



ANNUAL FIREBREAK NOTICE 2008/2009

Action is required by owners and/or occupiers of ALL land in the Shire of Plantagenet.  
**PLEASE READ IT COMPLETELY AND CAREFULLY**  
**FIRST & FINAL NOTICE - PENALTIES MAY APPLY**

If in doubt, contact the Shire of Plantagenet or your local brigade.

For Emergencies Dial **000**.

For current information relating to Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans, phone 9892 1102

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO OWNERS AND / OR OCCUPIERS OF LAND IN THE SHIRE OF PLANTAGENET**

**PURSUANT** to the powers contained in **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 land firebreaks in such manner as set out in this notice.

### **GLOSSARY**

**Building Protection Zone:** is a low fuel area immediately surrounding a building and is designed to minimise the likelihood of flame contact with buildings. It must fulfil the following conditions:

- A minimum width of 20 metres around all homesteads and buildings in all Rural Land.
- A minimum width of 20 metres around all habitable buildings in Townsites.
- Bush Fire fuels to be maintained below 100mm in height.
- Trees and branches which overhang a building must be removed.
- Lower branches of any remaining trees must be trimmed.

**Hazard Separation Zone:** is a low fuel area which must be provided to create a minimum separation distance of 100 metres between buildings and the hazards and must be maintained in a hazard reduced state (ie: below 8 tonne per hectare for jarrah/marri; below 12-15 tonne per hectare in mallee heath and below 15 tonne per hectare in karri forests).

**FESA:** Fire and Emergency Services Authority

**FRONT COVER:** Photograph of the Porongurup Bush Fire (2007)

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Firebreaks are required. Firebreaks are required between the following dates:

Eastern Portion of Zone 4 – Firebreaks required from 15 November to 29 March annually including plantations.

Western Portion of Zone 4 – Firebreaks required from 1 December to 12 April annually including plantations.

Restricted burning time – permits to burn required. Permits to burn any inflammable material are required between the following dates:

Eastern Portion of Zone 4 – 3 October to 14 November annually AND 15 February to 29 March annually.

Western Portion of Zone 4 – 2 November until 14 December annually AND 15 February until 12 April annually.

*Permit dates vary due to climatic conditions. Please check with your Fire Control Officer for dates and issue of permits (refer to the Brigade and Shire Contact Details tab).*

Prohibited Burning Time. It is prohibited to burn during the following dates:

Eastern Portion of Zone 4 – 15 November to 14 February, Christmas Day and Good Friday.

Western Portion of Zone 4 – 15 December to 14 February, Christmas Day and Good Friday.

Camping and Cooking Fires. Camping and cooking fires are prohibited from 3 October until 12 April annually, including Good Friday when Good Friday falls outside these dates.

Harvest Ban. A Shire wide harvest ban applies on Christmas Day.

