



Shire of
Katanning

Heart of the Great Southern

FIRE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS 2020 – 2021

**Please retain this document for your reference
FIRST AND FINAL NOTICE**

To all owners and occupiers of land in the Shire of Katanning. This document constitutes the Shire of Katanning Fire Management Requirements (Bush Fire Notice) pursuant to Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954 you are hereby required, on all land owned or occupied by you, as a measure for preventing the spread and extension of a bush fire, to plough, cultivate, scarify, burn, chemically spray or otherwise clear upon the lands Fire Access tracks (fire breaks) in such manner as set out in this notice.



EMERGENCY
For All Emergencies

HELP STOP ARSON
Report suspicious
activity to Crime
Stoppers on
1800 333 000

By order of the Council
Julian Murphy
Chief Executive Officer

DEFINITIONS

**For the purpose of this Notice
the following definitions apply:**

Flammable Material: Material that can be easily ignited, (i.e. - dead or dry grass and crops, leaves, timber, boxes, cartons, paper, plastic and other material or things deemed by an authorised officer to be capable of combustion) but does not include green growing trees, growing bushes or garden plants.

CBFCO: Shall mean the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer as appointed by the Shire of Katanning.

DCBFCO: Shall mean the Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer as appointed by the Shire of Katanning.

BFCO: Shall mean the Bush Fire Control Officer as appointed by the Shire of Katanning.

DBFCO: Shall mean the Deputy Bush Fire Control Officer as appointed by the Shire of Katanning.

CESM: Shall mean the Community Emergency Services Manager Authorised Officer as appointed by the Shire of Katanning.

RANGER SERVICES: Shall mean the Authorised Officer appointed by the Shire of Katanning

Total Fire Bans (TFB): Total Fire Bans are the bans imposed by the Minister for Emergency Services or his/her representative on days of severe or catastrophic fire hazards.

Burning of Garden Refuse: Means lighting or use of a fire in the open air for the purpose of destroying garden refuse. One cubic metre or less, is referred to as a garden refuse.

Fire & Rescue District: The area covering the Katanning town site. Fire & Rescue Services are responsible for all fires within this gazette district. The Shire of Katanning is directly responsible for the issuing of Fire Permits.

Fire Break: Where referred to anywhere in this notice means an area of land which must be kept and maintained void of all trees, bushes and grasses (living or dead) for the whole of the compliance period.

Risk Mitigation Measures: Efforts taken to reduce either the probability or consequence of a threat.

Shire Officer: As appointed by Council under Section 38 of the Bushfires Act 1954 being the CESM, CBFCO, DCBFCO, BFCO and Ranger.

SUBURBAN AND RESIDENTIAL BLOCKS

RESIDENTIAL LOT CLEARING:

If the area of the land is 2023m² (approximately ½ acre) or less, remove flammable material on the land except living standing trees from the whole of the land by **1 November 2020** by one of the following methods and with all other associated conditions mentioned above to apply:

ploughing, cultivating, scarifying, chemical spraying, mowing, burning or any other approved method. Mowed grass to be no higher than 150 mm.

Where residential zoned land exceeds 2023m² (approximately ½ acre), in addition to the grass height above, a 2.5 metre wide firebreak immediately inside and along all external boundaries is required.

RURAL LAND AND SPECIAL RURAL LAND OUTSIDE OF TOWN BOUNDARY

Firebreaks shall be installed at least 10 metres wide around the perimeter of any homestead building (excluding isolated non-flammable buildings), haystacks (within 100 metres of any building) or group of structures or installations and are to be cleared to the satisfaction of the Shire Officer. In addition, you may be required to carry out further works which may be deemed necessary by the Shire Officer and specified by way of a separate written notice forwarded to the address as shown on the Shire of Katanning rate records for the land. In some instances naturally occurring features such as rocky outcrops, natural water courses or landscaping such as reticulated gardens, lawns or driveways may be an acceptable substitute for cleared firebreaks. This option must first be discussed with and approved by the Shire Officer.

