

PERMITS TO BURN

Permits to Burn are required for the whole of the Restricted Burning Times and can only be obtained from the Fire Control Officer for your area

A list of Fire Control Officers is available on the **Fire and Emergency Services** page on the City's website

Most of our Fire Control Officers are volunteers, make sure you **plan ahead** if you intend to apply for a Permit to Burn

A Permit to Burn must be obtained before any burning takes place and the permit holder **must be in possession** of the permit throughout the duration of the burn

The permit holder shall ensure **all conditions** of the permit, as shown on the permit, are **fully complied** with

NOTIFY DFES COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE

DFES Communications Centre (9395 9209) are to be advised whenever the holder of a permit **commences burning**; and/or whenever a person is carrying out burning activities **outside of the Prohibited and Restricted Burning Times**

HARVEST & VEHICLE MOVEMENT BANS

The City may declare **Harvest & Vehicle Movement Bans** (HVMBs) at any time. For further information or to receive notification of HVMBs please visit the **Fire and Emergency Services** page on the City's website

SMS Notifications for Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans

The City has implemented an **SMS notification system** to advise community members when a **Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban is being issued**

To receive these notifications you will need to **register on the City's website**. To register select the **"Resident"** tab on the front page of our website, then the **"SMS notification"** tab under the **"Fire and Emergency Services"** page

HVMBs (issued by the City) are **different from Total Fire Bans** (issued by DFES). **Residents and visitors** to the City are encouraged to **monitor the Emergency WA** website to see if a TFB is in place

GENERAL INFORMATION

Burning of Garden Refuse: pursuant to section 24G(2) of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*, the burning of garden refuse is prohibited throughout the District during Prohibited Burning Times, and prohibited in urban areas of the District during Restricted Burning Times

During Restricted Burning Times, a Permit to Burn is required for the burning of garden refuse in Rural Residential or Rural areas

Camping and/or Cooking Fires: pursuant to section 25(1a) of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*, the lighting of fires in the open for the purpose of camping and/or cooking is prohibited throughout the District during Prohibited Burning Times

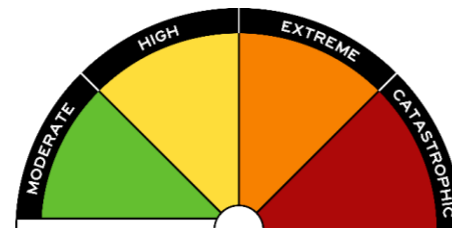
The lighting of fires in the open for the purpose of camping and/or cooking is prohibited at all times when the **Fire Danger Rating** for the District is ***High or above** without the written approval of the City

Fire Pits, Chimineas, and/or Braziers: the lighting of fire pits, Chimineas and/or braziers is prohibited during Prohibited Burning Times, and otherwise prohibited if the **Fire Danger Rating** for the District is ***High or above**

Conditions for the Lighting and Extinguishing of Fires in the Open: when burning garden refuse; or lighting camping and/or cooking fires; or when lighting fire pits, Chimineas and/or braziers the space of ground around the site of the fire, having a radius of at least 3 metres from the site at the centre, shall be clear of all vegetation and other flammable materials

The person who lit the fire, or a person left in attendance at the fire as the case may be, shall completely extinguish the fire by the application of water and/or earth before that person leaves the site unattended

Australian Fire Danger Rating System



Moderate: plan and prepare

High: be ready to act

Extreme: take action now to protect life and property

Catastrophic: for your survival, leave bushfire risk areas

KEY DATES

Dates **may change due to seasonal fire conditions** in which case details will be published in local newspapers and on the City's website

PROHIBITED BURNING TIME

(BURNING IN THE OPEN IS PROHIBITED)

1 December 2023 to 29 February 2024

RESTRICTED BURNING TIMES

(BURNING PERMITS ARE REQUIRED)

**15 October 2023 to 30 November 2023
and 1 March 2024 to 30 April 2024**

(Burning on Public Holidays Prohibited)

