

BURNING PERMITS

- 1. PERMITS** to burn are required for the whole of the Restricted Burning Periods and can only be obtained from your local FCO. Contact the CBFCO (0429 467 042), the Deputy CBFCO (0428 449 034) to be put in touch with your FCO to obtain a permit. (Please refer to back page contacts)
- 2. CAREFULLY READ** and adhere to all of the conditions of the permit as any breach or negligence could make you liable for any damage to neighbouring properties and/or infringements/penalties.
- 3. ANY SPECIAL CONDITIONS** imposed by the FCO when issuing permits must be strictly adhered to. The Shire may check that permit conditions are being complied with during the Restricted Burning Period.
- 4. INFRINGEMENTS / ON THE SPOT FINES of \$250 & UPWARDS** apply to any breaches of the permit conditions/special conditions. Contact your FCO if in doubt.
- 5. PERIOD OF NOTICE** to neighbours prior to burning cannot be more than 28 days or less than 4 days although lesser notice may be determined by mutual agreement of all neighbours.
- 6. NO PERMITS** will be issued for burning on **PUBLIC HOLIDAYS** during the Restricted and Prohibited Burning Periods.
- 7. GARDEN REFUSE & RUBBISH** Prior to the burning of garden refuse and rubbish a 3 metre radius perimeter around the waste heap is to be cleared of all flammable material. Burning of garden refuse and rubbish is not permitted during the Prohibited Burning Period and during the Restricted Burning Periods it will require a permit from a Fire Control Officer.
- 8. CAMP FIRES** During the Restricted Burning Period a permit is required for any cooking and camping fire. Cooking and Camp fires are not permitted throughout the Prohibited Burning Period. Gas barbecues can still be used during this period.



Please note that if deemed necessary the 'Restricted Burning Period' may be extended by the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

You should consult with your local FCO or contact the Shire of Westonia to find out if the Restricted Burning Period has been extended before lighting any fires

Contact Us

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e. shire@westonia.wa.gov.au
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 www.westonia.wa.gov.au

FIREBREAKS

As a measure for preventing the outbreak of bush fires or preventing the spread or extension of a bush fire which may occur, **ALL OWNERS and OCCUPIERS** of land within the district of the Shire of Westonia are required before 1 November in each year (or within 14 days of becoming the Owner or Occupier of land if after that date) to clear firebreaks or take measures in accordance with this notice and maintain those firebreaks and measures in accordance with this notice up to and including the 16 March in the following year.

The Duties of the Owner or Occupier are detailed below depending upon the property type. It is **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to ensure your requirements have been undertaken by 1 NOVEMBER annually. Failure to do so and to continue to maintain your property during bushfire season **WILL RESULT** in the issuing of an **INFRINGEMENT** by the CEO

Pursuant to the powers contained in section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954, you are hereby required on or before the 15th day of September 2019, to plough, scarify, cultivate, spray or otherwise clear and thereafter maintain free of all inflammable material until the 31st day of March 2020 firebreaks in the following dimensions, on the land owned or occupied by you.

1. TOWN SITES

- 1.1 Where the area is 2,000 square metres or less, remove all annual grass and herbage.
- 1.2 Where the area is greater than 2,000 square metres, construct a firebreak not less than three metres in width immediately inside all external boundaries and immediately surrounding all buildings and/or haystacks situated on the land.

2. FUEL DUMPS AND/OR DEPOTS

All grass and inflammable material is to be cleared from areas where fuel is stored and such areas are to be maintained free of grass and similar inflammable material until the 31st day of March 2020.

3. RURAL LAND

Firebreaks of not less than three metres in width:

- a. immediately inside and along the whole external boundaries of the properties owned or occupied by you; and
- b. in such other positions as is necessary to divide the land into areas not exceeding 404 hectares.

In addition, firebreaks of at least three metres in width are required surrounding, and not more than fifty metres from the perimeter of any building, group of farm buildings, haystack or fuel storage situated on the land.

4. HARVESTING AND STRAW RAKING, BALING AND CHAINING OPERATIONS

A person shall not operate any harvesting machine or header or undertake straw raking, baling or chaining activities in any crop or paddock during the restricted and prohibited period unless a readily mobile fire fighting unit containing a minimum of 400 litres of water capacity powered by an engine driven pump is in attendance in or adjacent to the entrance of the paddock being harvested, raked, baled or chained.

5. GENERAL PROVISIONS

The term "*Inflammable Material*" for the purpose of this notice includes bush (as defined in the Bush Fires Act 1954), timber, boxes, cartons, paper, and the like inflammable materials, rubbish and any combustible matter, but does not include buildings, green standing trees and bushes or growing bushes or plants in gardens or lawns.

If it is considered to be impractical for any reason to provide firebreaks in the position or adhere to the provisions required by this notice, the written approval of a Bush Fire Control Officer must be obtained to prepare such firebreaks in an alternative position.

If permission is not granted by a duly authorised officer you shall comply with the requirements of this order.

