



# Firebreak Notice and Bushfire Information 2020–21



[amrshire.wa.gov.au](http://amrshire.wa.gov.au)

Firebreak Notice

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## Definitions

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For the purpose of this notice the following definitions apply:

**Firebreak** means an area of land that has been cleared of all trees, bushes, grasses, and any other object or thing which may be flammable, leaving a bare, trafficable surface to the prescribed width as outlined in the table on page 6, and with a four (4) metre high vertical clearance.

**Trafficable** means a firm, stable surface that a 4WD fire appliance is able to travel along, from one point to another, unhindered and without obstruction. A firebreak must not terminate or lead to a dead end without provision for egress to a safe place or a cleared turnaround area of not less than a 10-metre radius.

**Asset Protection Zone (APZ)** means the area of land within 20 metres from the external walls of any habitable building. The fuel loading (flammable material) in the APZ is to be reduced and maintained to less than two (2) tonnes per hectare. Trees must not be closer than two (2) metres to a building, and trees must not overhang a building within four (4) metres of the external roof. **APZ requirements apply to all properties (excluding vacant lots), regardless of size, and must be maintained all year round\*.**

**Flammable Material** means any plant, tree, grass or other vegetation, substance, object, thing or material that may or is likely to catch fire and burn.

**Driveway / Access Way** means the access route from the road to your main dwelling. This should be a minimum of four (4) metres wide with a minimum four (4) metre vertical clearance to allow emergency vehicles to access your property.

**Bushfire Management Plan** means a plan that has been developed and approved by the Shire to reduce and mitigate fire hazards within a subdivision, lot or other area of land within the district.

**Plantation** means any area of planted pines, eucalypt, hardwood or softwood trees exceeding three (3) hectares in area.

*\*If your property is subject to an approved Fire Management Plan, and there is a discrepancy between the Fire Management Plan and this Notice, the Fire Management Plan is to apply.*



## Firebreak Notice

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### *Bush Fires Act 1954*

The following Notice is hereby given to all owners and/or occupiers of land within the Shire of Augusta Margaret River:

Pursuant to the powers contained in section 33 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*, you are hereby required and therefore ordered by the local government to carry out fire prevention work in accordance with the requirements of this Notice, on or before **30 November 2020**.

All land is to be maintained up to and including **12 May 2021** as specified in this Notice. All previous versions of this document are hereby cancelled. Properties subject to an approved Bushfire Management Plan must comply with the requirements of their Plan.

Rangers will be inspecting properties for compliance from **1 December 2020**. Persons who fail to comply with the requirements of this Notice may be issued with an infringement notice (\$250) or prosecuted with a modified penalty (up to \$5,000). The Shire of Augusta Margaret River may carry out the required work on the land at cost to the owner/occupier.



## Can We Access Your Property?

### DID YOU KNOW?

In order for fire appliances to access your property safely, firebreaks must be three (3) metres wide and have at least four (4) metres vertical clearance. Fire appliances must be able to fit through gates on your property. The average fire appliance is nine (9) metres in length.

### DON'T FUEL FIRES

- × Don't have thick vegetation near your home.
- ✓ Clear all flammable material from around all structures.
- ✓ Store firewood, timber, petrol, kerosene and all flammable liquids well away from the house.
- ✓ Clear all dead leaves out of gutters regularly.
- ✓ Remove dead trees and branches which, when burning, could drop on your roof.
- ✓ Rake up leaves, twigs and dead material regularly.
- ✓ Burn off dry grass and vegetation at the approved times and in the approved manner or consider using alternative methods to burning.

Up to 1 cubic metre (a 6x4 trailer load) of uncontaminated green waste can be disposed of at the Davis Road Waste Management Facility at no cost to Shire residents. Check the Shire website for Green Waste Open Days.

## Important Dates

### Spring/Summer Restricted Burning Period

#### Permits Required

9 November 2020 to 22 December 2020

### Deadline for Prevention Works

**Installed** on or before 30 November 2020

**Maintained** up to and including 12 May 2021

### Prohibited Burning Period

#### Burning Prohibited

23 December 2020 to 14 March 2021

### Autumn Restricted Burning Period

#### Permits Required

15 March 2021 to 12 May 2021

#### PLEASE NOTE

- These dates can change at short notice due to variable weather conditions so you should always call your area FCO or the Shire Rangers 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 by the DFES Commissioner 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 [www.emergency.wa.gov.au](http://www.emergency.wa.gov.au) or contact Shire Rangers on 9780 5695.

## Fire Season Preparation

All land owners/occupiers must carry out fire prevention work in accordance with the requirements of this Notice on or before **30 November 2020**. All land is to be maintained up to and including **12 May 2021**.

