



Fire and Emergency Management information

To report fire call 000



Burning & fire danger ratings

Firebreaks and examples

Asset protection zones

Burning garden refuse

Fire bans / brigade contacts

Bushfire survival planning

Emergency Kit checklist

Burning period dates and Fire Danger Ratings (FDRs)

Dates subject to seasonal conditions

Burning period dates change due to climate conditions and will be advertised on the City's website and through the City's SMS notification service (refer to Fire and Emergency Management/Emergency SMS Notifications section for information on signing up to this service).

- **Prohibited burning** 1 December to 31 March, FDRs high or above, fire ban days
- **Restricted burning** 1 April to 31 May, 1 September to 30 November, permits required
- **No restrictions** 1 June to 31 August, please take care and be safe

Prohibited burning periods

All burning is prohibited including burning garden waste. The following exemptions apply so long as there is a 3m clearing of all bush and flammable material around the site:

- Pizza ovens fitted with a spark arrestor
- Purpose built solid fuel BBQs such as Webbers
- Lighting fires for the purpose of camping or cooking

These exemptions are not valid if the Fire Danger Rating is **High** or above and/or a Total Fire Ban/Harvest, Hot Works and Vehicle Movement Ban has been declared.

Permits are required during restricted burning periods

Permits to burn may be obtained online at wanneroo.wa.gov.au/burnpermit or in person from the City of Wanneroo Civic Centre, 23 Dundobar Road, Wanneroo, between 8.30am-5pm Monday to Friday.

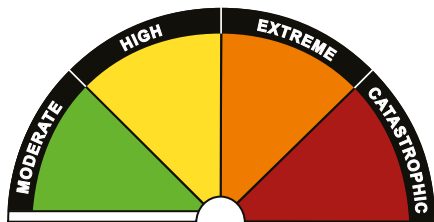
All burning is prohibited on days of High or above Fire Danger Ratings and if a Total Fire Ban/Harvest, Hot Works and Vehicle Movement Ban has been declared.



Fire Danger Ratings (FDRs)

If you are in a bushfire risk location, you need to know what the Fire Danger Rating (FDR) is for your area, monitor local conditions and keep informed.

Fire Danger Ratings are calculated using a combination of weather forecasting and information about vegetation that could fuel a fire. You can use the Fire Danger Ratings as a trigger for action in your bushfire survival plan.



■ MODERATE

Plan and prepare.

Most fires can be controlled.

■ HIGH

Be ready to act.

Fires can be dangerous.

■ EXTREME

Take action now to protect your life and property.

Fires will spread quickly and be extremely dangerous.

■ CATASTROPHIC

For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas.

If a fire starts and takes hold, lives are likely to be lost.

A new fire danger rating system provides clearer and more accurate information. The City is currently working towards installing new signs at the following locations:

- Breakwater Drive, Two Rocks
- Gngangara Road, Landsdale
- Neaves Road, Pinjar
Corner of Old Yanchep Road
- Neaves Road, Mariginiup
West of Meadowlands Drive
- Two Rocks Road, Yanchep
North of Yanchep Beach Road
- Wanneroo Road, Neerabup
Corner Joondalup Drive
- Wanneroo Road, Yanchep
South of Old Yanchep Road
- Wanneroo Road, Carabooda
Opposite Triam Road
- Wanneroo Road, Nowergup
North of Hester Ave

The City of Wanneroo's fire weather district is:
Swan Coastal North

You can find out the daily FDR online at either:
emergency.wa.gov.au

[bom.gov.au/wa/forecasts/
fire-danger-ratings](https://bom.gov.au/wa/forecasts/fire-danger-ratings)

Stay informed about burning periods by contacting the City, visiting our website or Facebook page:

Contact **9405 5000**

Visit [wanneroo.wa.gov.au/
bushfireprevention](https://wanneroo.wa.gov.au/bushfireprevention)

Facebook [CityofWanneroo](https://www.facebook.com/CityofWanneroo)

Firebreaks / fuel hazard reduction / firebreak examples

While firebreaks do not actually stop fires or prevent them, they do provide vehicle access for firefighters during a bushfire and assist with the prevention of fires spreading.

Fire mitigation measures must be in place by the 1st of November each year and maintained until the 30th of April the following year.

This is a requirement under the Bush Fires Act 1954 Section 33.

Failure to comply may incur penalties of up to \$5,000 and works required will be carried out at the expense of the owner/occupier. Fire mitigation requirements apply to various property sizes, so it is important to know your block size.

