

Do you know your fire danger ratings?

Moderate
Be ready to act

High
Plan and prepare

Extreme
Take action now to protect life and property

Catastrophic
For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas

Know your weather. Know your risk.

Be Bushfire Ready.

Stay Safe. Protect Our Community.

Can We Access Your Property?

DID YOU KNOW?

For firefighters to protect your home effectively, fire appliances must be able to access your property safely and quickly.

If emergency vehicles can't access your land, they may not be able to protect your home during a bushfire.

Don't Fuel Fires — Fireproof Your Home!

Help reduce the risk of fire around your home by following these simple tips:

- Clear flammable material from around all buildings
- Keep firewood, fuel and flammables (e.g. petrol, kerosene) well away from your house Clean gutters regularly to remove dead leaves and debris
- Remove dead trees and branches that could fall and ignite your roof
- Rake up leaves, twigs and other dry material around your yard
- Burn off dry grass or vegetation responsibly and only at approved times — or consider safer alternatives like mulching or green waste disposal
- Avoid thick vegetation or overgrowth close to your house — it can quickly turn into a dangerous fuel source during a bushfire

Need More Information?

Contact Ranger Services

9168 4100

mail@swек.wa.gov.au

www.swек.wa.gov.au

In Case of Emergency Telephone

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Contacts

Kununurra Police Phone: 08 9166 4530

Wyndham Police Phone: 08 9161 0400

Useful Links

<https://www.swек.wa.gov.au/services/rangers/litterawareness.aspx>

SHIRE of

WYNDHAM

EAST KIMBERLEY

Firebreak Order, Burning Rules & Bushfire Information

Working together for a safer community

Why This Matters

Bushfires pose a serious threat to our region each year. Property owners have a legal and community responsibility to prepare their land and reduce fire risk. This guide outlines your responsibilities under the Bush Fires Act 1954 and key contacts in case of emergency.

Key Dates

- Firebreaks must be installed by: 1st May each year
- Firebreaks must be maintained until: 15th January the following year
- Restricted Burning Period: 1st March to 14th January

Firebreak Reequipments

Land Less than 2000 m²

- Asset Protection Zone (APZ) required
- Grass no higher than 30 cm
- Natural vegetation ≤ 8 tonnes/ha

Land Greater than 2000 m²

- Asset Protection Zone (APZ) required
- Firebreaks 3m wide, 4m high, within 10m of property boundary
- Trafficable for emergency vehicles
- Must not end in dead-ends

Fuel Storage Areas

- Clear at least 15m around all fuel drums, ramps or stacks



Exemptions & Special Cases

If firebreaks or clearing is impractical, apply for an exemption by 15 February each year. Contact the Shire for more info.

How to Build a Firebreak

Firebreaks must be:

- 3m wide with 4m overhead clearance
- Free of all flammable material
- Maintainable by ploughing, grading, raking, burning or chemical spraying
- Made of mineral earth, gravel, bitumen, or short green lawn (grass <10cm)
- Must not end in a dead-end

Asset Protection Zone (APZ) Requirements

Within 20m of buildings:

- Grass under 10cm
- Tree canopy coverage ≤ 15%
- Trees pruned to at least 2m from ground
- No trees within 3m of buildings
- No overhanging branches
- Woodpiles & flammables stored safely
- Clear debris and install safe paths
- Scrub must be sparse and walkable

Burning Garden Refuse

During the Restricted Burning Period (1 March – 14 January), burning is prohibited unless ALL the following are met:

- No burning allowed on land under 2,000 m²
- You must obtain a Fire Permit under Regulation 15
- Burn in one pile only, max size 2.0 m³
- All material must be 100% cured
- There is no inflammable matter (other than that being burnt) within five (5) metres of the fire at any time while the fire is burning
- The fire is lit between 6.00pm and 11.00pm and is completely extinguished before midnight on the same day
- At least one person is present at the site of the fire at all times until it is completely extinguished
- when the fire is no longer required, the person ensures that the fire is completely extinguished by the application of water or earth

REMEMBER: Even if you meet all the conditions, you must still get a Fire Permit from the Shire during the Restricted Burning Period.

What Happens If You Don't Comply

You may face:

- A \$250 fine or prosecution up to \$5,000
- Shire may clear your land at your cost
- Additional directions from Shire Officers

If you're using burning to clear land — make sure it's done safely and legally under the Bush Fires Act 1954.

Fire Permits Required

During the Restricted Burning Period (1 March – 14 January):

You MUST obtain a Fire Permit from the Shire before doing any burning. This applies to burning garden refuse, rubbish, or dry vegetation — even in small piles.

Contact the Shire to apply for a permit or find safer alternatives to burning.

