



Shire of
CARNARVON
catch a *taste* of the great life

FIREBREAK INFORMATION

NOTICE TO ALL LAND OWNERS AND OCCUPIERS IN THE SHIRE OF CARNARVON



The penalty for failing to comply with this notice is a fine of \$5,000 or a modified penalty of \$250 per day.

Any person failing to comply with this notice may also be liable, whether prosecuted or not, to pay the cost of the Shire of Carnarvon obtaining contractors to preform any fire hazard reduction works on your property. (Section 33 Bush Fires Act 1954)

NOTICE TO ALL LAND OWNERS AND OCCUPIERS IN THE SHIRE OF CARNARVON - FIREBREAK NOTICE

As a measure to assist in the control of bush fires or prevent the spread or extension of a bush fire, all owners and occupiers of land within the Shire of Carnarvon are required **before the 1st day of November** (or within 14 days of becoming the owner or occupier of land if after that date) to clear firebreaks and maintain them up to and including the 30th day of April 2023

1) TOWN SITE LAND

Refers to all land within the town site.

a) Where the land is 2,000 square meters or less:

- Maintain all dry grass on the land to a height no greater than 50mm
- Ensure no tree crowns overhang buildings
- Prune trees and shrubs, and remove dead flammable material within 1.5m around all buildings
- Ensure the roofs, gutters and walls of all buildings on the land are free of flammable matter

b) Where the land is greater than 2,000 square meters:

- Install a trafficable firebreak 3m wide, with 4m high clearance around all structures and within 2m of all external boundaries of the land, to allow fire vehicle access if required
- Keep a 20m low fuel asset protection zone, clear of all flammable material, around all buildings

2) RURAL, PASTORAL AND PLANTATION LAND

Refers to all land outside the town site.

- A trafficable firebreak with a minimum width of 3m (recommended 6-9m wide) required to be installed immediately inside or within 2m of the external boundaries of the land and kept clear of all flammable material.
- Around buildings, a 20m “parkland cleared less than 50mm” low fuel asset protection zone clear of all flammable material is required

3) ALTERNATE STYLE FIREBREAK

If it is considered impracticable for any reason to clear firebreaks or to remove flammable material from the land as required by this notice, you may apply in writing to the Shire of Carnarvon no later than 25 September each year for permission to install firebreaks in an alternative locations or take action to reduce fire hazards on land. For further information, contact Carnarvon Rangers on 9941 0019.

4) RUBBISH SITES

Refers to all rubbish sites for pastoral stations, town sites and community use.

Trafficable firebreaks are to be installed no less than 3m in width and within 2m of the perimeter of the rubbish sites.

5) FUEL DUMPS & DEPOTS

Remove all flammable materials within 5m of where fuel drums, fuel ramps or fuel dumps are located, whether the drums contain fuel or not.

6) ANY CLEARING WORKS

All clearing works must be performed to the satisfaction of a duly authorized Bush Fire Control Officer for the Shire of Carnarvon.

The requirements of this notice are the minimum standard of protection required. The Shire of Carnarvon reserves the right to place further conditions upon individual land-owners/occupiers as may be necessary to reduce fire risk, to the satisfaction of an authorized officer.

Rubbish Tip

The Brown's Range Waste Facility is located on Speedway Road approximately 7km south-east of the Carnarvon townsite.

Turn-off is sign posted on North West Coastal Highway.

There is no charge to dump green waste.

Monday to Friday 7am - 4pm

Sunday 8am - 2pm

Closed Saturday and all public holidays

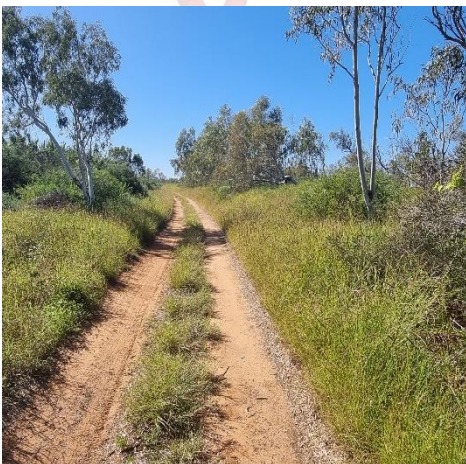
FIREBREAKS

Firebreaks reduce the spread of a low intensity fire and provide safe access on your property for firefighters, so must be maintained and kept clear of all obstacles and flammable materials.

Firefighters need to access the firebreak on days of strong winds or extreme conditions. It is generally accepted that a 3m firebreak will be unlikely to stop a wildfire, however it assists firefighters. The more fire prevention work you undertake, the greater the chance of your family and property surviving a fire.