COMPLIANCE DATES

Rural Residential / Urban / Industrial Land

Compliance with this Notice must be achieved no later than **15 November 2023** and maintained until **30 April 2024**

Rural Land

Compliance with this Notice must be achieved no later than **15 December 2023** and maintained until **30 April 2024**

FIREBREAK INSPECTIONS AND RIGHT OF ENTRY

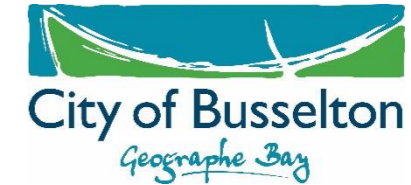
The City will commence its annual firebreak inspection program on **15 November 2023**

Rangers are appointed Bush Fire Control Officers under the provisions of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* and carry out annual inspections

Under the provisions of the Act, Bush Fire Control Officers may in the performance of their duties, enter any land or building including private property

FIREBREAK VARIATIONS

Where there are valid environmental and/or on-ground considerations that prevent full compliance with this Notice, landowners may apply to the City for a firebreak variation. A variation must be lodged in writing on an Application for Variation form that is available on the City's website



FIREBREAK AND FUEL HAZARD REDUCTION NOTICE

2023/2024 BUSH FIRE SEASON

FIRST AND FINAL NOTICE

Take notice that pursuant to Part 3 Division 6 Section 33 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*, landowner(s) or occupier(s) of land shall construct firebreaks and carry out fire prevention work in accordance with this Notice

Failure to comply with this Notice may result in a fine of up to

\$5,000

This year the City will be prioritising the inspection of properties that were issued Work Orders during the 2022/2023 bush fire season

Should you require assistance or clarification of the requirements of this Notice, please contact the City's Ranger Services on 9781 0444

CATEGORY

It is the land owner's responsibility to identify the category that relates to their property and to ensure the necessary fire prevention works are completed on time. Please contact the City if you are unsure of your category.

FIREBREAK CATEGORY CODE AND SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS

ALL REQUIREMENTS IN THIS NOTICE ARE TO BE MAINTAINED THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE DURATION OF THE FIRE SEASON