Requirements for land less than 4000sqm

- Maintain grasses and flammable materials with the exception of living trees on the entire property to a height of no more than 50 millimetres. The entire property is required to be maintained below 50 millimetres from 1 November each year until 30 April the following year **OR**
- A 3 metre wide trafficable firebreak as close as possible to all external boundaries of the property must be installed by 1 November each year and maintained until 30 April the following year.
 - If it is not possible to install the firebreak adjacent to the external boundary of the property due to naturally occurring obstacles, it is acceptable to install the firebreak around the obstacle. If this requires the firebreak to be greater than 5 metres away from the external boundary, a firebreak variation is required.
 - Ensure a minimum vertical clearance of 4 metres is maintained along the firebreaks to enable vehicles to drive along the firebreaks without access being obstructed.
- Where a property is affected by an approved bushfire management plan, property owners must still comply with all requirements in the Fire Mitigation Notice and with any additional requirements outlined within that plan.



Requirements for land greater than 4000sqm

- A 3 metre wide trafficable firebreak as close as possible to all external boundaries of the property must be installed by 1 November each year and maintained until 30 April the following year.
- If it is not possible to install the firebreak adjacent to the external boundary of the property due to naturally occurring obstacles, it is acceptable to install the firebreak around the obstacle. If this requires the firebreak to be greater than 5 metres away from the external boundary, a firebreak variation is required.
- Ensure a minimum vertical clearance of 4 metres is maintained along the firebreaks to enable vehicles to drive along the firebreaks without access being obstructed.
- Install and maintain a 20 metre bare earth area around all hay stacks and/or fuel dumps.
- Where a property is affected by an approved bushfire management plan, property owners must still comply with all requirements in the Firebreak Notice and with any additional requirements outlined within that plan.



This non-compliant firebreak shows regrowth and no vertical 4m clearance.



A compliant firebreak needs to be 3m wide and trafficable with a vertical clearance of not less than 4m.

Additional requirements

Additional requirements are in place where a variation is required, where a property is affected by an approved bushfire management plan, and on all vacant land greater than 4,000 square metres. An application for a variation to the Fire Mitigation Notice must be made no later than 18 October each year.

Visit wanneroo.wa.gov.au/firebreakvariation or by contacting 9405 5000.

For a copy of the City of Wanneroo's Fire Mitigation Notice visit wanneroo.wa.gov.au/bushfireprevention

Asset protection zones

An asset protection zone (APZ) is an area extending for at least 20 metres around a building or asset on all sides where specific vegetation management has been undertaken.

New Risk Treatment Standards recommend two zones for this area - the Inner Zone and the Outer Zone.

The Inner Zone is within 10 metres of a building or asset and creates defensible space by providing separation between flammable vegetation and the building surface.

The Outer Zone includes land that is between 10 and 20 metres of a relevant building or asset where clearing and pruning of trees and vegetation is done to reduce the impact of a bushfire by slowing its rate of spread and suppressing fire spread into the tree canopy.

Managing vegetation, rubbish and anything that can burn from around your home will increase its chances of surviving a bushfire. A well prepared property is more likely to survive a bushfire than an unprepared one. Firefighters cannot defend every property and are unlikely to defend a poorly prepared property - remember, their lives are at risk too.



No asset protection zone created around building.

Managing vegetation and fuel around your home will increase its chances of surviving a bushfire. This can be achieved by:

- Managing vegetation and creating an inner zone within 10 metres of your house, and an outer zone between 10 and 20 metres of your house
- Cut the grass around your property to 10cm or less
- Prune shrubs so they are not dense
- Clean gutters
- Remove shrubs, wood, mulch or any flammable material, against or near the house
- Create a firebreak as per 'firebreaks' section of this guide
- Ensure gas cylinders are secured upright and are facing away from likely direction of fire (ie where bush is) and turn release valves outwards
- Block any gaps under floor, in the roof spaces, under eaves, external vents, skylights, chimneys and wall claddings
- Install metal fly wire mesh on all windows and vents
- Install a protective screen on evaporative air conditioners
- Install a fire or heat radiant shield such as a solid fence.

To reduce the spread of fire, start preparing your property by completing the above.

For more information visit dfes.wa.gov.au/bushfire

Burning garden refuse

There are many methods of hazard reduction available to residents. Reduction of fuel load does not have to be as drastic as removing all vegetation. Burning garden refuse is one option available at certain times of the year.

