

Media Release

HOW TO KEEP YOUR BURN UNDER CONTROL

As the cooler weather sets in and things start to get green again, you may be starting to think about using fire to clean up parts of your property. This is a good practice to ensure your property is maintained in a low fuel state. You will need to apply for a permit from your local Fire Control Officer until 30 April 2017.

Lighting a fire at any time of the year has risks, so here's a few tips that will help keep your fire under control:

- Maintain an area cleared of flammable material around the burn especially when close to houses or buildings;
- Make sure you have a means to put the fire out, a garden hose will be fine when you're burning a small pile of leaves. However if you plan to burn anything larger you should have a portable fire-fighting unit near-by;
- Light your fire in the evening once winds have reduced and the cooler temperature will make the fire more predictable and help to fully extinguish it; and
- Once you light a fire it's your responsibility, make sure you are prepared to manage it and never leave a fire unattended.

To make sure your burn does not cause problems for others:

- Let your neighbours know that you're going to be lighting a fire. So when they do see smoke, it will not lead to unnecessary 000 calls;
- Check the weather for the days after you plan to light your fire. Make sure there are no hot and/or windy days approaching that may re-ignite your burn; and
- If you are planning a large burn make sure you contact your local brigade in case the smoke is reported to 000.

For more tips on how to safely conduct a controlled burn contact your local brigade.