All properties within the **Moojebing Heights** subdivision are to ensure compliance with the additional requirements of the Fire Management Plan dated April 2009.

Boundary Fire breaks are compulsory for the Shire of Katanning within the Special Rural Land areas within the town site. Council or its agents will establish fire breaks at strategic points at its discretion or on a Risk Base Assessment on land it manages.

SPECIAL RURAL WITHIN KATANNING AND PINWERNYING TOWNSITES

Must have a 2.5 metre wide firebreak immediately inside along all external boundaries. Grass to be no higher than 150 mm. Living standing trees, remnant vegetation, maintained gardens and natural bush are exempt. Where multiple blocks of land are grouped together, a perimeter 2.5 metre firebreak encompassing all land will be considered subject to an application for variation.

All firebreaks as designated above must be prepared on or before 1 NOVEMBER 2020 or within 14 days of becoming the owner or occupier should this be after that date and maintained clear of flammable material up to and including 30 April 2021.

DEFINITIONS

SUBURBAN AND RESIDENTIAL BLOCKS

Application to Vary the Above Requirements

If it is considered to be impracticable for any reason whatsoever to meet requirements as required by this notice, you may apply to the Shire of Katanning no later than **1 October 2020**, for permission to provide alternative risk mitigation measures on the land. If permission is not granted by the Shire you must comply with the requirements of this notice.

If the requirements of this notice are carried out by burning, such burning must be in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Bush Fires Act.

The Penalty for failing to comply with this notice will be in accordance with the Bushfires Act 1954, and a person in default is also liable, whether prosecuted or not, to pay the costs of performing the work directed in this notice if it is not carried out by the owner and/or occupier by the date required by this notice.

NUISANCE SMOKE

It is an offence under the Health Act 1911 to create nuisance smoke. If planning to burn, please consider your neighbours, other properties that may be affected and the condition and type of materials to be burnt. It is important to ensure that smoke does not disrupt traffic on roads.

BURNING OF BUSH AND GRASS ON ANY LAND

Burning of bush and grass is totally prohibited between 1 November and 14 February inclusive (Prohibited Burning Period). Permits are required between 1 October inclusive and 31 October inclusive and between 15 February and 30 April inclusive (Restricted Burning Periods)

PERMITS TO BURN

Under the Bush Fires Act 1954, it is an offence to light fires during the Prohibited and Restricted Burning Times, except in certain circumstances. All burning during the Restricted Burning Period requires a Permit.

BURNING IS PROHIBITED ON VERY HIGH, SEVERE, EXTREME OR CATASTROPHIC FIRE DANGER DAYS.

HAZARD REDUCTION PROGRAM

Autumn to Winter (May-August)

- Tree pruning – remove lower branches, check that power lines are clear. Use a professional contractor

- Reduce fuel levels around the house, clear long grass, leaves, twigs and flammable shrubs.
- Ensure petrol and other flammables are safely stored away from the main dwelling.
- Accommodation providers must make sure all guests are aware of emergency plan, including evacuation routes.

Spring (September – November)

- Move wood piles and stack timber away from the main dwelling.
- Keep grass short
- Install firebreaks in accordance with this Fire Management Requirements.

Summer (November – May)

- Water lawns, trees and shrubs near buildings to keep green.
- Recheck fire-fighting equipment, screens, water supplies and that gutters remain clear.

Long Term precautions

- Make sure that buildings are safe – fit wire screens and shutters, fill gaps into roof/wall spaces, fit fire screens to evaporative air conditioners and have them operable to provide a water supply.
- Give consideration to installing external building sprinkler systems and backup power for emergencies.
- Ensure that access to emergency water supplies has the correct fittings, is unobstructed and trafficable.
- Get basic training in fire-fighting by contacting the Shire of Katanning.

Hints for Burning:

- Don't light a fire on a hot or windy day.
- Don't try to burn more than you can control.
- Inform your neighbours.
- Make sure smoke and sparks will not affect neighbours washing or open windows.
- Cut or rake long grass around trees, buildings and fences before burning.
- Burn against wind.
- On a sloping block, burn from the top down.
- Have a hose or spray pack to dampen down fire intensity.
- Extinguish fire by midnight.