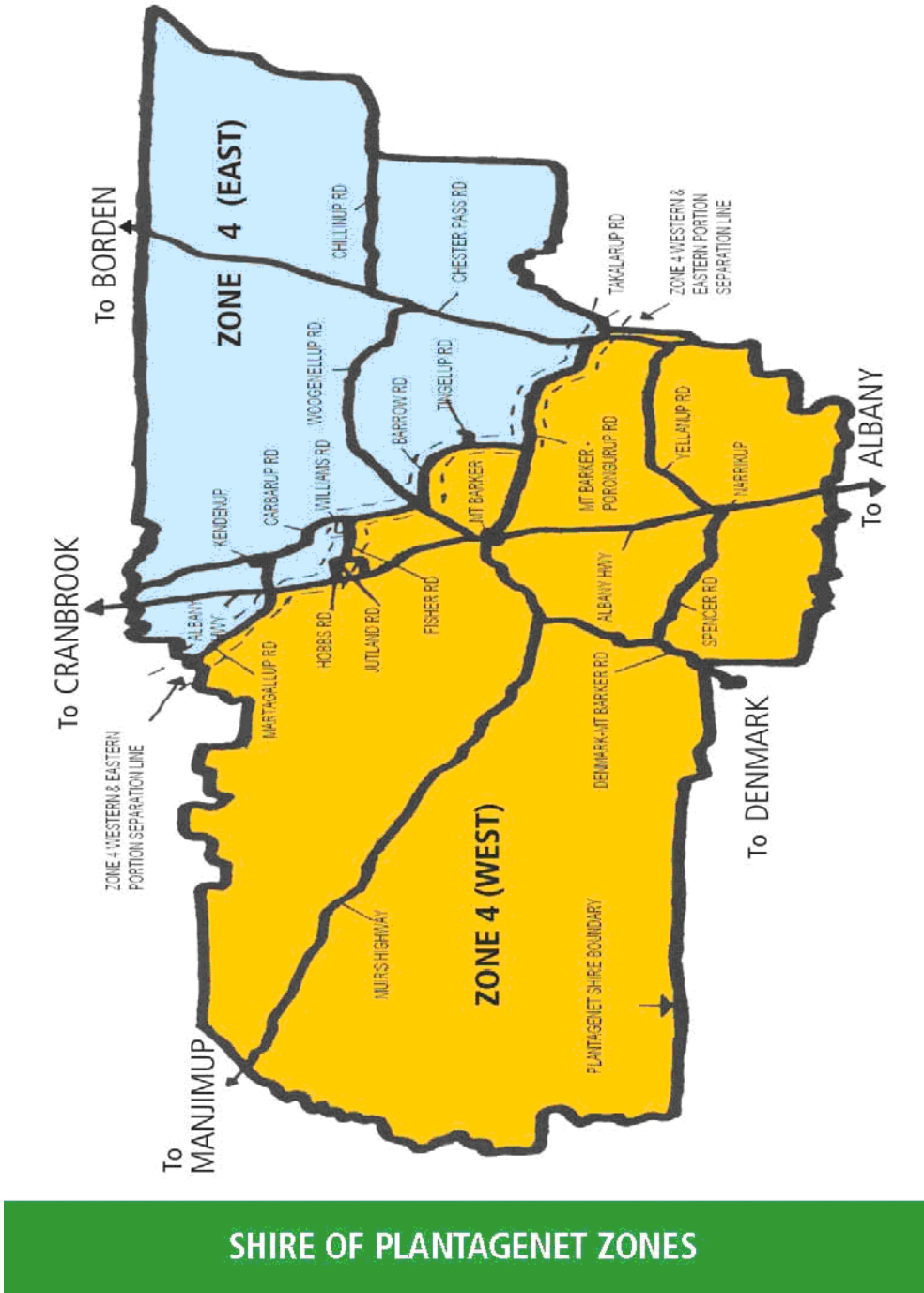
## BOUNDARY LINE BETWEEN ZONE 4 WESTERN AND EASTERN

The Shire of Plantagenet is divided into two bush fire control areas, Zone 4 Western and Zone 4 Eastern. The boundary between these two bush fire control areas is described as follows.

The boundary line between zones starts at:

- the northern end of Martagallup Road along Martagallup Road to Boyup Road;
- south on Boyup Road to Sturdee Road;
- east along Sturdee Road to Craddock Road;
- south along Craddock Road to Wilson Road;
- east along Wilson Road to Albany Highway;
- south on the Albany Highway until the northern boundary of the Town Fire District;
- follow the eastern boundary of the Town Fire District back to the Albany Highway;
- south along the Albany Highway O'Neill Road;
- east along O'Neill Road to Watermans Road;
- north/east along Watermans Road then picking up the boundary of the South Porongurup and Porongurup Bush Fire Brigade (along the ridge of the Porongurup Range) to Chester Pass Road;
- north on Chester Pass Road to Takalarup Road; and
- east on Takalarup Road to the south east corner of the Shire boundary.

A more formal description of the boundary between Zone 4 (West) and Zone 4 (East) is available from the Shire of Plantagenet.



## SHIRE OF PLANTAGENET ZONES

### RURAL LAND FIRE PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS

**Seed Producing Crops** A three (3) metre wide fire break shall be maintained adjacent to the perimeter of all seed producing crops. The fire break is to be maintained free of all inflammable material.

Alternatively, a three (3) metre wide fire break within 100 metres of the perimeter boundary of the property shall be installed.

**Native Vegetation** All native vegetation must be maintained in a low fuel state. This may be enforced by the Shire of Plantagenet if necessary, under provisions of the Bush Fires Act 1954 (Sect 33).

**Fuel & Chemical Storage** Where fuel or chemical will be stored (including empty storage facilities) a firebreak of at least three (3) metres wide around such a facility MUST be maintained.

**Harvested Or Abandoned Plantations** Plantation fire breaks shall remain in place until the removal of all stumps is completed.

**Vehicle Movement Ban Definitions**

**Harvest Ban**

Any operation of machinery involved in harvesting seed crops/timber and/or any other produce MUST come to a complete stop in paddocks when a ban is in place.

