

SHIRE OF RAVENSTHORPE



EMERGENCY SERVICES

SEPTEMBER 2019

HARVEST BAN LINE:
08 9839 0035

EMERGENCY:
000

SMS REGISTRATION:
08 9839 0000



RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD

ALL AREA'S
Shire of Ravensthorpe:
19th Sept 2019 - 31st Oct 2019

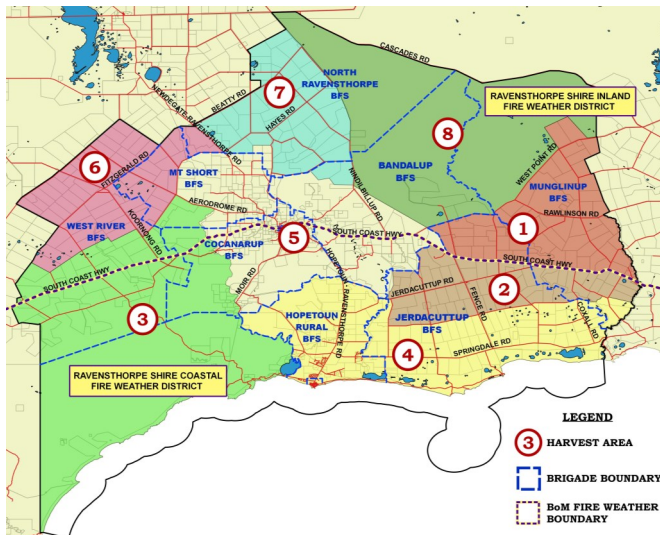
PERMITS REQUIRED

PROHIBITED BURNING PERIOD

ALL AREA'S
Shire of Ravensthorpe:
1st Nov 2019 - 31st Jan 2020

FULL RESTRICTED BURNING TO COMMENCE!

As of Thursday, 19th September 2019; ALL Residents and Property Owners within the Shire will be required to obtain a Fire Permit for any Burning Off and/or Hazard Reduction Burning activities upon their land.



A reminder to ALL Permit Holders, a fire permit is a privilege and as such it is your **responsibility** to;

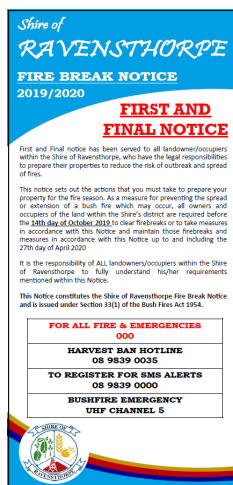
- Read and adhere to all conditions prescribed on both sides of the permit,
- Check weather conditions are suitable to your burning objectives,
- Ensure the appropriate breaks are installed and adequate fire fighting water is available.

2019/20 FIRE BREAK NOTICE PAMPHLET:

The Shire of Ravensthorpe 2019/20 Fire Break Notice pamphlet is **now** available.



If you have not received your copy of the Fire Break Notice, copies are available from either the Hopetoun or Ravensthorpe Shire Offices, Shire Website or please contact the Shire Office for a copy to be posted.

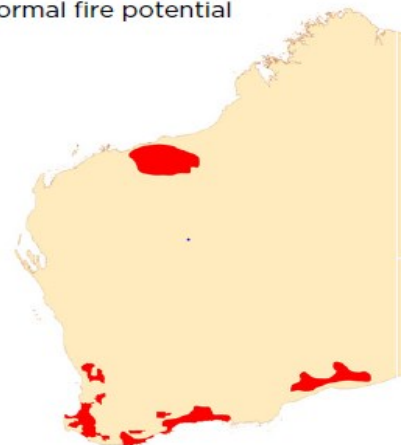
Please remember your property needs to be compliant to the Fire Control Information notice before **Monday, 14th October 2019.**



2019/20 BUSHFIRE SEASON OUTLOOK:

The climate outlook for spring is mainly influenced by the Indian Ocean, together with other factors including long-term trends. A positive Indian Ocean Dipole during spring typically increases the chance of below average rainfall for southern and central Australia and has been linked to elevated summer fire danger.

 Above normal fire potential
 Normal fire potential



bushfire@natural
HAZARDS CRC



Conditions for Western Australia; Rainfall deficiencies have persisted across most of the south west of Western Australia, with this area experiencing its driest start to the year, followed by the seventh-driest autumn on record. In addition, drier and warmer than average conditions are forecast through to October, which will increase soil moisture deficits and stress in woody vegetation. These conditions have resulted in above normal fire potential for parts of the Swan Coastal Plain, Avon Wheatbelt, Jarrah Forest, Warren, Esperance Plains and Mallee regions.

Full report is available to read from the Bushfire & Natural Hazards CRC website: www.bnhcrc.com.au

**AVOID THE LESSON LEARNT THROUGH TRAGEDY...!
NOW IS THE TIME TO PREPARE YOUR HOME AND
FAMILY TO BE FIRE READY FOR THE UPCOMING
FIRE SEASON!**

For preparation advice, go to; www.firechat.wa.gov.au

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MINIMUM WATER CAPACITY IN PADDOCKS:

The Ravensthorpe Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC) resolved to impose minimum water capacity standards within the Shire of Ravensthorpe, permissible under Regulation 38A *Bush Fires Regulations 1954*.

ALL Primary Producers MUST have a minimum of 400lt fire fighting water available per header harvesting or tractor raking/baling operating within the same paddock.