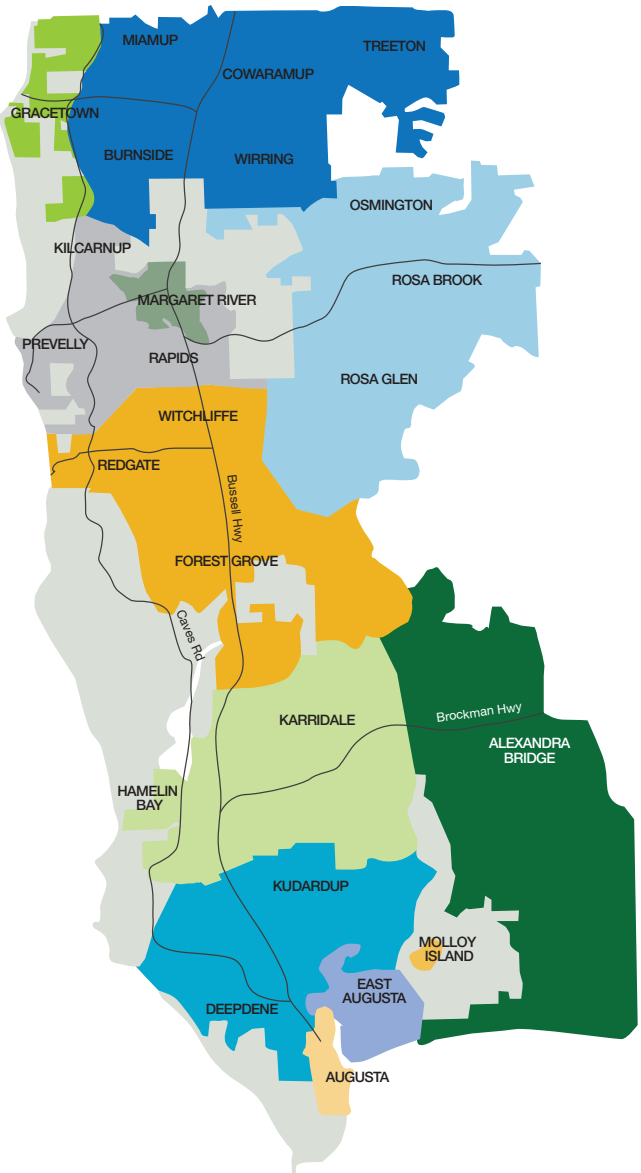
**Please Note: Asset Protection Zone (APZ)** requirements apply to all properties (excluding vacant lots), regardless of size, and must be maintained all year round.

Property Type	Firebreak Requirements
All Lots 4000m <sup>2</sup> and under	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2-metre wide firebreaks around all piles of garden refuse and/or wood stacks</li></ul>
Residential/ Rural Residential Lots 4001m <sup>2</sup> and over	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minimum 3-metre wide trafficable firebreaks inside all boundaries</li><li>• 2-metre wide firebreaks around all piles of garden refuse/wood stacks, fuel and fodder</li></ul>
Rural Lots (excluding plantations, vineyards, orchards and olive groves)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minimum 3-metre wide trafficable firebreak required within 100 metres of a boundary that abuts a road reserve</li><li>• Where land is actively grazed or maintained to less than 10cm, a 2-metre firebreak is required</li><li>• 2-metre wide firebreaks around all piles of garden refuse/wood stacks, fuel and fodder</li></ul>
Plantations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 10-metre wide mineral earth firebreak around each cell or block - minimum 3 metres must be trafficable</li><li>• 2-metre wide firebreaks around all piles of garden refuse/wood stacks, fuel and fodder</li></ul>
Vineyards, Orchards and Olive Groves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 5-metre wide mineral earth firebreak around each cell or block - minimum 3 metres must be trafficable</li><li>• 2-metre wide firebreaks around all piles of garden refuse/wood stacks, fuel and fodder</li></ul>

If it is considered impractical to clear firebreaks or to carry out any other works as required by this Notice, you may apply to the Shire of Augusta Margaret River for a **Variation to the Firebreak Notice**. Applications must be completed on the approved form, which is available upon request or can be downloaded via the Shire’s website, and must be submitted to the Shire of Augusta Margaret River no later than **16 November 2020**.

Asset Protection Zone (APZ)	Grass slashed/ mowed to less than 10cm	Driveway/ Access way	Gutters and rooftops free of debris
✓	✓	✓	✓
✓	Vacant/ cleared land that is not being actively grazed	✓	✓
✓	Vacant/ cleared land that is not being actively grazed	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓	✓