### Vehicle Movement Ban & Operation of Combustion Engines

No vehicles to be driven unless on a constructed, gazetted road and/or front entrance of property residences when the ban is in place and no combustion engines are to be operated.

**ANY EXEMPTIONS FOR VEHICLE MOVEMENT BANS MUST BE RECEIVED, IN WRITING, AT THE SHIRE OF PLANTAGENET, BY NO LATER THAN 30 SEPTEMBER ANNUALLY.**

**The following minimum requirements apply in the Shire of Plantagenet during the Restricted and Prohibited Burning Times.**

Type of Operation	Requirements
1. Harvesting of Seed. 2. Harvesting of Timber. 3. Swathing (except canola). 4. Slashing. 5. Baling Straw / Stubble. 6. Stone Chaining. 7. Operation of a Portable Sawmill.	A mobile fire fighting unit to be stationed in, or immediately adjacent to, the paddock or area where the operation takes place and within one kilometer of the operating machine. Unit to be minimum of 400 litres.
8. All landowners or Managers of greater than 10,000 hectares.	A 3.4 HD 4x4 truck carrying 3,000 litres of water.
9. Operation of Welding / Oxy equipment in the Open Air. 10. Power-operated Abrasive Cutting Discs.	A mobile fire fighting unit to be stationed immediately adjacent to the area where the operation takes place.  A fire extinguisher to be provided at the place where the welding or cutting operation is carried out.  Where a welding or cutting operation is carried out an area around the equipment shall be cleared of all inflammable material to bare earth to a 5 metre radius. In addition, an observer shall be on hand to monitor the site at all times.
11. Operation of tractors, trucks and self-propelled harvesters in standing crop or stubble paddocks.	An operational fire extinguisher must be carried on the vehicles.

## LAND AREA LESS THAN 40 HECTARES

Building Protection Zone A **building protection zone** is required as defined in the **glossary**.

Hazard Separation Zone Where habitable buildings are located in close proximity to native vegetation, a **hazard separation zone** as defined in the **glossary** is to be maintained in addition to the building protection zone.

Building/Asset Protection Further, a fire break not less than three (3) metres wide must be installed around and within 100 metres of all homesteads, buildings and fuel ramps/bulk fuel and hay. Owners/Occupiers must also establish a low fuel (mowed) buffer at least twenty (20) metres wide around all homesteads and buildings. Hay stored beyond 100 metres of homesteads and buildings does not require a firebreak.

Seed Producing Crops Refer to the requirements detailed in the Rural Land Fire Protection Requirements tab.

Remainder Of The Property All of the remainder of the lot, if not under a seed producing crop, to be maintained to a low fuel state (200 millimetres).

Native Vegetation All native vegetation must be maintained in a low fuel state. This may be enforced by the Shire of Plantagenet under provisions of the Bush Fires Act 1954 (Sect 33).

## TOWNSITES – KENDENUP, MOUNT BARKER, NARRIKUP & ROCKY GULLY

Building Protection Zone A building protection zone is required as defined in the glossary.

In addition, owners/occupiers of townsite lots shall:

- I. Clear all inflammable material from around all buildings to a minimum width of twenty (20) metres or to the property boundary (building protection zone);
- II. Hazard reduce the remainder of the lot or lots to a maximum vegetation height of 100 mm including native vegetation within cleared areas;
- III. Owners of bush lots shall install a fire break to a minimum of two (2) metres wide around and within 10 metres of the boundary of the bush lot or lots; and
- IV. All bush or re-vegetated areas are to be maintained in a hazard reduced state.

## MOUNT BARKER HILL SUBDIVISION

Building Protection Zone A **building protection zone** is required as defined in the **glossary**.

Land in the Mount Barker Hill subdivision to be maintained to a low fuel state. Grass to be maintained at a maximum height of 100mm. Bush or re-vegetation areas to be maintained in a hazard reduced state.

## MIRA FLORES

Building Protection Zone A **building protection zone** is required as defined in the **glossary**.

In addition:

- I. A three (3) metre wide fire break shall be maintained along the perimeter/boundary of each lot. The firebreak is to be maintained clear of inflammable material and vegetation. Overhanging branches to be cut back to a height of four (4) metres.
- II. All private access tracks to be six (6) metres wide with a four
- III. (4) metre trafficable surface and four (4) metre vertical clearance to allow entry and exit of a heavy duty fire unit.
- IV. Sufficient room to be provided to turn a heavy duty fire unit at the end of all access tracks; i.e. a cul-de-sac or ring road to be provided.

## LAND AREA GREATER THAN 40 HECTARES

Building Protection Zone A building protection zone is required as defined in the glossary.

