

Council

ANNUAL BUSH FIRE MITIGATION NOTICE
2025/2026

Fire Mitigation Notice 2025/26

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Number of Pages: 17



Shire of
Plantagenet

BUSH FIRE MITIGATION NOTICE 2025/2026



**PLAY YOUR PART IN KEEPING OUR
COMMUNITY SAFE FROM BUSH FIRES**

**PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY AND STORE IT
FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.**

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DEFINITIONS OF BUSH FIRE TERMS

ASSETS: Dwellings, buildings/sheds fuel tanks on your property.

ASSET PROTECTION ZONE (APZ): The area surrounding an asset that is managed to reduce the bush fire hazard to an acceptable level.

FIREBREAK: An area that is ploughed, cultivated, scarified, chemically sprayed, slashed, or otherwise cleared of flammable material.

TOTAL FIRE BAN (TFB): A TFB is declared by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES). A TFB prohibits any activity likely to cause a fire (not including agricultural activities).

HARVEST AND VEHICLE MOVEMENT BAN (HVMB): A HVMB is issued by the Shire and prohibits any harvesting activity or operation of any internal combustion engine unless on a formed road or the driveway to your property.

DEFINITIONS OF BUSH FIRE TERMS CONT.

CONTIGUOUS LEASED BLOCKS: If your primary or adjoining leased property is less than 20 hectares, but the contiguous managed land parcel is greater than 20 hectares, they will be regarded as one land parcel.

FIRE MANAGEMENT PLANS: In addition to the requirements of this notice, where a Fire Management Plan has been prepared and approved as part of a subdivision or development, property owners must ensure their property meets the requirements outlined in the Fire Management Plan.

Such subdivisions include (but are not limited to) Mira Flores, Stoney Creek, Braidwood Heights, Valley Views and Hambley Tree Farm.

GENERAL INFORMATION

A HARVEST BAN WILL BE IN EFFECT ON CHRISTMAS DAY.

All Shire of Plantagenet landowners and occupiers (including lessees) must prepare their property for bush fire season. This includes vacant land, townsite lots, rural residential lots and broadacre farm land.

HEAVY PENALTIES APPLY FOR NON-COMPLIANCE:

Pursuant to the powers contained in Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954, owners and/or occupiers are required to comply with bush fire mitigation measures outlined in this notice by the dates provided. Non-compliance may result in an infringement or prosecution. The Shire may also engage a contractor to carry out the required work (Section 33(4) of the Bush Fires Act 1954) at the cost of the owner or occupier including lessees under (Section 33(5) of the Bush Fires Act 1954).

GENERAL INFORMATION CONT.

APPLICATION TO VARY MITIGATION REQUIREMENTS:

If it is not practicable to meet requirements as prescribed in this notice landowners may apply in writing to the Shire of Plantagenet, no later than 1 October, for permission to provide alternative mitigation measures on the land. If permission is not granted by the Shire you must comply with the requirements of this notice.

If the requirements of this notice are carried out by burning, such burning must be in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Bushfires Act.”

Applications for an exemption from HVMB must be made in writing to S.O.P. by 1 October.

UNAUTHORISED FIRES: Unauthorised fires are prohibited on all Shire land throughout the year. This includes reserves, campsites and road verges.

PERMITS MUST BE OBTAINED TO BURN ON COUNCIL ROAD VERGES.

STOCK: During a Harvest & Vehicle Movement Ban (HVMB), feeding, watering, loading and unloading of animals requires a 400L OPERATIONAL FIRE-FIGHTING UNIT either attached to, or to accompany any vehicle that is feeding, watering, loading or unloading of animals.

SHIRE MESSAGING SYSTEM: The Shire operates a short messaging service (SMS) for residents. For the notification of Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans (HVMB) within the Shire of Plantagenet. For more information call the Shire on 9892 1111.

ABANDONED BUILDINGS: Abandoned buildings must be clearly marked by a sign and have the same requirements as a shed. A compliant sign shall have the word ‘**ABANDONED BUILDING**’ in **RED** with lettering 150mm high on a white background placed in a clearly visible location.

KEY DATES

EASTERN ZONE

CAMPING AND COOKING FIRES

PROHIBITED ON PUBLIC LAND

15 September to 31 March

RESTRICTED BURNING TIME

15 September to 14 November

PROHIBITED BURNING TIME

15 November to last day in February,
and includes Good Friday

RESTRICTED BURNING TIME

1 March to 31 March

Mitigation measures to be in place by 15
November and remain in place until the
conclusion of the Restricted period.