# Fire Control Officer Area Map





## Fire Control Officer Contact Details

Brigade	Fire Control Officer(s)
Alexandra Bridge	<b>Alexandra Bridge</b> Tony Mostert: 0428 461 388
Augusta	<b>Augusta</b> Brendan Jordan: 0477 970 415
Cowaramup	<b>Burnside</b> Tim Garstone: 0428 555 292 <b>Cowaramup</b> Ian Earl: 0418 932 847 <b>Miamup</b> Billy Pascoe: 0405 965 447 <b>Treeton</b> Geoff Jenkins: 0407 776 920 <b>Wurring</b> Greg Tennant: 0487 677 062
East Augusta	<b>East Augusta</b> Peter Brindley: 0439 869 680
Gracetown	<b>Gracetown</b> Peter Delfs: 0427 555 491
Karridale	<b>Hamelin Bay</b> Simon Hanson: 0428 147 001 <b>Karridale</b> Paul Vanzetti: 0447 929 057
Kudardup	<b>Deepdene</b> Scott Hamilton: 0427 778 840 <b>Kudardup</b> Matthew Nield: 0427 772 719
Margaret River	<b>Margaret River</b> Leith Jones: 0417 960 514
Molloy Island	<b>Molloy Island</b> John Matten: 0427 440 620
Rosa Brook	<b>Osmington</b> Shaun Palmer: 0448 979 041 <b>Rosa Brook</b> Mark Ridge: 0408 945 684 <b>Rosa Glen</b> Andrew Newnham: 0491 313 968
Wallcliffe	<b>Kilcarnup</b> Ian Dowling: 0419 969 642 <b>Prevelly</b> Rodney Dilkes: 0428 321 865 <b>Rapids</b> David Kelly: 0428 387 286
Witchcliffe	<b>Forest Grove</b> Larry Brennan: 0419 938 923 <b>Redgate</b> Richard Nash: 0419 951 511 <b>Witchcliffe</b> Diane Holland: 0427 930 735

## General Information

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### **BURNING OF GARDEN REFUSE**

#### **Spring/Summer Restricted Burning Period**

You may burn one small heap of up to one (1) cubic metre of garden refuse during the Spring/Summer Restricted Burning Period without a Permit. It cannot be lit before 6pm and must be fully extinguished by 11pm. A courtesy call to your area FCO is recommended.

#### **Autumn Restricted Burning Period**

A Permit is required to burn all garden refuse during the Autumn Restricted Burning Period.

**Burning is PROHIBITED on days where the Fire Danger Rating is VERY HIGH or above.**

### **WOOD/SOLID FUEL BBQS AND PIZZA OVENS**

The use of wood/solid fuel BBQs and pizza ovens is prohibited on days where the fire danger rating is VERY HIGH or above. The use of any wood/solid fuel BBQ or pizza oven is prohibited during a TOTAL FIRE BAN.

### **CAMPFIRES AND FIREPITS**

Campfires and firepits are NOT permitted;

- at any time during the PROHIBITED Burning Period
- on days where the fire danger rating is VERY HIGH or above
- on public land, unless purpose built campfire pits have been provided by the owner of the land and permission to use them has been given

**Campfires and firepits are permitted** on private property during the RESTRICTED Burning Periods without a Permit, but cannot be lit before 6pm and must be fully extinguished by 11pm. A Permit is required outside of these times. Consent from the land owner must be given (and proof of consent available if requested by an Authorised Person).

**Make sure you check the Burning Period dates and the Fire Danger Rating before lighting up.**

**For the current Fire Danger Rating visit [www.emergency.wa.gov.au](http://www.emergency.wa.gov.au) or contact Shire Rangers on 9780 5695.**

## Permits to Burn

### **A Permit to burn is required during the RESTRICTED Burning Periods.**

To obtain a Permit, contact your area Fire Control Officer (FCO) by referring to the FCO map in this notice. Where the FCO is unavailable the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer or the Shire Rangers can also issue Permits.

**Please allow up to 72 hours for your Permit to be issued.**

When contacting the FCO to request a Permit, have the following information ready to provide;

- the size of your burn
- what you are burning
- the address of the burn
- the name and contact number of the Permit holder

You must notify your adjoining land owners 24 hours in advance of your intention to burn.

Prior to burning, you **MUST** register your Permit with the Shire, DBCA and DFES. To do this call the numbers on the Permit and have your Permit handy as the operator will need the Permit details.

Failure to;

- obtain a Permit
- comply with all Permit conditions
- burn without a Permit, or
- burn in contravention to any information provided in this Notice

may result in a modified penalty of \$250 and up to \$5,000 should the matter go before the courts.

### **BE PREPARED!**

The preparedness of your property can make all the difference between minor damage and devastation.

For advice on preparing your property for the fire season, please call your local Bushfire Ready Facilitator Gordon Temby (North) on 0419 954 658 or Georgina Thiele (South) on 0417 998 461.

## Key Contacts

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### **Chief Bush Fire Control Officer**

0419 525 843

### **Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer**

0419 628 465

### **Shire Rangers**

9780 5695

### **DFES Emergency Info Line**

13 DFES (133 337)

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

# DIAL 000

## TO REPORT ALL FIRES OR LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCIES



PO Box 61, Margaret River, Western Australia 6285

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