Garden refuse may be burnt without a permit during the restricted burning period, ensuring the following is followed:

- The fire is lit between **6pm and 11pm** and is completely extinguished before midnight on the same day
- The material must be on the ground, and be no more than **1 metre wide and 1 metre high**
- There is no flammable material (other than that being burned) within **3 metres** of the fire at any time
- At least one person is present at the site of the fire at all times until it is completely extinguished
- Only one heap may be burnt at any one time
- The Fire Danger Rating does not exceed '**High**'
- Let your neighbours know you will be burning material
- Keep a hose or spray pack at hand to dampen down fierce fires
- Do not burn damp, wet or green material at any time as this will cause excessive smoke.
- Notify Department of Fire and Emergency Services on 9395 9209.

For more information on implementing a planned burn on your property, visit dfes.wa.gov.au/plannedburning



Prescribed burning

The City undertakes prescribed burning to reduce fuel load created by overgrown bushland and fallen wood, leaves and grass.

Prescribed burning reduces the risk of large and uncontrollable bushfires and ultimately protects property, infrastructure, the environment and communities.

The City has an annual burning schedule for City-managed land. Refer to the City's website for a list of proposed sites.

Dates on when prescribed burns will take place is dependent on the state of the fuel and weather conditions. Dates are listed on the City's website and Facebook page a few days prior.

The City is able to provide advice and costs for Volunteer Bushfire Brigades to undertake prescribed burning on private property.

For further information, use the online form under Prescribed Burning on the City's website or contact the City on 9405 5000.



Mild intensity prescribed burn for fuel reduction.



Eight months post burn at Ashbrook Park.

Prescribed burning notification process

- For an updated list of annual proposed sites, visit wanneroo.wa.gov.au/bushfireprevention
- A letter is delivered to residents living directly opposite a prescribed burn site a few days prior
- Prescribed burning signs are placed on sites before and after a burn takes place
- Join the City's Facebook page for the most up to date notifications

Alternatives to prescribed burning

There are a range of alternatives to burning which can also be used to reduce the risk of bushfire. In many circumstances, hand and mechanical clearing methods should be considered the best way to protect your home and other assets. These methods can be safer than burning, and easier to organise and maintain.

Raking or manual removal of fuels

Remove fuels such as fallen leaves, twigs and bark.

Mowing grass

Keep grass short, green and well watered.

Spraying

Grass can be sprayed with herbicide to reduce fuel load. This may be a practical alternative, particularly if soil erosion is a concern or if areas are difficult to access. Ensure to wear protective gear when spraying, such as a respirator mask and gloves.

Slashing, mulching and turbo mowing

This is an economical method of fuel reduction. To be effective, the cut material must be removed or allowed to rot before summer starts.

Slashing and mowing may leave grass in rows, increasing fuel in some places. Mulching, or turbo mowing, also mulches the vegetation, leaving the fuel where it is cut.

Ploughing and grading

These methods can produce effective firebreaks, however the areas need constant maintenance. Loose soil may erode in steep areas, particularly where there is high rainfall and strong winds.





Disposal of green waste

City of Wanneroo residents and ratepayers are able to dispose of green waste and garden refuse at:

Wangara Greens Recycling Facility

70 Motivation Drive, Wangara

Open 8am-4.45pm weekends and public holidays.

Access to the site is free with a valid 'Greenwaste Tipping Voucher'. Four Greenwaste Tipping Vouchers are included with the annual rates notice.

If printing a digital voucher, please ensure the QR code is legible upon use, or present the voucher for scanning through your mobile device.

Each voucher allows the disposal of a standard 6x4 trailer load of clean greens at no charge.

Entry fees apply without a valid voucher.

Garden refuse can also be used as a mulch or compost to improve soils and the growth of plants.

If you have large quantities of green waste (for example branches, tree trunks) for a fee, you can arrange for mobile mulching services to mulch material on site.

Verges - a shared responsibility

The City of Wanneroo urges all residents to include their property's verge in their fire preparation activities.

The City cannot do it alone, given the size of the City and number of bush verges requiring maintenance.

Fire bans and brigade contacts

Total fire ban

Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) declare a Total Fire Ban on days when fire is most likely to spread rapidly (because of extreme fire weather) or if there are already widespread fires and firefighting resources are stretched.

A Total Fire Ban prohibits open air fires such as cooking or camping fires as well as carrying out any other activities that may start a fire, including the use of incinerators, welding, grinding, soldering or grass cutting equipment, vehicles and machinery likely to cause or be conducive to the spread of a bushfire.

How do I check if there is a Total Fire Ban in place?

- Emergency WA website [emergency.wa.gov.au](https://www.emergency.wa.gov.au)
- Call TFB Hotline on **1800 709 355**
- Call 13 DFES (**133 337**)
- Follow **@dfes_wa** on Twitter
- Follow **@dfeswa** on Facebook
- Listen to **ABC 720AM** and other media outlets
- Look for local government roadside Fire Danger Rating signs



Harvest, Hot Works and Vehicle Movement Bans

Harvest, Hot Works and Vehicle Movement Bans may be imposed by the City of Wanneroo during a Total Fire Ban or when the Chief Bushfire Control Officer is of the opinion that the use of engines, vehicles, plant or machinery is likely to cause a fire or contribute to the spread of a bushfire.