Failure to comply to these requirements will result in a \$500.00 infringement or if any person is found guilty in any court of competent jurisdiction, \$5,000.00 Court Fine.

HEADER/PADDOCK FIRES:

Due to the various heights of crops around the district and some that have possibly been affected by recent cold temperatures, the Ravensthorpe Bush Fire Advisory Council are asking Farmers and Contractors to take extra care when harvesting in paddocks with the following, to avoid fires starting in paddocks this year;

- Header combs cutting heights,
- Dust and moisture from frosted crops accumulating,
- A Fire extinguisher in proper working order, and
- Carry out required daily maintenance checks



ABC RADIO BROADCAST TIMES:

ABC local radio is not only the official broadcaster of emergency warnings and alerts, they will be broadcasting Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban information.

Stay tuned to ABC radio at the following times to hear when Harvest and Vehicle Movement bans;

Frequency: 558AM (Wagin) / 837AM (Esperance)

Times: 10:05am / 12:35pm / 3:05pm

Weekdays and Weekends

Please note: ABC will only broadcast harvest and vehicle movement bans when they commence. To be notified when harvest bans have been withdrawn please contact the Shire Office for your mobile phone to be added to the Shire's SMS system or refer to the Shire's Harvest Ban Hotline 08 9839 0035.

TOTAL FIRE BAN INFRINGEMENTS:

Last year the State Government introduced a \$1,000.00 Total Fire Ban Infringement for any activities that breach Total Fire Ban conditions, that result in a fire on days where a Total Fire Ban has been declared.

\$1,000.00 infringements can be issued by either DFES, WA Police, Parks & Wildlife Services and Local Governments.

What does this mean to farming practices; on the day that a Total Fire Ban has been declared harvesting activities can still continue, until a Harvest & Vehicle Movement Ban has been implemented by the Shire. If a fire starts during this period from a header striking a rock, bearing failure, etc. this does not constitute as a breach of the Total Fire Ban conditions.

Farmers can still traverse through paddocks to check the welfare of stock, providing that they are in a vehicle with a fire fighting unit carrying a minimum of 500lt.

VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTER PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT:

Volunteer Bush Fire Fighters are asked to check over your Bush Fire Jacket, Trousers, Gloves, Goggles, etc. ready for the upcoming fire season.

Bushfire Jackets and Trousers can be laundered at home in a separate wash utilising a cold water delicate wash cycle with only 2x caps of disinfectant; NO washing detergents, powder or fabric softener.

If you have any tears, holes, etc. please report them to your brigade captain for items to be replaced.



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NOW IS THE TIME TO PREPARE!

Landowner/occupiers are reminded NOW is the time to start preparing your property for the upcoming fire season, to avoid the unpleasant bushfire warnings or infringements for non compliance.

Top 5 Actions that can be undertaken right now are;

1. TRIM - overhanging trees and shrubs from around your house and buildings
2. MOW - your lawn and remove all the cut grass. All grasses must not exceed 100mm in height.
3. REMOVE - material that can burn around your home.
4. CLEAR - and remove all the debris and leaves from the gutters surrounding your home.
5. PREPARE - a hose or hose that can stretch all around the house.



PERMANENT CARAVAN OWNERS:

Owners of permanent Caravan's utilised as holiday destinations or place of permanent residence located at any Caravan Park within the Shire of Ravensthorpe are required to take the following actions;

- Reduce fuel loads around your caravan by removing any accumulating leaf litter, fallen sticks/branches and rubbish on top of caravan's, annex's and within 2mt radius of the Caravan.
- Remove any overhanging tree branches to achieve a 3mt vertical clearance above the caravan itself.



CAMPING & COOKING FIRES

Pursuant to Section 25(1A) *Bush Fires Act 1954*, the lighting of fires in the open air in the Shire of Ravensthorpe for the purpose of camping and cooking is prohibited during the Prohibited Burning Time, except in the Starvation and Mason Bay camping areas.

All open fires are to be contained within a cement ring provided at these locations or designated fire areas i.e. barbeque - Penalty: \$250.00 Infringement.

2019/20 FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS:

Pursuant to Section 38 *Bush Fires Act 1954*, the following have been appointed as Bush Fire Control Officers for the Shire of Ravensthorpe. These positions came into effect as of 1st August 2019.

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer: Rod Daw

Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer:

Bernard Fetherstonhaugh Gavin Gibson

Fire Control Officers:

Andy Daw	Devon Burton
Luke Webster	Gary Webster
Keith Rowe	Stott Redman
Michael Hughes	Paul Bell
Doug Bray	Simon Williams
James Mollet	Brad Clarke
Peter Belli	Richard Norrish
Andrew Bott	Andrew Chambers
Malcolm Tilbrook	Reece Laycock
Kye Chambers	Chad Tuckett
Peter Kuiper	Brett Kershaw
Dick Kuiper	Rian Duncan
Ash Peczk	

Permit Issuing Fire Control Officer: Andrew Venning

All previous appointments are hereby cancelled.

BECOME A EMERGENCY SERVICES VOLUNTEER TODAY!

"Our communities are served by dedicated group of emergency services volunteers, who require your help today!"

There is a role to suit everyone and training is available."



Contact the Community Emergency Services Officer at the Shire of Ravensthorpe on 08 9839 0000 for more details or how to join.