FAILURE TO COMPLY MAY RESULT IN A \$5,000 FINE

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT YOUR PROPERTY MUST

COMPLY WITH CATEGORY REQUIREMENTS AS



CATEGORY	A	B	C	D	REQUIREMENTS
CATEGORY 1 RURAL Except plantations and vineyards (for tourist chalets, refer to Estate Fire Management Plan or Individual Fire Management Plan) Sections A, C and D apply to this category.	✓	✓	✓	✓	A - Firebreak – The term firebreak includes a mineral earth firebreak. A mineral earth firebreak means a 3 metre wide area of the owner(s)/occupiers(s) land, cleared and maintained totally clear of all vegetation material (living or dead) so there is only mineral earth left. Any overhanging trees and other vegetation must be pruned to a height of 5 metres above the ground level of a mineral earth firebreak. Category 1 – Rural: A mineral earth FIREBREAK shall be constructed 3 metres wide, except in pasture or crop areas where a FIREBREAK shall be 2 metres wide. FIREBREAKS shall be located adjacent to all external boundaries of the land. Where the land area exceeds 120 hectares, an additional FIREBREAK must divide the land into areas of not more than 120 hectares with each part completely surrounded by a FIREBREAK. Category 2 - Urban Residential and Industrial-Commercial: Where the area of land exceeds 2024m ² (½ acre) a mineral earth FIREBREAK shall be constructed and maintained at least 3 metres wide and within 6 metres of the inside of all external boundaries of the land. Where the area of land is 2024m ² (½ acre) or less, hazardous material must be removed in accordance with section B - Fuel Reduction (refer to B1). Category 5 - Protea Plantations/Vineyards: A mineral earth FIREBREAK shall be 3 metres wide. A low fuel area is to be maintained in accordance with section B - Fuel Reduction (refer to B2). Category 6 and 7 - Rural Residential: A mineral earth FIREBREAK shall be constructed 3 metres wide. On Category 6 Rural Residential land with pasture or crop, a FIREBREAK shall be 2 metres wide and located within 6 metres of all external boundaries of the land. For Category 7 Rural Residential land, free access along a Strategic FIREBREAK is to be maintained at all times and including across the boundary of a lot, by means of a 3.5 metres wide field gate in the adjoining lot boundary fence.
CATEGORY 2 URBAN RESIDENTIAL & INDUSTRIAL - COMMERCIAL Sections A, B, D and E1 Trees, apply to this category. Refer to section E - Interpretation and Additional Requirements (E1 Trees).	✓	✓	✓	✓	B - Fuel Reduction <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Category 2 - Urban Residential and Industrial-Commercial: Where the area of land is 2024m² (½ acre) or less, ALL HAZARDOUS MATERIAL must be removed from the whole of the land except living trees. In the area remaining, vegetation is to be maintained to a height of no greater than 10 centimetres; this includes piles of timber, branches and other vegetation. Trees shall be pruned in accordance with section E – Interpretation and Additional Requirements (refer to E1). Category 5 - Protea Plantations/Vineyards: A 5 metre low fuel area is to be maintained between the 3 metre FIREBREAK and the plantation/vineyard area. In this area, vegetation is to be maintained to a height of no greater than 10 centimetres; this includes piles of timber, branches and other vegetation. Category 6, 7 and 8 - Rural Residential: Parkland clearing must be carried out in all open paddocks and along the boundary of the property. Clearing means that all dead vegetation and dry grasses (excluding approved crops, pasture areas and living trees/shrubs) including piles of timber and disused materials must be maintained to a height of no greater than 10 centimetres.
CATEGORY 3 & 4 PLANTATIONS Fire Management Plan applies	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	C - Building Protection Zones (BPZ) - This is a modified area of reduced fuel immediately surrounding a building BPZ's starve the fire by reducing the fuel levels around your house. These requirements are designed to reduce the fire's intensity and minimise the likelihood of flame contact with buildings. The BPZ gives more protection to families should a fire threaten suddenly and they cannot leave. It also provides extra protection for fire fighters and property owners who may decide to stay with their property. A BPZ shall be provided for buildings in bush fire prone areas. The surroundings of buildings must comply with the following requirements:
CATEGORY 5 PROTEA PLANTATIONS / VINEYARDS (For tourist chalets, refer to Estate Fire Management Plan or Individual Fire Management Plan) Sections A, B, C and D apply to this category.	✓	✓	✓	✓	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The BPZ for existing buildings must be at least 20 metres from any external wall of the building unless varied under an approved Fire Management Plan (FMP) in accordance with section E - Interpretation and Additional Requirements (refer to E4). The minimum BPZ for buildings constructed after 1 November 2011, in all cases shall be 25 metres. The BPZ must be located within the boundary of the lot that the building is situated on. Hazardous/flammable materials must not exceed the maximum fuel load specified in Point 5 below with grass areas not exceeding a height greater than 10 cm. Fuel loads must be reduced and maintained at 2 tonne per hectare. Isolated trees and shrubs may be retained, however, the first 5 metres around all buildings is to be clear of all hazardous/flammable materials. Reticulated gardens in the BPZ shall be maintained to a height of no greater than 500 millimetres. Wood piles must be at least 10 metres away from habitable dwellings. Trees in the BPZ must comply with section E - Interpretation and Additional Requirements (refer to E1). Where the land has an approved FMP, compliance must be achieved in accordance with the FMP. The FMP may vary the above BPZ requirements. A Hazard Separation Zone (HSZ) is also recommended in the absence of a Fire Management Plan. Section E - Interpretation and Additional Requirements (refer to E3).
CATEGORY 6 RURAL RESIDENTIAL - LOTS WITH INDIVIDUAL (MINERAL EARTH) BOUNDARY BREAKS Sections A, B, C and D apply to this category unless the property is subject to Estate Fire Management Plan or Individual Fire Management Plan	✓	✓	✓	✓	D – Fuel Storage & Haystack Protection Zones A 3 metre mineral earth FIREBREAK shall be located within 6 metres of fuel storage tanks, sheds, gas cylinders and haystacks. The mineral earth firebreak shall be maintained so that it is totally clear of all material (living or dead).
CATEGORY 7 RURAL RESIDENTIAL - LOTS WITH A STRATEGIC FIREBREAK ON ONE OR MORE BOUNDARIES Sections A, B, C and D apply to this category unless the property is subject to Estate Fire Management Plan or Individual Fire Management Plan	✓	✓	✓	✓	E – Interpretation and Additional Requirements <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Trees On Urban, Industrial, Rural, and Rural Residential land, all tree branches must be removed or pruned to ensure a clear separation of at least 3 metres back from the eaves of all buildings and 5 metres above the top of the roof. Branches that may fall on the house must also be removed. In the BPZ the following is 'recommended'; the spacing of individual or groups of trees should be 15 metres apart to provide for a 5 metres separation between tree crowns. There is also a requirement of 2.5 metres between trees and power lines so they do not come into contact and start a fire or bring down a power line. Hazardous and Flammable Materials means the accumulation of fuel including burn piles (living or dead) such as leaf litter, twigs, trash, bush, dead trees and scrub capable of carrying a running fire, but excludes standing living trees and isolated shrubs. NOTE: All remaining vegetation, piles of timber, branches and other living vegetation must be maintained to a height of no greater than 10 centimetres. To measure and determine fuel loads use DFES's Visual Fuel Load Guide at http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/safetyinformation/fire/bushfire/pages/publications.aspx#5 and select Visual Fuel Load Guide Swan Coastal (Part 1 & 2). Surface bush fire fuels should be kept low to the ground. Hazard Separation Zones (HSZ) A HSZ is a modified area of reduced fuel load outside of the BPZ and is recommended to assist in reducing the fires intensity when flames are approaching buildings. Both the BPZ and the HSZ are essential strategies for the protection of buildings. A HSZ covers the area 75 metres outside the BPZ. The HSZ should be modified to have a maximum fuel load of 6-8 tonne per hectare. This can be implemented by fuel reduction methods such as burning, mowing and slashing to remove the hazard. This should not require the removal of living trees or shrubs. REMEMBER: reduce the fuel level of the fire to lower the intensity of the blaze. Further information on fuel loading can be found in the Visual Fuel Load Guide available by calling DFES or via their website at www.dfes.wa.gov.au Fire Management Plan (FMP) A FMP is a comprehensive plan for the prevention and control of bushfires which may apply to individual land holdings. A notification, pursuant to the Transfer of Land Act 1893 (as amended) may be placed on the Certificate(s) of Title of the land for medium to long term fire management to reduce the occurrence and minimise the impact of uncontrolled bush fires, thereby reducing the threat to life, property and the environment. The land owner must comply with the FMP. Building in bush fire prone areas, new dwellings and other forms of accommodation, as well as additions to existing buildings are to be constructed in accordance with in Australian Standard 3959-2009. In designated bush fire prone areas, the minimum BPZ in all cases shall be 25 metres. Further information on this and other information relating to fire safety issues can be found on the City's website www.busselton.wa.gov.au
CATEGORY 8 RURAL RESIDENTIAL - LOTS WITHIN A STRATEGIC FIREBREAK AREA WITH NO STRATEGIC FIREBREAKS ON THE LOT BOUNDARIES Sections B, C and D apply to this category unless the property is subject to Estate Fire Management Plan or Individual Fire Management Plan	✓	✓	✓	✓	