PRIVATE PROPERTY

Wood and solid fuel barbecues shall only be used where they are enclosed and all flammable material in a 5m radius is cleared. Fire cannot be lit on days of very high, severe, extreme or catastrophic fire danger.

BBQs and INCINERATORS

Gas and electric barbecues are permitted at any time. Solid fuel barbecues and incinerators are **prohibited on days of VERY HIGH, SEVERE, EXTREME OR CATASTROPHIC** fire danger days.

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS NOTICE IS REQUIRED BY 1 NOVEMBER EACH YEAR AND IS TO BE MAINTAINED UNTIL 30 APRIL EACH YEAR OR AS OTHERWISE GAZETTED



Non – compliance



Complying



Compliant

Take notice, that pursuant to section 33(4) of the Bush Fires Act, where the owner or occupier of land who has received this Notice fails or neglects to comply with the requisitions of the Notice within the time specified, the Shire of Katanning may, by its officers, vehicles and machinery as the officers deem fit, enter upon the land and carry out the requisitions of the Notice which have not been complied with and pursuant to section 33(5) of the Bush Fires Act, the amount of costs and expenses incurred may be recovered from you as the owner or occupier of the land. The penalty for failing to comply with this notice is a fine not exceeding \$5000 and the person in default is also liable, whether prosecuted or not, to pay the costs 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. If the requirements of this Notice are carried out by burning, such burning must be in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Bush Fires Act.

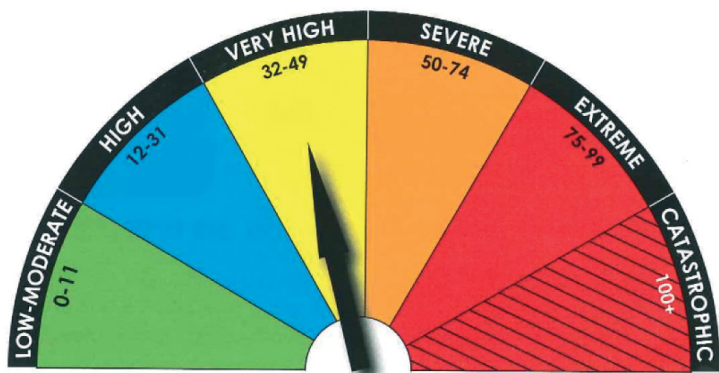
It is not necessary for council to notify property owners or give prior warning that legal action may proceed for failing to comply with the requirements of this notice.

Please contact the Shire Office for a list of Contractors for the area who have registered their business with the Shire.

FIRE DANGER RATING

- The Fire Danger Rating gives you advice about the level of bushfire threat on any given day. It is based on the forecast weather conditions.
- The higher the rating, the more likely people may die or be injured during a fire.
- Only well prepared, well constructed and actively defended homes may offer any safety up to the category of Extreme.
- Consider in your bushfire survival plan if your actions will change at different Fire Danger Rating categories.
- The Fire Danger Rating is published by the Bureau of Meteorology at www.bom.gov.au and through the media.

THE SHIRE FALLS UNDER THE BEAUFORT FIRE WEATHER DISTRICT



TOTAL FIRE BAN: When a TFB is declared the lighting of any fire in the open air is prohibited. The ban includes all open fires for the purpose of cooking and camping.

A Total Fire Ban prohibited other activities for further information please refer to the DFES Website.

TOTAL FIRE BAN PENALTY: A fine of up to \$25,000 or imprisonment for 12 months or both.

FIRE DANGER RATING

THE HARVEST BAN HOTLINE NUMBER PHONE: 9821 9990

HARVEST AND VEHICLE MOVEMENT BANS

The Shire of Katanning may impose a Vehicle Movement and/or Harvest Ban due to dangerous fire weather conditions or if there are bush fires already burning. When imposed, any operation of machinery involved in harvesting crops, or other produce **MUST** come to a stop.

