation) is to be reduced and maintained to a height of less than 5cm.

Definitions

Firebreak

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 5cm, without any obstruction to the vehicle. A firebreak cannot terminate or lead to a dead end.

Flammable Materials

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

Residential/Special Residential Land

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

Rural land

Includes land zoned Special Rural, Intensive Farming, General Farming and Landscape Protection.

Flammable Fuel Storage

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

Definitions Continued

Hay Stack

Hay stack means any collection of hay including fodder rolls placed or stacked together that exceeds 100m³ in size (eg 5m x 5m x 4m) whether in a shed, other structure or open air.

Strip of Land

Land cleared of all flammable materials, such as wood, leaves and grass that is likely to be ignited and capable of burning; it must be maintained throughout the period.

Irrigated Land /Hard Stand/ Reticulated Grass

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 3ha 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.

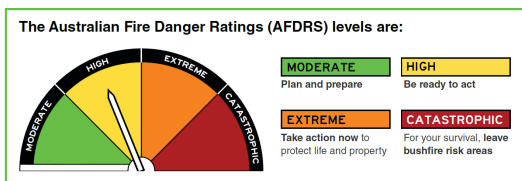
Trafficable

Trafficable means to be able to travel from one point to another in a four-wheel drive fire appliance on a clear surface, unhindered without any obstruction that may endanger such fire appliances.

Vertical Axis

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

Australian Fire Danger Ratings



For more information visit:
afac.com.au/initiative/afdrs



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 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 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 prevention of an immediate and serious risk to the health or safety of a person or livestock, and only if all reasonable precautions have been taken).

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 harvey.wa.gov.au and Facebook page or by tuning into ABC (684/720AM) on your radio.

Burning of garden waste

Garden refuse (up to 1m³) may be lit outside the prohibited burning period 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 5m 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 (only one pile to burnt at a time). Any incinerator to burn rubbish must be properly constructed and requires the approval from the Manager Environmental Health Services.

Note: Burning of garden refuse and incinerators is not permitted within the prohibited burning period or when the Fire Danger Rating for the day is high or above.

Permit To Burn

Permits to burn are required during Restricted Burning Periods and must be obtained from your local Bush Fire Control Officer (contacts on page 8).

If you want to burn grass, paddocks and bush during the Restricted Burning Period, you will need a permit to burn. To apply for a permit call your local Bush Fire Control Officer at least 72 hours before your proposed burn. They will assess your proposed burn and issue a written permit (if approved).

Burning permits are only valid for the day or days written on the permit. If you have been refused a permit, you can't reapply for the same burn. Appeals to a refusal can only be lodged to the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer by emailing shire@harvey.wa.gov.au.

The permit holder must strictly adhere to the following conditions and any special conditions imposed by the Bush Fire Control Officer:

- a. Register their burn with DFES Communications Centre on 9395 9209.
- b. Contact the Shire Administration Centre no later than 24 hours prior to the day when the proposed burn is to take place. Weekend burning must be notified by Friday at 4pm on 9729 0300.
- c. Contact the owner and/or occupier of adjoining land.
- d. 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 9735 1988.
- e. 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.
- f. Burning under permit is not permitted during the Restricted Burning period on Sundays and Public Holidays.

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

Bush Fire Control Officers

Contact a Bush Fire Control Officer between the hours of 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday. Please note, 72 hours notice is required prior to burning.

Michael Papalia	Australind Townsite	0439 922 606
Peter Simpson	Leschenault, Australind, Parkfield and Wellesley	0419 989 660
Peter Simpson	Binningup	0419 989 660
Wayne Jackson	Myalup	0418 940 929
Tracey Osborn	Yarloop	0457 088 073
Kevin Prowse	Uduc	0418 921 811
Robert George	Brunswick Town, Roelands and Olive Hill	08 9726 1132 0417 173 553
Vaughn Byrd	Harvey townsite, Harvey Hills and Benger	0404 800 302
Jayden Marinelli	Cookernup	0402 175 047

Other contacts

Community Emergency Services Manager

08 9729 0383

Shire of Harvey

08 9729 0300

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 Stoltenbarg	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	Paul Reynolds	0406 063 464
Olive Hills/Roelands Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade	Jeremy Gunson	0409 725 960
Uduc Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade	Andrew Mapstone	0428 292 609
Yarloop Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade	Matthew Anzellino	0437 411 614



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 are maintained in this state for the entire compliance period. Cleared hardstand areas and areas maintained in a green state may be considered acceptable as a firebreak.

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.



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



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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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@shireofharvey



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