Hazard Separation Zone Where habitable buildings are located in close proximity to native vegetation, a hazard separation zone as defined in the glossary is to be maintained in addition to the building protection zone.

Building/Asset Protection Further, a fire break not less than three (3) metres wide must be installed around and within 100 metres of all homesteads, buildings and fuel ramps / bulk fuel and hay. Owners/Occupiers must also establish a low fuel (mowed) buffer at least twenty (20) metres wide around all homesteads and buildings. Hay stored beyond 100 metres from buildings does not require a fire break.

Native Vegetation All native vegetation must be maintained in a low fuel state. This may be enforced by the Shire of Plantagenet if necessary, under provisions of the Bush Fire Act 1954 (Sect 33).

Boundary Firebreaks Or Waiver Of Boundary Firebreaks A landowner / occupier can either install a three (3) metre wide boundary firebreak or accept the conditions of the waiver. The boundary firebreak must be three (3) metres wide and be placed within 100 metres of the perimeter of the property. The firebreak must be maintained free of inflammable material.

To accept the waiver you must comply with ALL of the following conditions:

1. The owner/occupier must reside on the property OR share a common boundary which either adjoins or is separated by NO MORE THAN 100 metres where a stock route or road reserve is involved
2. The owner/occupier must also have a mobile firefighting unit (self propelled, towed or slipon) in good working order with a minimum capacity of 400 litres of water situated where the owner/occupier RESIDES
3. The owner/occupier shall submit a completed Statutory Declaration to the Shire of Plantagenet no later than 30 September annually (see attached Statutory Declaration).

Failure to submit a Statutory Declaration by 30 September will result in the property being subject to the requirements of the Annual Firebreak Notice. PROVIDING MISLEADING INFORMATION ON A STATUTORY DECLARATION IS A CRIMINAL OFFENCE.

Barriers To Installing Firebreaks If you have obstructions on your property, for example physical barriers (swamps, rocky outcrops etc.) which prevent you from installing firebreaks, a Variation to Installing a Firebreak should be requested. To obtain a variation, a written application must be addressed to the Chief Executive Officer, and received at the Shire of Plantagenet by no later than 30 September 2008. If granted, a variation applies for a five year period.

## PLANTATIONS

Notice to all owners and/or occupiers of land, within the Shire of Plantagenet, currently planted, or proposed to be planted, as a Hardwood or Softwood plantation or tree farm.

**PURSUANT** to the powers contained in **Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954** you are hereby required on all Hardwood or Softwood Plantations/Tree Farms owned or occupied by you, to plough, cultivate, scarify, burn, chemically spray or otherwise clear of all inflammable material, firebreaks of dimensions as set out in this notice.

**FIREBREAKS** shall be installed on all **PLANTATIONS – TREE FARMS** in the Eastern sector by 15 November annually and in the Western sector, by 1 December annually. Firebreaks must be maintained and kept clear as required by this notice until 29 March annually (Eastern sector) and 12 April annually (Western sector).

### 1. Boundary Firebreaks

1.1 Firebreaks shall be constructed fifteen (15) metres wide on the boundaries of all Plantations, Tree Farms, or such other location as may be agreed to by the Council, in accordance with the requirements of Definition - Specification 2.2 (below).

1.2 Firebreaks shall be constructed around Plantation Compartments of approximately thirty (30) hectares, in accordance with the requirements of Definition – Specification 2.3 (below).

### 2. Definitions - Specifications

2.1 Plantations - Tree Farms: A plantation tree farm is defined as an area exceeding 3 hectares within townsites or an area exceeding 10 hectares within rural areas, of trees planted for commercial purposes.

2.2 Boundary Firebreaks – Fifteen (15) metre requirement: That for external fire breaks around plantations a horizontal clearance of five (5) metres be established to a height of five (5) metres above the ground level over the trafficable portion of the firebreak.

2.3 Planting Compartments: A planting compartment is defined as an individual area of approximately thirty (30) hectares surrounded by firebreaks cleared of all inflammable material six (6) metres wide, with a vertical clearance of all overhanging branches at least four (4) metres upwards from ground level to allow unrestricted access for firebreak maintenance and fire fighting equipment.

2.4 All landowners or managers of land greater than 10,000 hectares - A 3.4HD 4x4 truck carrying 3,000 litres of water.

### 3. Private hardwood and Softwood Plantations

When harvesting is in process, harvesters must maintain a 400 litre fire fighting unit in or adjacent to where harvesting is being carried out.