ANY BAN WILL BE COMMUNICATED VIA ABC LOCAL RADIO, SMS AND THE BUSH FIRE BRIGADES RADIO NETWORK

Farmers and personnel from relevant industries may subscribe to the Shire of Katanning SMS Service for the communication of Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban information. Some activities may continue during a Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban at sites approved by and registered with the Shire. For more information, please contact the Shire of Katanning or your local FCO.

REGISTRATION FOR SMS NOTIFICATION OF HARVEST & MOVEMENT BANS

Telephone your name, organisation and mobile number to the Shire of Katanning, 08 9821 9999.

Listen to ABC Radio on 558 or 630AM. At the time of printing, broadcasting times are: 10:05am, 12:35pm and 14:05pm. These times are subject to change.

Regulation 38A – Harvesting, Swathing/Baling of Stubble and Track Chaining:

Conditions: A person shall not operate or suffer the operation of a grain harvesting machine, or any machine used for swathing, baling or slashing of stubble and track chaining, on any land within the Shire of Katanning except in accordance with the following specified condition:

Specified condition: No person shall operate grain harvesting machinery as stated above on any land unless a mobile and operational firefighting unit, having a water capacity of at least **500 litres**, is situated in or immediately adjacent to the paddock where harvesting operations are being conducted.

Penalties: An infringement of \$250.00. A penalty of up to \$5000.00.

The recommended minimum standards for fire unit requirements are based on property size as follows:

- (i) 50-1000ha - Light Duty Unit. One tonne utility either 2WD or 4WD. 500 litre water capacity.
- (ii) 1000 to 2500ha - Medium Duty Unit. Light truck either 2WD or 4WD. 2500 litre water capacity.
- (iii) 2500 + ha - Heavy Duty Unit. 6 tonne capacity truck, preferably diesel. 4000 litre water capacity.
- (iv) All units are to be fully operational and ready to go at all times during the prohibited burning period.

BURNING INFORMATION

Agricultural Burning

The following dates are when selected burning may commence under a Permit.

Canola Windrows from 1 March

Cereal Windrows from 15 March

Chaff Heaps from 15 March

Stubble from 1 April

No timber to be burnt during the October restricted burning period

Before obtaining a Permit the following points need to be addressed.

What size is the burn area?

What is the location of the burn?

What are you burning?

Are there breaks in place around the burn area?

Notification to neighbor's before burn commences

TRAILER MOUNTED FIRE UNITS AND CHASER BINS WITH FIRE UNITS

For safety reasons they are not acceptable as you're only or primary fire unit. Therefore are not to be taken to a fire incident.

PERMITS TO BURN

Under the Bush Fires Act 1954, it is an offence to light fires during the Prohibited Time.

During the Restricted Burning Time, permits to burn are required. These may be obtained from the Local Volunteer Fire Control Officer, for your area or the Shire of Katanning if the property is within the Fire & Rescue District.

RESTRICTED	PROHIBITED	RESTRICTED
PERMIT REQUIRED		PERMIT REQUIRED
1 October to 31 October	1 November to 14 February	15 February to 30 April

WHEN TO OBTAIN A PERMIT

1. For burning of bush, grass and garden waste at any time between 1 October and 31 October inclusive and 15 February and 30 April inclusive.
2. For carrying out **protective burning** around dwellings and buildings pursuant to Section 23 of the Bush Fires Act until 15 November.
3. Sunday burning is discouraged.

These times may be varied by the Shire of Katanning depending on seasonal conditions. Changes will be publicised in local papers and on the Shire of Katanning Facebook Page and Website.

 ABC Emergency



MAJOR INCIDENTS

Information to the community from the Incident Controller will be broadcast regularly on the ABC Radio on 558AM or available on emergency.wa.gov.au

WHEN THE FIRE WEATHER FORECAST IS VERY HIGH, SEVERE, EXTREME OR CATASTROPHIC NO FIRES MAY BE LIT AND ALL PERMITS ARE SUSPENDED.