WESTERN ZONE

CAMPING AND COOKING FIRES

PROHIBITED ON PUBLIC LAND

15 September to 31 March

RESTRICTED BURNING TIME

15 October to 30 November

PROHIBITED BURNING TIME

1 December to last day in February,
and Good Friday

RESTRICTED BURNING TIME

1 March to 31 March

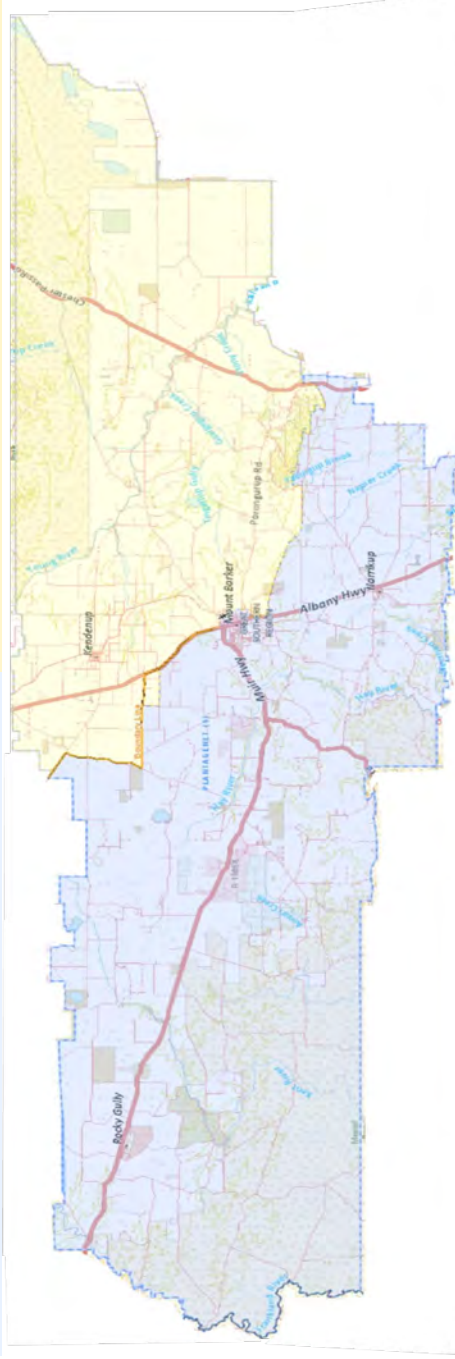
Mitigation measures to be in place by 1
December and remain in place until the
conclusion of the Restricted period.

**SEASONAL CONDITIONS MAY VARY THE
RESTRICTED AND PROHIBITED BURNING TIMES.**

WESTERN ZONE

Eastern Zone

ZONE MAP



**CAMPING AND COOKING FIRES ARE PROHIBITED ON PUBLIC LAND
FROM 15 SEPTEMBER TO 31 MARCH**

PROPERTY REQUIREMENTS

LOTS WITH AND WITHOUT ASSETS, UP TO AND INCLUDING 1 HECTARE :

- ⇒ Graze or slash grass to 100mm.
- ⇒ If 70% or more of the lot is covered by vegetation other than grass or managed garden beds or a seed producing crop, a firebreak is required around or within 10m of the property boundary. The firebreak must be cleared of flammable material, be a minimum of 4m wide and have a minimum overhead clearance of 4m to allow safe passage for fire trucks.
- ⇒ Bush areas are to be kept in a hazard reduced state. This can be achieved by parkland clearing, mulching or removal of dead vegetation, bark and leaf litter.
- ⇒ Lots with assets require an APZ. The following conditions apply to the APZ.
- ⇒ It must extend a minimum of 20m from any external walls of an asset, or up to your property boundary if this falls within the 20 metre zone.
- ⇒ It should include only reticulated lawns, gardens and managed vegetation.
- ⇒ Grass must be maintained to 50mm or less.
- ⇒ Trees should be trimmed so that no branches overhang the asset, with lower branches at least 2m from the ground.
- ⇒ Gutters are to be kept free of leaves and branches.
- ⇒ Refer to page 9 for compliance photo.
- ⇒ Refer to page 13 for minimum requirements when operating any type of machinery or equipment.