### 4. Fire Protection of Private Hardwood / Softwood Plantations

All hardwood and softwood plantations within the Shire must comply with the Plantation Fire Protection Guidelines unless approval to vary those conditions has been granted by the Shire. The Plantation Fire Protection Guidelines have been adopted by the Lower Great Southern Plantation Fire Advisory Committee and copies of these Guidelines may be obtained from the Shire of Plantagenet.

## **BRIGADE & SHIRE CONTACT DETAILS**

### **Denbarker**

Captain Simon Grylls 9857 6068

Secretary Sandi Grylls 9857 6068

### **Forest Hill**

Captain Michael Lanigan 9851 1578

Secretary Clea Candy 9851 1772

### **Kendenup**

Captain Wayne Davis 9851 4562

Secretary Jacqui Burcham 9851 4091

### **Middle Ward**

Captain Bill Sounness 9851 1450

Secretary Greg Stothard 9851 1003

### **Narpyn**

Captain Mark Wallace 9851 1046

Secretary Don Steven 9851 2098

### **Narrikup**

Captain Graeme Frusher 9845 3073

Secretary Dianne Bentley 9853 2128

**Perillup**

Captain Robin Ditchburn 9856 1014  
Secretary Dean Trotter 9856 1045

**Porongurup**

Captain John Russell 9853 1097  
Secretary Jodi Vitler 9853 1108

**Porongurup  
South**

Captain Philip Rule 9853 2141  
Secretary Belinda Allain 9853 2141

**Rocky Gully**

Captain Ian Higgins 9855 1558  
Secretary Jo Wills 9855 1590

**Woogenellup**

Captain Grant Cooper 9854 2025  
Secretary Martin Wiehl 9854 1056

**South Stirling**

Captain Graeme Pyle 9854 3021  
Secretary Rose Easton 9854 3017

**Kojaneerup**

Captain Tony Slattery 9847 1050  
Secretary Craig Nelson 9847 7026

**Mt Barker Volunteer Fire & Rescue**

Captain Wesley Beck 0448 791 169, Secretary Jeffrey Drage 0411 636 398

**Chief Bush Fire Control Officer**

David Burcham 9851 4091

**Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer 1**

Len Handasyde 9851 2259

**Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer 2**

John Russell 9853 1097

**Base Radio Operator**

Keith Hart 9851 4097

**Deputy Base Radio Operator**

Rod Stan-Bishop 9851 4035

**Fire Weather Reporting Officer**

Len Handasyde 9851 2259

**Deputy Fire Weather Reporting Officer**

Rod Stan-Bishop 9851 4035

**Shire Contact Details:**

**Shire Office** 9892 1111

Manager of Works 0417 181 532

Works Supervisor 0417 185 573

Ranger 0419 042 237

**Clover Burn Permit Officers**

David Burcham 9851 4091  
Len Handasyde 9851 2259  
Rod Stan-Bishop 9851 4035

Emergency Contacts

Ambulance 000  
Hospital 9892 1222  
Doctor 9851 1566  
Police 9851 1122  
Town – Fire & Rescue 000

**For any queries regarding firebreaks, permits, exemptions etc, please contact your local Fire Brigade Captain.**

**STATUTORY DECLARATION**

**OATHS, AFFIDAVITS AND STATUTORY DECLARATIONS ACT 2005**

**STATUTORY DECLARATION (FOR THE FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT OPTION IN LIEU OF BOUNDARY FIRE BREAKS ON RURAL LAND LARGER THAN 40 HECTARES)**

**This declaration must be returned to the Shire of Plantagenet NO LATER THAN 30 SEPTEMBER 2008 OR YOU WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE ANNUAL FIREBREAK NOTICE**

I,(insert full name).....

(insert address).....  
.....

(insert occupation).....

**Sincerely declare as follows - I comply with the Shire of Plantagenet boundary firebreaks waiver option for rural land greater than 40 hectares, as detailed in the Shire of Plantagenet Annual Firebreak Notice 2008/2009**

**The land upon which I reside is: (insert Lot / Location number).....  
.....**

**Adjoining lots/locations to which this statutory declaration applies:**

.....  
.....

**Brigade District**

.....  
.....

**This declaration is true and I know that it is an offence to make a declaration knowing that it is false in a material particular.**

**This declaration is made under the Oaths, Affidavits and Statutory Declarations Act 2005**

**at:** (place).....

**on:** (date).....

**by:** (signature of person making the declaration).....

**in the presence of:** (signature of authorised witness).....

(name of authorised witness).....

(qualification of witness).....