



# Media release

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## **Are you bush fire ready?**

The City of Albany Volunteer Bushfire Brigades have been out in our community collecting funds for the Esperance Bushfire Appeal. Thanks to the generous people of Albany; the total at the time of print is well over \$13,000.

Manager Ranger and Emergency Services Tony Ward said that the Esperance fires are a reminder of how serious bushfires can become and that all residents need to be prepared.

“The volunteer fire brigades play a vital part in bush fire protection, but so do residents. The Albany community need to ensure that not only are their fire breaks compliant but that they have a plan in the event of a bush fire” said Mr Ward.

Fire breaks and hazard reduction measures must be implemented by 1 December 2015 until 30 April 2016.

Mr Ward said that two trucks from Albany have assisted in fighting the fires in Esperance and this has reinforced that we must increase awareness in our community.

“We have a shared responsibility to be bush fire ready. I urge members of community to take action to be safe this summer and take responsibility for their properties by installing firebreaks and building protection zones.

City of Albany emergency management team will be commencing property inspections to ensure properties are correctly prepared; penalties may be issued to non-compliant properties.

For further information on fire break requirements, please visit: [www.albany.wa.gov.au](http://www.albany.wa.gov.au).

For more information on preparing your property for the bushfire season, please visit: <http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/safetyinformation/fire/bushfire/pages/preparebeforetheseason.aspx>

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