



Shire of
Katanning
Heart of the Great Southern

FIRE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS 2016 - 2017

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.



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.

Bare Earth: Where referred to anywhere in this notice means an area of land which must be kept and maintained void of all material (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 2016** 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

**Boundary firebreaks are not compulsory,
However:**

- (a) **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.
- (b) Landowners can provide firebreaks if they desire, no less than 2.5 metres wide.
- (c) All properties within the **Moojebing Heights** subdivision are to ensure compliance with the additional requirements of the Fire Management Plan dated April 2009.

SPECIAL RURAL WITHIN KATANNING & PINWERNYING TOWNSITES

Must have a 2.5 metre wide bare earth 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 a variation.

All firebreaks as designated above must be prepared on or before 1 NOVEMBER 2016 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 2017.

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 **1st October 2016** 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 is not toxic and 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 1st October inclusive and 31STOctober 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 days.

BBQ's 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.

CONTRACTORS

Ray Jones ph 98211 212
Alexander Brown Contractors
ph Tim 9823 1115 or 0418 470 920
Katanning Bobcat Hire
ph Glen & Tracy Watts 98212449
Bouquet Cleaning Services
ph Troy or Suzee 98211 916

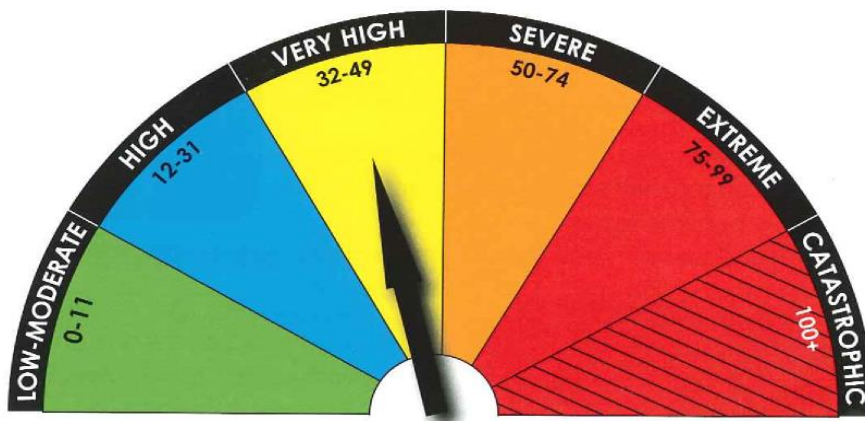
The contractors mentioned have lodged their names with this Council for public reference if required.

They are not employed as sub-contractors, nor is Council responsible for any works carried out if used in a private capacity.

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.

THE HARVEST BAN HOTLINE NUMBER

ph: 98 219 990

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 98219999.

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

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

Conditions: It is hereby notified for public information that **pursuant** to the power granted under Regulation 38A of the above Act, 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 the 1ST March

Cereal Windrows from the 15th March

Chaff Heaps from the 15th March

Stubble from the 1st April

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

PERMITS TO BURN

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

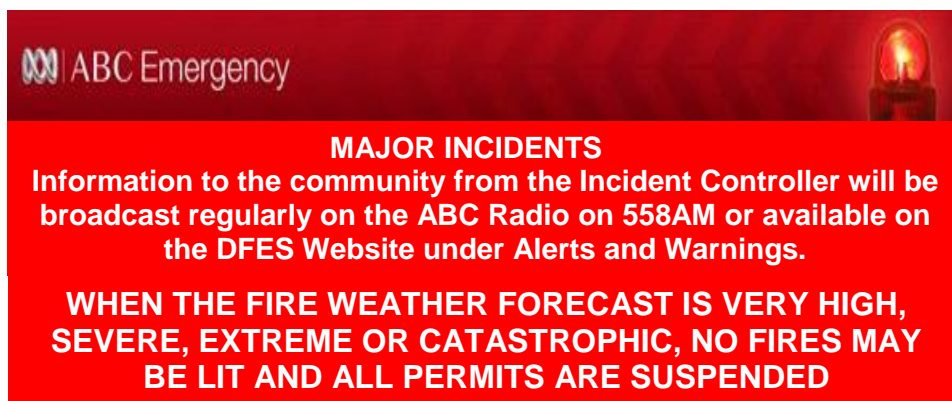
During the Restricted Burning Time, permits to burn are required. These may be obtained from the Local Volunteer Fire Control Officer, for your area or the Shire of Katanning if the property is within the Fire & Rescue District.

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 1st October and 31st October inclusive and 15th February and 30th April inclusive.
2. For carrying out **protective burning** around dwellings and buildings pursuant to Section 23 of the Bush Fires Act until the 15th 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 website.



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

BUSH FIRE BRIGADE CONTACT DETAILS

**COMMUNITY EMERGENCY SERVICE
MANAGER #
CINDY PEARCE: mbl: 0417071567**

**RANGER SERVICES
MBL: 0409891645 #**

VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADES

Highlights Officers that are able to issue Permits to Burn

Katanning Fire & Rescue (Town)

Captain: Trevor Watson 98211950 0427080018

First Lieutenant: Chris Brooks 0429120030

Rural Volunteer Bushfire Brigades

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

Ian Knapp # 98 227037 0427215635

Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officers

Geoff Stade# 98 231533 0428211551

Tim Clegg# 98 235151 0427771938

Chief Fire Weather Officer

Richard Marshall # 98221522 0429904130

Deputy Fire Weather Officers

Barry Kowald # 98211167 0407384097

Jeff Baxter 98214414 0428528840

Volunteer Bush Fire Brigades

Carrolup FCO's

Geoff Stade # 98231533 0428211551

Matthew Kitchens 98215336 0427976960

Cameron Beeck 98212068 0438925733

DFCO's

Ian Coleman # 98210013 0429955778

Alan Wilson 98211942 0427772142

Steve Conning 98210047 0428141565

Chris Quartermaine 98 214937 0427214553

DCFWO

Barry Kowald # 98211167 0407384097

Central FCO

Kim Kowald # 98212908 0438337708

DFCO

Alistair Dusting 0417185147

Badgebup FCO

Tony Richardson 98221504 0428149545

DFCO's

Tim Harris # 98214889 0428580678

Norman Flugge 98221505 0427984446

CFWO

Richard Marshall # 98221522 0429904130

Merrebin FCO

Greg Garlick # 98211851 0428211851

DFCO

Cameron Mills 98212505 0428215040

Shane Butterworth 98212709 0428212709

Matthew Kerin 98212062 0429376593

DCFWO

Jeff Baxter 98214414 0428528840

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:

- 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 Websites)
- You are responsible for your own FIRE PROTECTION

The Biggest Penalty Of All

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

SHIRE OF KATANNING

16-24 Austral Tce

KATANNING WA 6317

Phone: 98 219999

Fax : 98 219998

Web: www.katanning.wa.gov.au

For additional bush fire safety information, please visit
The Department of Fire and Emergency Services website:

www.dfes.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.