

Firebreak Notice

Pursuant to Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954, you are hereby required, by 1 November, to carry out fire prevention works on your property.

As owner and/or occupier of the land, you must ensure that your property complies with the requirements of this Notice from **1 November** each year and must be maintained throughout until **30 April** in the following year.



Where the area of the land is less than 2,000 square metres



Slash/mow all grass to a height no greater than five (5) centimetres.



Prune trees and shrubs and remove all flammable matter from the whole land (except living trees).



Ensure the roofs, gutters, and walls of all buildings on the land are free of flammable matter.

Where the area of the land is greater than 2,000 square metres (excluding Pastoral and Rural Lands)



Install a continuous trafficable firebreak of three (3) metres wide and a minimum of four (4) metres vertical from ground level around all structures and along all boundaries of your land.



Keep a 20m low fuel Asset Protection Zone, clear of all bush and flammable matter, around all buildings and structures, including combustion engines, electrical outlets and pumps.



Ensure the roofs, gutters, and walls of all buildings on the land are free of flammable matter.

Pastoral & Rural Land

This refers to all land outside the Department of Fire and Emergency Services gazetted town sites of Carnarvon and Coral Bay.



Keep a 20m low fuel Asset Protection Zone, clear of all bush and flammable matter, around all buildings and structures, including combustion engines, electrical outlets and pumps.

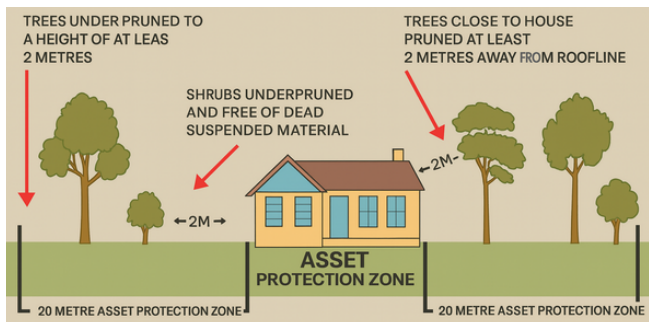


Install a continuous trafficable firebreak of three (3) metres wide and a minimum of four (4) metres vertical (for pastoral lands, recommended from six (6) metres up to twenty (20) metres wide) from ground level around all structures and along all boundaries of your land.

Asset / Building Protection Zone

An Asset Protection Zone for habitable buildings extends a minimum of 20 metres out from any external walls of the building, attached structures, or adjacent structures within 6 metres of the habitable building (See below example):

- Should consist of managed vegetation, reticulated lawns and gardens and other non-flammable features.
- Grass recommended to be maintained to or under 5cm in height.



Variations to Notice

If it is considered impracticable to clear a firebreak or to remove flammable matter from the land as specified by this Notice, an application to vary or take alternative action to mitigate the fire hazard may be made in writing to the Shire prior to **1 October**. Until written permission is received from the Shire, compliance with this Notice is required.

Property inspections

During the period between **1 November and 30 April** each year, the Shire's Bush Fire Control Officers conduct inspections of all land within the district. Residents are also encouraged to report incidents of possible fire hazards on neighbouring properties.

Failure to comply

What happens if I don't comply

Properties are inspected to ensure compliance. If a property is not compliant on first inspections the owner/occupier will be contacted and given 14 days from notification to comply.

The penalty for failing to comply with this Notice is a fine of \$250 or prosecution, with a penalty up to \$5,000.

If the works are not carried out by **1 November**, the owner of the land is liable, whether prosecuted or not, to pay all costs for performing the works directed in this Notice. Pursuant to section 33(4) of the Act, where the owner and/or occupier of land fails or neglects to comply with requisitions of this Notice within the times specified, the Shire may by its officers and with such servants, workmen and contractors, vehicles and machinery as the officers deems fit, enter upon the land and carry out the requisitions of this Notice which have not been complied with and pursuant to section 33(5) of the Act, at the landowner's or occupier's expense.

Burning off restrictions

Restricted burning period applies from **1 October to 30 April** each year (permanent restricted period). Pursuant to section 24B of the Bush Fires Act 1954, burning refuse, rubbish or garden waste without written authorisation is strictly prohibited within the Shire.

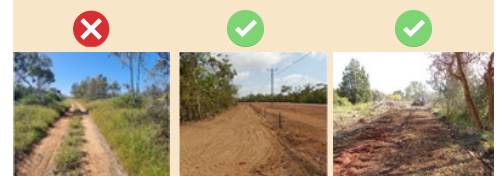
Definitions

Act: means the *Bush Fires Act 1954*.

Bush Fire Control Officer: means an officer appointed by the Shire to exercise the powers and duties of a Bush Fire Control Officer appointed under s38(1) of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*.

Shire: means the Shire of Carnarvon.

Firebreak: means a trafficable strip of land 3 metres wide by 4 metres high that has been cleared of all trees, bushes, grasses, vegetation, and all other objects. Constructed by one or more methods.



Methods: Ploughing, mulching, cultivating, scarifying, racking, burning, chemical spraying, or other methods approved by an authorised officer.

Trafficable: means able to be driven around, unhindered, in a standard four-wheel drive fire appliance.



Flammable matter: means any bush, plant, tree, grass, vegetation, object, thing, or matter that may or is likely to catch fire and burn.

Note: All properties that are subject to a pre-approved Bushfire Management Plan are still required to comply with the requirements of this notice as well as any additional conditions specified within that plan.



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