

2024-2025 FIREBREAK NOTICE

BUSH FIRES ACT 1954

SHIRE OF DUNDAS

NOTICE TO ALL OWNERS AND/OR OCCUPIERS OF LAND SITUATED IN THE SHIRE OF DUNDAS.

In the interests of community safety, we ask that residents install fire breaks in line with this fire break notice. Proper preparedness for the fire season will enhance the capacity for you, your family and property to survive a wildfire should one occur. Community fire safety information is available at the Council website www.dundas.wa.gov.au

Pursuant to the powers conferred in Section 33 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*, you are required on or before the 30th November 2024, or within fourteen (14) days of the date you become the owner or occupier should this be after that date and thereafter up to and including the 31st day of March 2025, to clear inflammable matter and maintain as such, on land owned and/or occupied by you. The term "Inflammable Matter" for the purpose of this Notice includes bush (as defined in the Bush Fires Act 1954) leaf and bark litter, timber, boxes, cartons, paper, rubbish and any other combustible or inflammable matter, but does not include buildings, green standing trees and bushes or growing bushes or plants in gardens or lawns.

This is to be applied with the following requirements –

1. All land which is 3000 m² or less in area.

Remove inflammable matter from the whole of the land, except living trees and shrubs; plants under cultivation and lawn, by means of ploughing, cultivating, spraying, cutting or slashing to a height of no more than 50mm. Burning maybe subject to further permit requirements.

2. All other land within the Shire of Dundas –

Establish fire breaks to minimum width of three metres and height of three metres

(i) immediately inside all external boundaries of the land;

(ii) immediately surrounding all buildings situated on the land; and any place where inflammable liquids and gas products are kept;

In addition to the requirements in this Fire Break Notice (Notice) Council may, by notice in writing require an owner and/or occupier to act as and when specified in the Notice with respect to anything which is upon land and which in the opinion of Council is or is likely to be conducive to the outbreak of a bush fire or the spread or extension of a bush fire.

If for any reason an owner and/or occupier considers it impractical to clear firebreaks or comply with other fire protection measures in accordance with the Notice, the owner and/or occupier may apply in writing to Council no later than 15th November in any year for a variation. If permission is not granted in writing by Council or its authorised officer, the owner and/or occupier must comply with the requirements of this Notice. Any variation granted by Council will apply only for a single fire break period. A variation granted by Council shall only remain in force until 31st March in the following year.

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

By order of Shire of Dundas

PETER FITCHAT

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



SIMPLE AND ONGOING PROPERTY UPKEEP

Set calendar reminders to complete these preparations monthly during fire season

	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR
Cut the grass around your property to 10cm or less	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prune shrubs so they are not dense	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clean gutters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Check gas release valves face away from property	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



MORE LASTING PROTECTION

Set calendar reminders to complete these preparations annually

- Remove any shrubs from against the home
- Keep gas cylinders away from likely direction of fire (i.e. where bush is) and turn release valves outwards
- Remove wood, mulch or any flammable material against or near the house
- Create a minimum two metre gap between your house and tree branches
- Install metal fly wire mesh on all windows, vents and install a protective screen on evaporative air conditioner
- Block any gaps under floor, in the roof spaces, under eaves, external vents, skylights, chimneys and wall claddings
- Install a fire or heat radiant shield such as a solid fence

ADDITIONAL RURAL PROPERTY PROTECTION

- Make sure fire trucks can access and turn on your property
- Check bridge loading and cattle grid loading for fire truck access
- Create fire breaks along paddock boundaries
- Store petrol and gas safely away in a shed
- Install underground water pumps that lead from dams to the house
- If a fire threatens move livestock to a well grazed paddock
- Create a mineral earth firebreak along the boundary of your property

Image Sourced from: DFES Fire Chat Bushfire Preparedness Tool Kit

<https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/safetyinformation/fire/bushfire/BushfireManualsandGuides/DFES-Fire-Chat-Bushfire-Preparedness-Toolkit.pdf>

DATES TO REMEMBER 2024-2025

RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD 1	PROHIBITED BURNING PERIOD	RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD 2
OCTOBER 1st TO NOVEMBER 30th (INCLUSIVE)	DECEMBER 1st TO MARCH 31st (INCLUSIVE)	APRIL 1st TO MAY 31ST (INCLUSIVE)
Permits to burn are required during this period for hazard reduction burning.	All burning, including garden refuse is prohibited during this period	Permits to burn are required during this period for hazard reduction burning.
Alternative firebreak applications to be submitted by November 15th, 2024	Firebreaks to be maintained clear of flammable material until March 31st, 2025	Certain climate or weather conditions may cause these periods to be extended or shortened.
Firebreaks must be installed by November 30th, 2024		You must contact the Shire Office on 9039 1205 before commencing to burn

Please note that penalties apply where burning regulations are contravened or permit conditions are not complied with.