PROPERTY REQUIREMENTS

ALL PROPERTIES GREATER THAN 1 HECTARE AND UP TO, AND INCLUDING, 20 HECTARES:

- ⇒ Properties with assets require an APZ.
- ⇒ If 70% or more of the property is covered by vegetation other than grass or managed garden beds or a seed producing crop, a firebreak is required around or within 10m of the property's external boundary.
- ⇒ Both firebreaks and driveways must be cleared of flammable material, be a minimum of 4m wide and have a minimum overhead clearance of 4m to allow safe passage for fire trucks.
- ⇒ Slash or graze the grass to no more than 100mm high in town sites, and harvest crops to 200mm on properties up to 20 hectares.
- ⇒ If your land is permanently and sufficiently stocked with livestock, there is no need to slash. Livestock must graze the grass down to no more than 100mm high in town sites or 200mm high.
- ⇒ Refer to page 9 for compliance photo.
- ⇒ Refer to page 13 for minimum requirements when operating any type of machinery or equipment.

PROPERTY REQUIREMENTS

GREATER THAN 1 HECTARE AND UP TO, AND INCLUDING 20 HECTARES (CONT.):

The following conditions apply to properties that have sheds, abandoned buildings, haystacks, fuel storage and any other assets.

- ⇒ Maintain a firebreak 20m to 100m from the perimeter of sheds, hay stacks and fuel storage. The firebreak must be cleared of flammable material, be a minimum of 4m wide and have a minimum overhead clearance of 4m to allow for safe passage of fire trucks.
- ⇒ The area between the firebreak and sheds, hay stacks and fuel storage etc is to be kept in a hazard reduced state with grass and/or vegetation limited to 100mm in height.
- ⇒ Hay stored beyond 100m of assets does not require a firebreak.



Bush maintained in a hazard reduced state
ALL PROPERTIES



Non-compliant fire fuel load

PROPERTY REQUIREMENTS

PROPERTIES GREATER THAN 20 HECTARES:

- ⇒ Properties with assets must have an APZ.
- ⇒ Driveways into the property must be cleared of flammable material, be a minimum of 4 metres wide and have a minimum overhead clearance of 4 metres to allow safe passage for fire trucks.
- ⇒ A firebreak is to be installed no less than 20 metres and no more than 100 metres from the perimeter of sheds, hay stacks and fuel storage. This firebreak is to be cleared of flammable material, be a minimum of 4 metres wide and have a minimum overhead clearance of 4 metres.
- ⇒ The area between the firebreak and sheds, hay stacks and fuel storage is to be kept in a hazard reduced state with grass and/or vegetation limited to 100mm in height.
- ⇒ Hay stored beyond 100 metres of any asset does not require a firebreak.
- ⇒ Refer to page 9 for compliance photo.
- ⇒ Also refer to page 13 minimum requirements.
- ⇒ Refer to page 13 for minimum requirements when operating any type of machinery or equipment.

PROPERTY REQUIREMENTS

PROPERTIES GREATER THAN 10,000 HECTARES:

- ⇒ Properties with assets must have an APZ.
- ⇒ Driveways into the property must be cleared of flammable material, be a minimum of 4 metres wide and have a minimum overhead clearance of 4 metres to allow safe passage for fire trucks.
- ⇒ A firebreak is to be installed no less than 20 metres and no more than 100 metres from the perimeter of sheds, hay stacks and fuel storage. This firebreak is to be cleared of flammable material, be a minimum of 4 metres wide and have a minimum overhead clearance of 4 metres.
- ⇒ The area between the firebreak and sheds, hay stacks and fuel storage is to be kept in a hazard reduced state with grass and/or vegetation limited to 100mm in height.
- ⇒ Hay stored beyond 100 metres of any asset does not require a firebreak.
- ⇒ Refer to page 9 for compliance photo.
- ⇒ Also refer to page 13 minimum requirements.
- ⇒ Refer to page 13 for minimum requirements when operating any type of machinery or equipment.
- ⇒ A 3.4 heavy duty operational mobile fire-fighting unit (4x4 truck carrying 3,000 litres of water) must be located within the property boundary.

PLANTATION REQUIREMENTS

PLANTATIONS & TREE FARMS: These are defined as areas exceeding 3 hectares within townsites, or 10 hectares in rural areas, of trees planted or land under preparation for planting of trees for commercial purposes.