***Remember this Ratio = 1 metre of flame height requires 4 metres of distance to escape radiant heat**

**HARVEST BAN
HOTLINE NUMBER**

**BURNING
INFO**

BUSH FIRE BRIGADE CONTACT DETAILS

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY SERVICE MANAGER #
CINDY PEARCE: Mobile 0417 071 567

RANGER SERVICES # Mobile 0409 891 645

Highlights Officers that are able to issue Permits to Burn

VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADES

Katanning Fire & Rescue (Town)

Captain	Chris Brooks		0409 873 797
First Lieutenant	Steve Brooks		0408 760 486

RURAL VOLUNTEER BUSHFIRE BRIGADES

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

	Matthew Kerin #	9821 2062	0429 376 593
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Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officers

	Norm Flugge #	9822 1505	0427 984 446
	Geoff Stade #		0428 211 551

Chief Fire Weather Officer

	Richard Marshall #	9822 1522	0429 904 130
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Deputy Fire Weather Officers

	Barry Kowald #	9821 1167	0407 384 097
	Tim Harris #		0428 580 678

Carrolup FCOs

	Steve Conning #	9821 0047	0428 141 565
	Matthew Kitchen	9821 5336	0427 976 960

DFCOs

	Ian Coleman #	9821 0013	0429 955 778
	Alan Wilson	9821 1942	0427 772 142
	Chris Quartermaine	9821 4937	0427 214 553
	Barry Kowald #	9821 1167	0407 384 097
	Ben Kowald		0424 528 520

Central FCO

	Kim Kowald #	9821 2908	0438 337 708
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DFCO

	Alistair Dusting		0417 185 147
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Badgebup FCO

	Tim Harris #		0428 580 678
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DFCOs

	Peter Caldwell	9823 5016	0428 235 006
	Norman Flugge	9822 1505	0427 984 446
	Tim Clegg #	9823 5151	0427 771 938
	Richard Marshall #	9822 1522	0429 904 130

Merrebin FCOs

	Greg Garlick #	9821 1851	0428 211 851
	Ian Knapp #	9822 7037	0427 215 635

DFCOs

	Matthew Kerin #	9821 2062	0429 376 593
	Jeff Baxter	9821 4414	0428 528 840
	Mark Sullivan		0427 227 094

A FIRE CONTROL OFFICER HAS THE AUTHORITY UNDER THE BUSH FIRES ACT 1954 TO HALT ANY ACTIVITY OR OPERATION THAT THEY DEEM AS HAZARDOUS OR LIKELY TO START A FIRE.

Fire Attendance

All Brigade members attending a fire must check the following:

- CH5 UHF
- That adequate protective clothing is worn
- That any slip – on unit is bolted securely to the tray of the vehicle
- That the Fire Incident Control is aware of your presence at the fire.

PREPARE - ACT - SURVIVE

FIRE PREPAREDNESS

- Prepare. Act. Survive. (Material available from the Shire of Katanning and DFES Website)
- You are responsible for your own FIRE PROTECTION

The Biggest Penalty Of All

Standing in the wreckage of your home knowing the smouldering mess is **your** fault because **you** didn't take proper precautions.

For additional bush fire safety information, please visit:

www.emergency.wa.gov.au

Volunteers make up the Bush Fire Brigades in the Shire of Katanning. Help to provide a safer community by becoming an active member of your brigade. For more information, call your local brigade or the Shire of Katanning. Emergency Services in the Shire are also seeking volunteers for a range of support roles and we welcome your inquiry.

**BUSH FIRE BRIGADE
CONTACT DETAILS**



Shire of
Katanning
Heart of the Great Southern

SHIRE OF KATANNING
52 Austral Tce
KATANNING WA 6317
Phone: 9821 9999

Web: www.katanning.wa.gov.au

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ShireOfKatanning>

For incident information and bush fire safety information, please visit: **emergency.wa.gov.au**

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