



SHIRE OF
HARVEY

Firebreak Notice and Bush Fire Information

BUSH FIRE SEASON 2025–2026



**REPORT ALL
FIRES TO 000**



For more information
harvey.wa.gov.au

Important Dates



Firebreak/Hazard
Reduction work to
be completed by
30 November 2025



Firebreak/Hazard
Reduction work to
be maintained until
15 May 2026

Burning periods for the Shire of Harvey



RESTRICTED
Spring/Summer

Permits Required
1 November 2025
to 14 December 2025 (midnight)



PROHIBITED

Burning Prohibited
15 December 2025
to 15 March 2026 (midnight)



RESTRICTED
Autumn

Permits Required
16 March 2026
to 15 May 2026 (midnight)

Please note, the Restricted Burning Period dates are subject to change due to variable weather conditions.

Total Fire Ban (TFB)

TFBs are declared by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES).

If declared, you must not light any fires in the open air or undertake any activities that may start a fire.

For more information, visit: dfes.wa.gov.au/totalfirebans

Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans (HVMB)

HVMBs may be declared by the Shire - separately or in conjunction with a TFB - at any time, and prohibit all harvesting operations and all vehicle movements on a property.

For more information on HVMBs, visit the Shire's website harvey.wa.gov.au, the Shire's Facebook page or tune into the ABC (684/720AM) on the radio.

NOTE

Anyone who lights a fire is fully responsible, and may be liable, including costs, if it escapes their property and causes damage.

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 2025.

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 2025.

The penalty for failing to comply with this Notice will/may result in a fine being issued to the maximum of \$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.

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 2025**. 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.

Firebreak Notice

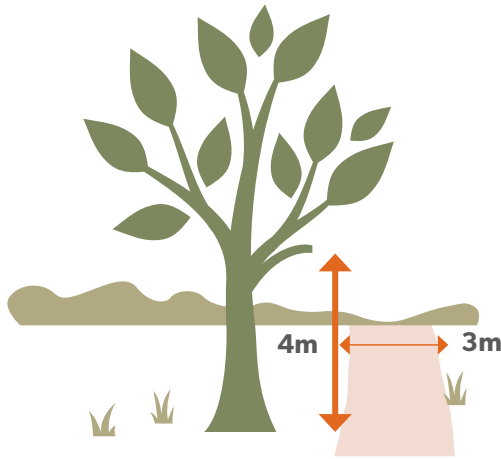
Rural land

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

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.

Firebreak Notice

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.

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 in the open air.

Definitions Continued

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.

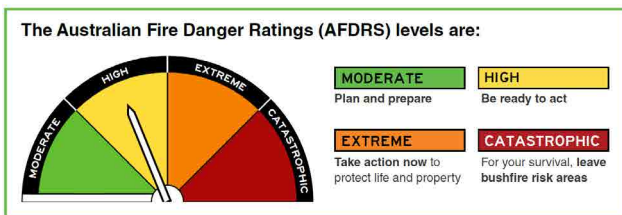
Trafficable

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 Rating System



For more information visit: dfes.wa.gov.au/hazard-information/bushfire/prepare#fire-danger-ratings



Burning of Garden Refuse

Not permitted at any time during the Prohibited Burning Period, on days of Total Fire Ban or when the fire danger rating is HIGH or above.

- The person intending to light the fire must telephone the Department of Fire and Emergency Services on (08) 9395 9209 and register the burn immediately prior to lighting the fire. The fire shall only be lit between 6pm and 11pm and completely extinguished before midnight on the same day;
- There is no flammable material (other than that being burnt) within three (3) metres of the fire at any time while the fire is burning;
- Only one pile (up to one (1) cubic metre in size) of garden refuse may be burnt at any one time;
- At least one person must remain in attendance at all times until the fire is completely extinguished;
- The fire is only be lit within the confines of privately owned land;
- Wind conditions must be light (below 20 km/h) and smoke must not cause a nuisance to neighbours.

Campfires, fire pits, wood/solid fuel BBQs and pizza ovens

- Not permitted at any time during the Prohibited Burning Period, on days of Total Fire Ban or when the fire danger rating is HIGH or above;
- Are permitted for cooking purposes only, between the hours of 6pm and 11pm and is completely extinguished before midnight on the same date;
- A person to be in attendance at the fire and have an appropriate method of extinguishment while burning.

Enclosed gas and electric BBQ's

Enclosed gas and electric BBQ's with no exposed flames may be used during a Total Fire Ban and throughout the Prohibited and Restricted Burning Periods, provided they are located at a private residence or a designated site within the Shire, and are used solely for the purpose of cooking.

Further information can be found at harvey.wa.gov.au/services/fire-and-emergency-management/burning-periods-and-fire-danger-ratings

Permit To Burn

During the **Restricted Burning Period**, a **permit is required** to burn grass, paddocks, or bush. Permits must be requested **at least 72 hours in advance** from your local Bush Fire Control Officer (see contact list on page 8). Proposed burns will be assessed and if a permit is approved it will be issued in writing and are **only valid for the dates specified**.

If a permit is refused, you cannot reapply for the same burn, but may appeal the decision by contacting the **Chief Bush Fire Control Officer** at shire@harvey.wa.gov.au.

All permit holders must strictly comply with the following conditions and special conditions outlined in the permit.

- The person intending to light the fire must telephone the Department of Fire and Emergency Services on (08) 9395 9209 and register the burn immediately prior to lighting the fire;
- 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.
- Contact the owner and/or occupier of adjoining land prior to burning by no more than 28 days or less than 4 days unless the notice is given verbally in which case a minimum period may be determined by mutual agreement.
- Contact 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.
- Burning under permit is permitted during the Restricted Burning Period on Sundays and Public Holidays.

Unrestricted Burning Period

Before lighting a fire within the Shire of Harvey boundaries during the **Unrestricted Burning Period**, for the purpose of removing hazard reduction vegetation, you should:

- The person intending to light the fire must telephone the Department of Fire and Emergency Services on (08) 9395 9209 and register the burn immediately prior to lighting the fire;
- Ensure at least one person is in attendance at all times while the fire is burning, and that they are contactable via mobile phone;
- A suitable water source must be available on-site and ready to be used to control or extinguish the fire for the full duration of the burn.

Key Contacts

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

Wayne Jackson – 0448 086 672

Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (South)

Max Van Weert – 0438 974 107

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.

Jacob Clark	Australind Binningup Leschenault Parkfield Wellesley	0417 078 730
Todd Verrall	Uduc	0419 291 813
Max Van Weert	Beela Brunswick Olive Hill Roelands	0438 974 107
Vaughn Byrd	Benger Harvey Townsite Harvey Hills Yarloop	0404 800 302
Jayden Marinelli	Cookernup Hoffman	0402 175 047
Wayne Jackson	Myalup	0448 086 672

Other contacts

Community Emergency Services Manager

9729 0383

Shire of Harvey

9729 0300

Shire Rangers

9729 0333

DBCA Parks and Wildlife Wellington

9735 1988

Water Corporation

13 13 75

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	Kerry Argent	0428 282 830
Eaton/Australind Fire and Rescue Service	Leticia Craig	0427 236 257
Harvey Fire and Rescue Service	Scott Britza	0409 015 047
Harvey Hills Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade	Steve Watt	0477 413 464
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	Luke Wright	0448 061 959
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 20m 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 5cm or less.



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



Create and maintain a minimum 2m 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](https://www.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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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 Facebook

or listen to ABC Radio South West WA



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102 Uduc Road, Harvey, WA 6220

PO Box 500 Harvey, WA 6220