- ⇒ Firebreaks must be constructed on all boundaries, or other locations as agreed to by Council.
- ⇒ Boundary firebreaks are to be 15 metres wide. Within this 15 metres, 6 metres are to be as central as possible with a trafficable surface and a minimum overhead clearance of 4 metres. This section is to be maintained as a firebreak. The remaining 4.5 metres either side of the firebreak is to be maintained in a hazard reduced state.
- ⇒ Internal firebreaks, between compartments, are to have a minimum trafficable area width of 6 metres maintained in a hazard reduced state with a minimum overhead clearance of 4 metres.
- ⇒ A 3.4 heavy duty operational mobile firefighting unit (4x4 truck carrying 3,000 litres of water) and crew must be available for deployment to incidents. The combination of appliance and crew should be in reasonable proximity to the Shire of Plantagenet whether it be within the Shire itself or an adjoining Shire.
- ⇒ For a full list of requirements for plantations and tree farms, visit the Shire website www.plantagenet.wa.gov.au
- ⇒ Refer to page 13 for minimum requirements

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR OPERATIONS DURING RESTRICTED AND PROHIBITED BURNING TIMES

OPERATION	REQUIRMENTS
Harvesting of, Seed, Timber, Swathing (except (Canola), Slashing, Bailing Straw, Stone chaining, Portable Saw Mill	A Mobile Operational Fire Fighting Unit with a minimum of 400 litres to be stationed in, or immediately adjacent to, the area where the operation takes place and within 1km of the operating machine.
Welding equipment, plasma, air arc cutting, oxy acetlin torch and power operated abrasive cutting discs in the open air.	A Mobile Operational fire fighting unit with a minimum of 400 litres to be stationed in, or immediately adjacent to, the area where the operation takes place. A 9KG Fire Extinguisher at the place where the operation is carried out. Where welding or cutting is carried out, a 5m radius around the equipment must be cleared of all flammable material to bare earth. In addition, an observer must be on hand to monitor the site at all times.
Slashing/Mowing of flammable material by all machinery. By hand held equipment	A 9kg operational fire extinguisher must be carried on the vehicle. A 4.5kg Operational fire extinguisher must be within 20 metres.
Tractors, Trucks and Self-Propelled Harvesters in standing crop or stubble paddocks	A 9kg operational fire extinguisher must be carried on the vehicle.

If these minimum requirements are not in place, and a fire is started by one of these operations, the person responsible for starting the fire may be liable for the cost of fighting the fire.

BUSHFIRE BRIGADE CAPTAINS CONTACT INFORMATION

Denbarker

Brad Lynch 0428 969 883

Forest Hill

Craig Moore 0409 424 766

Kendenup

Ben Furber 0497 860 754

Middle Ward

Andrew Mackie 0458 242 629

Narpyn

Robert Wright 0409 611 534

Narrikup

Chris Norton 0487 930 351

Perillup

Dean Trotter 0428 188 862

Porongurup

Tristan Hample 0447 764 212

Porongurup South

Wayne Matthews 0499 459 974

Rocky Gully

Ian Higgins 0417 122 017

Woogenellup

Nathan Hunt 0427 505 612

Albany

Kojaneerup

Ashton Hood 0427 477 234

South Stirlings

Graeme Pyle 0477 543 069

HANDY CONTACTS

FOR ALL BUSH FIRE EMERGENCIES CALL 000

If you have questions about your fire mitigation responsibilities, call the Shire **9892 1111** or visit www.plantagenet.wa.gov.au

The Shire of Plantagenet Harvest Ban Hotline - **9892 1102** - provides updates on active bans and restricted and prohibited burning times.

For information on TFBs, call the TFB Hotline on **1800 709 355** or visit

www.emergency.wa.gov.au

To find out about volunteering with your local bushfire brigade, call the captain see page 14 or the Shire 9892 1111.

COOKING FIRE RESTRICTIONS

Cooking on private land with solid fuel can be carried out during restricted times provided the following conditions are met.

- ⇒ There is not a Fire Danger Forecast rating of high or above.
- ⇒ The fire has a 3 metre zone clear of flammables.
- ⇒ The fire is fully contained to prevent escape.
- ⇒ The fire is attended at all times.
- ⇒ Sufficient water is available to extinguish the fire.
- ⇒ The fire and any remnants are completely extinguished prior to leaving the site with no possibility of reignition.

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