

FIRE MANAGEMENT NOTICE 2023/24

FIRST AND FINAL NOTICE IS HEREBY SERVED TO OWNERS AND OCCUPIERS OF LAND IN THE CITY OF ALBANY

This notice constitutes the City of Albany Fire Management Notice pursuant to Section 33 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*.

You are required to prepare and maintain your property for the fire season. This notice sets out the actions you must take.

All fire mitigation measures must be in place by and maintained for the following periods:

North East Sector	1 October 2023 to 30 April 2024
South West Sector	1 December 2023 to 14 May 2024

City of Albany officers are authorised to enter private property, without notice to the owner, to inspect and confirm compliance with this notice. If you fail to comply with the requirements contained within this Notice, penalties under the *Bush Fire Act 1954* may apply.



The owner or occupier of land who has received notice under Section 33(1) of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* and who fails or neglects in any respect duly to comply with the requirements of the notice is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine of \$5000.

Properties up to 4000m²

The owner or occupier must reduce any fire hazard on their land by:

- Creating and maintaining *perimeter fire breaks**
- Maintaining *fine fuel load** over whole property to an average of two (2) tonnes per hectare
- Creating and maintaining *hazard specific fire breaks**
- Creating and maintaining *building protection zones**

*SEE DEFINITIONS

Properties 4000m² to 50 Hectares

The owner or occupier must reduce any fire hazard on their land by:

- Creating and maintaining *perimeter fire breaks**
- Maintaining *fine fuel load** over whole property to an average of eight (8) tonnes per hectare
- Creating and maintaining *hazard specific fire breaks**
- Creating and maintaining *building protection zones**

*SEE DEFINITIONS

Non-Agricultural Non-Cropping Non-Stock Properties over 50 Hectares

The owner or occupier must reduce any fire hazard on their land by:

- Creating and maintaining *perimeter fire breaks**
- Creating and maintaining *hazard specific fire breaks**
- Creating and maintaining *building protection zones**

*SEE DEFINITIONS

Agricultural Cropping and/or Stock Properties over 50 Hectares

The owner or occupier must reduce any fire hazard on their land by:

- Creating and maintaining *perimeter fire breaks** are not compulsory but recommended
- Creating and maintaining *hazard specific fire breaks**
- Creating and maintaining *building protection zones**
- Cropping paddocks must be broken into compartments not exceeding 250 hectares in area, each separated by internal trafficable breaks.

*SEE DEFINITIONS

Definitions

Perimeter Fire Breaks - are a continuous *trafficable* access track that has standard dimensions of 3 metres wide with 4 metres vertical clearance, located within 20 metres of the property boundary. It can be created by ploughing, cultivating, scarifying, burning or otherwise clearing including slashing and maintaining vegetation length below 50mm.

Hazard Specific Fire Breaks - are a 3 metre low fuel area around inflammable hazards with vegetation maintained below 50mm. Includes but is not limited to; haystacks, non-dwelling sheds, green electricity power domes, electricity power poles and fuel storage areas.

Fine Fuel Load - are grasses and dead combustible vegetation matter less than 6mm in thickness. It does not include processed mulch below an average depth of 50mm.

Building Protection Zone - is a defensible space immediately adjacent to a building *no less* than three metres wide, clear of inflammable vegetation and material. Further, combustible objects, plants, garden supplies such as mulches should be avoided within 10 metres of the building and vegetation kept to a minimum and kept in a low fuel state. The *building protection zone* may reduce the likelihood and impact that direct flame contact, radiant heat or ember attack may have on buildings in the event of a bushfire.

Inflammable - means a substance or material easily ignited and capable of bursting into flames without the need of an ignition source.

Trafficable - means the capacity to allow a firefighting truck or other firefighting vehicle to safely navigate the interior perimeter of the property safely without impediment.

Information Subsidiary to the Fire Management Notice

Variation to the requirements of the Fire Management Notice:

If you cannot meet these fire management notice requirements, you must apply for a variation or submit an approved Bush Fire Management Plan (BFMP).

Applications for variations must be submitted to the City of Albany by the 01 November 2023.

The City will only accept a BFMP completed by an accredited Bush Fire Planning and Design Practitioner. A BFMP can encompass single or multiple properties. All properties covered by a BFMP must comply with the conditions of the BFMP.

Please contact the City of Albany on 6820 3000 or visit the City's website www.albany.wa.gov.au.

Conservation, Special Residential, Rural Residential and Special Rural Zones:

Properties located in these zones approved under subdivision plans in the Albany Local Planning Scheme Number 1 where required are to comply with fire mitigation requirement conditions under the subdivision plan. If an owner or occupier of a property in one of these zones fails to maintain the mitigation requirements under the subdivision plan, then they will be subject to the requirements of this Fire Management Notice.