During a Harvest, Hot Works and Vehicle Movement Ban, you are not allowed to carry out any activity in the open-air that is likely to cause a fire, such as the use of engines, vehicles, plant or machinery.

If the Ban is declared, it is published on the City's website and broadcast on ABC 720AM. It will also be shared through the City's SMS notification system.

Responsibility

Property owners are ultimately responsible for managing bushfire risk on their own land and staying informed.

While there are fines for failing to comply, the biggest penalty of all would be losing your loved ones or home to fire. Please ensure you, your family and your home are kept safe by taking the necessary precautions.

The penalty for breaching a fire ban is up to \$25,000 and/or 12 months imprisonment.

Stay informed

The City of Wanneroo offers a complimentary SMS notification service to residents when a Total Fire Ban or Harvest, Hot Works, Vehicle Movement Ban has been declared.

To sign up, visit wanneroo.wa.gov.au/emergencysmsnotifications

Brigade contacts

Quinns Rocks Bushfire Brigade
14 Hidden Valley Retreat,
Clarkson
M 0428 498 779
quinnsrocksbfb.org.au

Wanneroo Volunteer
Fire Support Brigade
M 0427 026 006
wanneroosupportbfb.org.au

Two Rocks Volunteer
Bushfire Brigade
Caraway Loop, Two Rocks
M 0427 026 000
tworocksbfb.org.au

Wanneroo Central Volunteer
Bushfire Brigade
Building 1, Ashby Operations
Centre, 1204 Wanneroo Road,
Ashby
M 0401 779 605
wanneroobfb.org.au

Bushfire survival planning

Your home is in a bushfire danger zone

If you live within the City of Wanneroo, the chances are you either live in or near bushland.

Almost all of the City has been classified as having high to extreme risk of bushfire.

It is therefore important for all residents to be aware of this extreme risk and to understand that each of us is responsible for taking the necessary steps to prepare ourselves, our pets and animals, our families and our homes.



Urban interfacing properties located near bushland.



Rural/semi-rural properties with risk on and around the property.

How fireproof is your plan?

Bushfires move fast, even faster uphill, and they can generate enough heat to melt metal. Your best chance of surviving a bushfire is to plan what you would do if one was to come your way. Even if you intend to stay and defend your property, you still need a back-up plan.

One of the most critical and valuable things you can do is to make a bushfire plan.

Take 5 minutes now to discuss these simple questions:

- 1 WHEN will you leave?
- 2 WHAT will you take?
- 3 WHERE will you go?

This is a great first step to protect your family and home. However, have you considered what you would do if you are at work when a fire threatens, or if you have children home alone during the school holidays?

For further information on preparing a bushfire plan, visit dfes.wa.gov.au/bushfire



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Fire & Emergency Services**



Bushfire survival plan tips

- () Include family and even neighbours in your bushfire survival planning. Practice your plan with all members of your family before the start of each bushfire season
- () Write your plan down and don't doubt it when the time comes to put it into action
- () Include your pets and animals in your emergency planning. Will you leave them behind or take them with you?
- () Prepare an emergency kit and ensure everyone in your household knows where it is kept
- () Keeping scanned copies of official documents in your emergency kit can prove very helpful after a bushfire
- () Keep a list of special, irreplaceable items to grab quickly
- () Bushfires can be very stressful. Prepare your mind by thinking about what might be stressful, how you might react and how best you can manage your reactions.



To prepare your plan, first consider the unique set of circumstances that relate to you and your household by viewing these facts and questions:

mybushfireplan.wa.gov.au/faq

Then, create your bushfire plan on your mobile device or download a hardcopy:

mybushfireplan.wa.gov.au

Bushfire warning system

Bushfire warning system

If you live in a bushfire risk area, you need to understand the Bushfire Warning System before a fire threatens your home. The alerts give information on how severe a bushfire is once it's started.

Alerts have three warning levels indicating the increasing risk to your life or property, and the decreasing amount of time you have until the fire arrives.



ADVICE - Be aware and keep up to date.

A fire has started but there is no immediate danger. Stay alert and watch for signs of a fire.



WATCH AND ACT - Only stay and defend if you are mentally and physically prepared.

A fire is approaching and there is a possible threat to lives or homes. Put your bushfire plan into action. If your plan is to leave, make sure you leave early. If your plan is to stay, check all your equipment is ready.