FIRE BANS

Fire bans may be applied during both the Restricted and Prohibited Burning Periods.

A **TOTAL FIRE BAN (TFB)** is a ban put in place by the Department of Fire & Emergency Services (DFES). When declared, TFBs are in place for the whole day from midnight to midnight. They may be revoked during the day if the forecast weather does not eventuate or if weather conditions ease. Further information about what activities may / may not be undertaken during a TFB can be found by visiting DFES' website - www.dfes.wa.gov.au. To find out if a ban is in place listen to ABC radio, follow DFES on Twitter / Facebook, go to the DFES website or call 133 337.

A **HARVEST & VEHICLE MOVEMENT BAN (HVMB)** is a ban put in place by the Shire of Westonia. It carries different conditions as to what activities can be undertaken than a TFB. Visit the Shire website (www.westonia.wa.gov.au) to find out what activities may / may not be undertaken. If you would like to be on our 'SMS List' please contact Jasmine on 9046 7063 or admin@westonia.wa.gov.au with your name and mobile number.

Harvesting is not permitted on Christmas Day and New Years Day. Harvesting is permitted on all Sundays and other Public Holidays except where a harvesting or movement ban has been imposed due to extreme weather conditions.

The penalty for failing to comply with this order is a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5000) and a person in default is also liable, whether prosecuted or not, to pay the cost of performing the work directed by this notice, if it is not carried out by the owner or occupier by the date required by this notice.

JAMIE CRIDDLE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

DEFINITIONS

In this Fire Break Order unless the contrary intention appears:

- **“Rural Land”** means all land not located within the boundaries of a town site .
- **“Town Site Land”** means all land located within the boundaries of a town site.
- **“Firebreak”** means ground from which all flammable material has been removed to a height of 4 metres and on which no flammable material is permitted;
- **“Flammable Materials”** means material that can be easily ignited, i.e. – dead or dry grass, leaves, timber, paper, plastic and other material or thing deemed by an authorised officer to be capable of combustion but does not include green growing trees or green growing plants in gardens;
- **“Occupier of Land”** means a person or persons as defined in Section 7 of the *Bushfires Act 1954*.

OTHER INFORMATION

RADIO STATIONS DURING A FIRE EMERGENCY

During a fire emergency all landowners and occupiers are encouraged to listen to ABC Radio as they are the official emergency broadcast radio station. Local frequencies for Westonia are 531, 558 and 720.

FIRE INCIDENT REPORTS

All landowners and occupiers who incur a bushfire have an obligation to assist the Fire Control Officer to compile a Fire Incident Report Form.

LANDOWNERS & OCCUPIERS RESPONSIBILITIES

The *Bush Fires Act 1954* requires the occupiers of the land to take all reasonable measures to control fires on their land, at their expense, regardless of how the fire started. Whilst local volunteer fire fighters will come out and assist in the control of the fire, landowners and occupiers are reminded that they are ultimately responsible for fires on their property including monitoring the fire after fire crews have left. Penalties apply and recovery of costs can be made by Council for those who do not comply with these provisions.

BRIGADE MEMBERSHIP

If you are interested in joining your local Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade, please contact the CBF CO (0429 467 042), the Deputy CBF CO (0428 449 034)

FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT

Residents are strongly encouraged to have and maintain firefighting equipment for the protection of their own property.

VOLUNTEERS ATTENDING A FIRE IN THEIR OWN VEHICLE

Must immediately report to the onsite Fire Control Officer for safety and insurance purposes.

Enquires relating to this Firebreak Order or fire prevention in general should be directed to the Shire office on 90467063

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
Frank Corsini | 0429 467 042

Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
Malcolm Nicoletti | 0428 449 034

Westonia Brigade Fire Control Officer
Frank Corsini | 0429 467 042
Colin Lindley | 0427 467 004
Brad Penny | 0429 467 046

Walgoolan Brigade Fire Control Officer
Tony Murfit | 0427 447 063
Rohan Day | 0438 447 014
David Brown | 0428 447 036
Jason Wahlsten | 0429 447 020

Warralakin Brigade Fire Control Officer
John McDowall | 0429 853 331
Stephen LeMoignan | 0428 449 002
Dane Farina | 0429 449 056
Malcolm Nicoletti | 0428 449 034

Shire Fire Control Officer
Bill Price | 0427 467 082
Jamie Criddle | 0427 467 063

(General enquiries ONLY. In an emergency call 000)

Harvest Ban SMS
Call 9046 7063 to subscribe



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IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL LAND OWNERS AND OCCUPIERS WITHIN THE SHIRE OF WESTONIA



SHIRE OF
WESTONIA
A vibrant community lifestyle

BUSH FIRE INFORMATION 2019/2020

RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD
16 September 2019 to 31 October 2019
15 February 2020 to 31 March 2020
BURNING PERMIT REQUIRED

PROHIBITED BURNING PERIOD
1 November 2019 to 14 February 2020
NO BURNING PERMITTED

FOR ALL EMERGENCIES DIAL 000