Such firebreaks may be constructed by one or more of the following methods:

- Ploughing
- Raking
- Burning
- Chemical spraying
- Or other a method approved by an authorised officer



HAZARD REDUCTION

Through the removal or reduction of available fuel on a property, hazard reduction can be achieved by:

- Mowing, slashing and removing long dry grass or vegetation.
- Raking or utilizing machinery to remove leaf litter and dead vegetation
- Controlled burning is an effective way to reduce available ground fuel, however controlled burning requires considerable experience in order to be carried out safely. For more information, contact your local Bushfire Brigade

If you are not comfortable in conducting a burn yourself or would like to burn a larger area on your property, the local Volunteer Fire Brigades can assist with your burns for a fee, subject to volunteer availability. Please note that this service is available on land that you own or rent only, and does not include areas adjoining your property, including road verges. All funds raised through conducting burns on private property go directly towards supporting your local volunteer fire brigades.

Engaging the brigades does not remove the land-owners responsibility to adhere to the Firebreak Notice. Contact your local brigade for more information:

- Carnarvon Townsite Area, including Brown Range;

Carnarvon Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service carnarvonvfrs@bigpond.com

- For outside the townsite, including plantation areas;

Gascoyne River Bush Fire Brigade gascoynevbf@gmail.com

For more information about burning, please contact the Community Emergency Services Manager on 0448 081 637



DISCHARGING SMOKE & WHAT NOT TO BURN

Not all materials are suitable for burning. Burning any materials that discharges smoke into the environment can cause air pollution and health problems, particularly for the elderly and children.

You do not need a permit to burn during the winter months, this is the perfect time to reduce the fuel load on your property. If you are going to burn, you are still required to exercise caution, manage smoke nuisance and ensure that there are no materials that create black smoke.

Examples of what **NOT** to burn.

- Carpet, fabrics or textiles
- Irrigation and plantation bunting/plastics
- Green waste that has not been dried for at least 2 months
- Electrical cables
- Chemicals
- Organic solvents
- Paint
- Plastic including polystyrene
- Rubber
- Waste oil, fats or grease
- Timber that has been treated with preservatives
- Tyres
- Vehicles or vessels and their parts



Burning these materials releases toxic chemicals into the environment.

This is an offence under the *Environmental Protection Act* and can result in a penalty of up to \$5,000.



WHAT TO CONSIDER BEFORE BURNING

While burning garden refuse can be a convenient way of removing dead plant material from your property, there are some things you should consider before lighting any fire.

CHEMICAL STORAGE

Many hazardous and flammable fuels and chemicals are stored in garages, workshops and in the home. It is recommended that you remove all flammable materials within 5m of where your chemical store is located and keep chemical storage to a minimum. If a bushfire spreads onto your property and sets chemicals alight, this can cause many safety and health issues for the volunteers who are trying to save your property.

INFORM YOUR NEIGHBOURS

Always give your neighbours plenty of notice of your intention to burn. This will give them time to make alternative arrangements for any person with respiratory issues who may be badly affected by smoke and to bring pets or hanging clothes indoors.

CONDITION OF REFUSE

Plant material that is green, partly green, or wet will create more smoke than dry material. It will not burn efficiently and piles of smoldering material can create long-lasting smoke hazards. Only burn dry dead material to minimize the amount of smoke produced.

ACCESS WAYS

All public access ways or general tracks must be kept clear at all times. Before burning off, ensure you note the direction of the wind and which path you'll use in case of emergency, also, an alternative if the wind direction changes.

Register your burn with DFES 08 9395 9209 30 minutes prior to ignition

SOME PENALTIES UNDER THE BUSH FIRES ACT 1954

Failure to produce a permit to burn **\$250**

Failure to prepare a firebreak **\$250**

Burning when fire danger is Very High or above **\$250**

Failure to notify or report the escape of a fire lit under permit **\$250**

Offences relating to fires in the open air during a total fire ban **\$1,000**

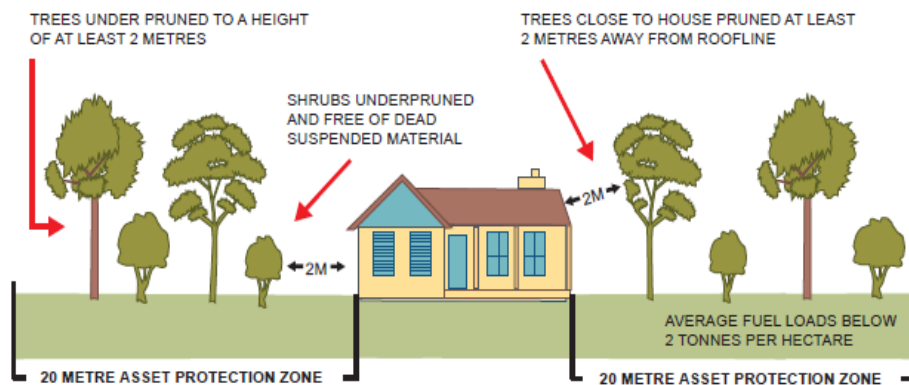
Refusal to state name and abode **\$100**

ASSET PROTECTION ZONE

The purpose of the Asset Protection Zone (APZ) is to reduce flammable fuel in the immediate vicinity of structure and other assets. It is recommended that you keep a clear area around all habitable buildings to improve the chances of surviving a bush fire.