To check your property zone and subdivision mitigation requirements please contact City of Albany Planning Services by email planning@albany.wa.gov.au or by phone on 6820 3000.

Information Subsidiary to the Fire Management Notice

Plantation Lots:

Owners and lessees of plantation lots must comply with the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) *Guidelines for Plantation Fire Protection (the guidelines)* in addition to this Fire Management Notice. The guidelines are available from the DFES website <https://publications.dfes.wa.gov.au>.

Significant Dates

NORTH EAST SECTOR FIRE SEASON

1 October 2023 – 14 November 2023	Restricted Burning permits required
1 October 2023	Requirements of Fire Notice MUST be in place and maintained
15 November 2023 - 15 February 2024	BURNING PROHIBITED
16 February 2024 - 30 April 2024	Restricted Burning permits required

SOUTH WEST SECTOR FIRE SEASON

1 November 2023 – 14 December 2023 15 November 2023	Restricted Burning permits required
1 December 2023	Requirements of Fire Notice MUST be in place and maintained
15 December 2023 15 November 2023 - 14 March 2024	BURNING PROHIBITED
15 March 2024 - 14 May 2024	Restricted Burning permits required

These dates are subject to change. Any changes will be published in the local newspapers and on the City of Albany website at www.albany.wa.gov.au.

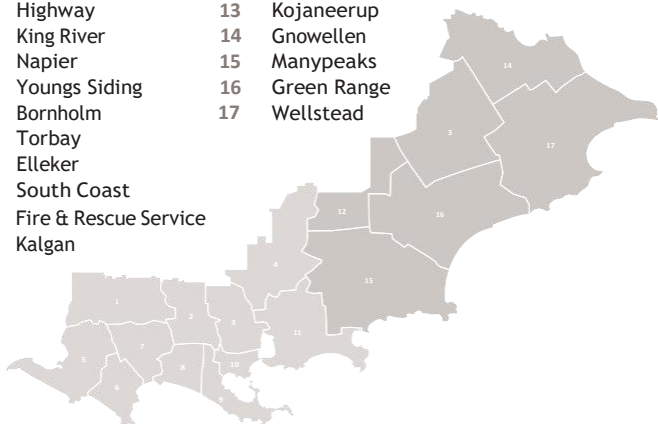
FIRE BRIGADE BOUNDARIES

South West

- 1 Redmond
- 2 Highway
- 3 King River
- 4 Napier
- 5 Youngs Siding
- 6 Bornholm
- 7 Torbay
- 8 Elleker
- 9 South Coast
- 10 Fire & Rescue Service
- 11 Kalgan

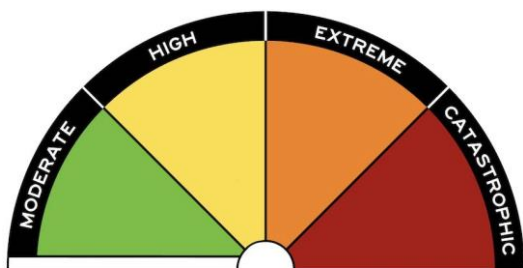
North East

- 12 South Stirling
- 13 Kojaneerup
- 14 Gnowellen
- 15 Manypeaks
- 16 Green Range
- 17 Wellstead



Fire Danger Rating

Fire Danger Ratings (FDRs) tell you how dangerous a fire would be if one started. The higher the FDR, the more severe the bushfire will be. They are based on weather conditions forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology.



The new Australian Fire Danger Rating System (AFDRS) levels are:

Moderate: Plan and prepare.

Most fires can be controlled. Stay up to date and be alert for fires in your area.

High: Be ready to act.

Fires can be dangerous. Decide what you will do if a fire starts. Leave bushfire risk areas if necessary.

Extreme: Take action now to protect your life and property.

Fires will spread quickly and be extremely dangerous. Put your bushfire plan into action. If you and your property are not prepared to the highest level, plan to leave early.

Catastrophic: For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas.

These are the most dangerous conditions for a fire. Homes cannot withstand fires in these conditions and if a fire starts and takes hold, lives are likely to be lost. Stay safe by going to a safer location early in the morning or the night before.

DISCLAIMER:

The requirement to clear a fire break exempts an owner or occupier from needing a permit to clear native vegetation under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* however it does not authorise an owner or occupier to carry out excessive clearing. Clearing or removal of native vegetation beyond the requirements of this notice will require permission from other State Legislative Authorities.

The City of Albany, or a contractor engaged by the City, may enter your land to install fire breaks or reduce fuel loads with any expenses incurred charged to the owner or occupier.

The City may vary a requirement or condition of this Notice at its discretion.

Any 'variation to requirements' approval you hold may be declared void at any time by the City.

This notice is issued and authorised by:

Andrew Sharpe
Chief Executive Officer



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