One way you can help protect your property is to create a circle of safety (asset protection zone) around the building:

- Create a 20 metre circle of safety around your home and other buildings by clearing all rubbish, long dry grass, bark and flammable material
- Prune lower branches of trees and shrubs up to 2m off the ground to stop a ground fire spreading into the canopy of the trees
- No tree or shrub (over 2m high) is to be within 2m of a building
- Prune tree crowns or branches hanging over habitable buildings
- Ensure rooves, gutters and walls of a building on the land are free of flammable matter
- Wood piles and flammable materials should be stored a safe distance from habitable buildings
- Gas Cylinders should be stored in an area that is clear of flammable material, and secured with non-flammable fastenings to avoid movement
- Gas vent valves should face away from the building and anything flammable.



BUSH FIRE BRIGADE VOLUNTEERING

Based at the Nine Mile Bridge, The Gascoyne River Volunteer Bushfire Brigade are the primary response to all fires occurring outside the Carnarvon Townsite and throughout the Gascoyne Region. The Brigade's volunteers respond to a wide range of fire incidents and provide additional support to Carnarvon Volunteer Fire & Rescue.

Would you like to be part of a great team contributing to the safety of our community? We are looking for people to join our team, to assist in making a difference in our community, this is a great opportunity to learn new skills or apply your current skillset in a different environment.

All you need to bring is a willingness to learn!

Training is provided to you with flexibility to suit your lifestyle. Once trained you'll be able to gain experience by attending jobs locally and also have opportunities to be deployed to other major fires across the state.

If you would like more information about getting involved, please contact;

- Community Emergency Services Manager - 0448 081 637
- Gascoyne River Volunteer Bushfire Brigade - gascoynevbf@gmail.com
- Gascoyne River Volunteer BFB 2022/23 Captain – 0457 419 950



RESTRICTED BURNING PERIODS

The Restricted Burning Period for the Shire of Carnarvon is from the
1 October 2022 to 30 April 2023

During this period;

- A permit is required to burn
- Burning is prohibited on any day when the Fire Danger Rating reaches High, Extreme or Catastrophic
- Burning is prohibited when a Total Fire Ban has been declared.

The penalty for failing to comply with this notice is a fine of \$5000 or a modified penalty of \$250 per day.

**PERMITS TO BURN can be obtained by contacting
Rangers on 9941 0019, Monday to Friday: 8am - 5pm**



You are only allowed to burn on days that are Moderate.

Find Today's Fire Danger Rating:

- Signs located on North West Coast Highway north and south of Carnarvon.
- Shire of Carnarvon website <https://www.carnarvon.wa.gov.au/>
- BOM <http://www.bom.gov.au/wa/forecasts/fire-danger-ratings.shtml>

TOTAL FIRE BANS (TFB)

A Total Fire Ban (TFB) is declared by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services on days when fires are most likely to threaten lives and property. During a TFB, it is illegal to light an open-air fire or conduct any activity that could start a fire.

See the full list of **prohibited** activities AND activities permitted **with caution**:
<https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/hazard-information/bushfire/total-fire-ban>

An exemption is no longer required for certain activities carried out by business, industry and public authorities as they are now prescribed in the Regulations: [Blasting](#) [Gas flaring](#) [Hot work](#) [Road work \(grading and bituminising\)](#) [Off-road activity](#) [Catering activity](#)

For any special conditions, exemptions or more information, visit:
<https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/hazard-information/bushfire/total-fire-ban#exemptions>

Before conducting any of the stated activities during a Total Fire Ban, DFES and the relevant Local Government must be notified via an [Online Notification Form](#) at least 30 minutes prior to the activity commencing.

Visit <https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/hazard-information/bushfire/total-fire-ban> and click:

**TFB Prescribed Activity
Notification Form**

Check when a TFB has been declared or for more information

Emergency WA website at www.emergency.wa.gov.au

BOM website at www.bom.gov.au/wa/forecasts/fire-danger-ratings

DFES website www.dfes.wa.gov.au/totalfirebans

DFES TFB Hotline 1800 709 355

Carnarvon Rangers on 9941 0019

You will be fined if you ignore a Total Fire Ban

If you ignore a TFB you may be issued a \$1,000 on-the-spot fine.

If it is a serious breach, you could get up to a \$25,000 fine
and/or jailed for 12 months.

CONTACTS INFORMATION

ALL FIRES & LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCIES

000

emergency.wa.gov.au

Gascoyne River Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade: 000

Hospital: 9941 0555

SES: 132 500 / 9941 2121

Police: 9941 7333 / 131 444

DFES information line 13 33 37

Shire Office: 9941 0000

Shire Rangers: 9941 0019

FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS

Community Emergency Services Manager: 0448 081 637

BFCO - Carnarvon Rangers 9941 0019

**Please remember that all fires
suspected to be out of control
should be reported to 000**



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