EMERGENCY WARNING - You must seek shelter or leave now if it is safe to do so.

An out of control fire is approaching fast and you need to take immediate action to survive. If you haven't prepared your home it is too late.



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Fire & Emergency Services**





What to do if you see smoke or fire near your home

To report fire call **000** 

If you see smoke, don't wait for a warning or a knock on the door from the emergency services. Immediately call 000 and then put your Bushfire Survival Plan into action.

Where to get information during a bushfire

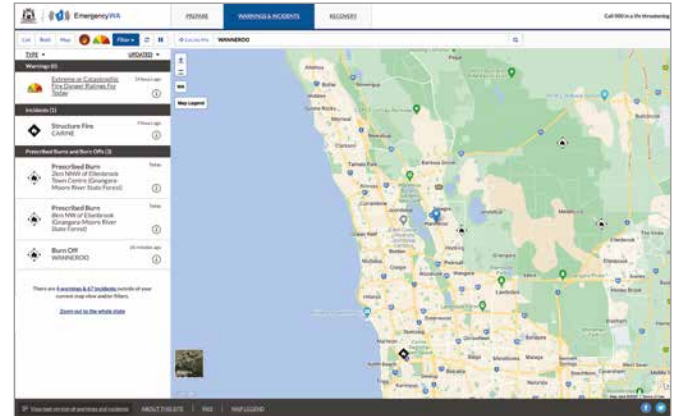
- Emergency WA - emergency.wa.gov.au

Providing you with the most up to date information on the emergency, what you should do, road closures and conditions, evacuation centres, animal welfare, community meetings and any extra information.

- DFES Information Line - 13 DFES (13 3337)
- ABC Radio - 720AM

If you live in a bushfire prone area, it is important that you are familiar with the Emergency WA and DFES websites and the emergency warnings broadcast by ABC 720AM.

It is a good idea to be in the habit of checking these regularly throughout the warmer months.



Your surroundings could be your best information source

Stay alert to what is happening around you. If you believe you may be in danger, act immediately to stay safe.

Your best chance of surviving a bushfire is to plan what you'd do if one was to come your way.

The single biggest killer is indecision. To survive a bushfire, you must be prepared to make your own decisions.

Emergency Kit checklist

Items to take when leaving

- Wallet and purse
- Medications, prescriptions, life support equipment
- Special requirements for infants and children (including favourite toy and activities)
- Phone, laptop and chargers
- House and car keys
- Pet supplies (food, bowl, cage, leash)
- Sentimental and irreplaceable items that may be on display in your home such as photos, jewellery or medals.

Keep a list of items to grab when leaving in your kit to avoid having to remember at the time of evacuation.

Photocopy important documents and store in your Emergency Kit, or save copies to the cloud.



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Fire & Emergency Services**



Preparing your Emergency Kit

When a bushfire is likely to impact your home, staying to defend it or preparing to shelter in place is extremely dangerous.

You must be mentally and physically ready and have an extensive emergency kit plus an independent supply of power and water to increase your chances of survival.

If you don't know that you could handle the life-threatening situation and keep your family safe, then your best option is to evacuate early and have an emergency evacuation kit.

You should prepare your kit before the bushfire season and keep it in an accessible spot that everyone knows about.

Emergency Evacuation Kit items

- ☐ Clothing for everyone
- ☐ First aid kit
- ☐ Drinking water and food for the trip
- ☐ Personal hygiene items



Important legal documents

- ☐ Household emergency plan with emergency phone numbers
- ☐ Passport, birth and marriage certificates and wills
- ☐ House, life, health and car license and insurance documents
- ☐ Medicare, pension or personal identification cards and immunisation records
- ☐ Vaccination details and vet contacts for your pets and animals

If your plan is to shelter on your property during a bushfire, you need a high-level understanding of bushfire behaviour, be well prepared including having your own supply of power and water and personnel protective equipment and clothing, and know your back up plans. It is also essential that you are familiar with all the relevant information provided by DFES:

dfes.wa.gov.au/hazard-information/bushfire/during#stay-and-defend

Staying in place Emergency Kit

Your emergency kit should be stored in a fireproof box and include items you will need to survive during and after a bushfire:

- () Supplies to last at least five days, including for pets (food, drinking water, medications)
- () First aid and trauma kit
- () Important legal documents and valuables
- () Waterproof torch and battery powered lights
- () Battery operated AM/FM radio
- () Emergency contact numbers
- () Head protection and goggles
- () Smoke and particle masks
- () Non-flammable blankets
- () Bushfire protective clothing (heavy duty non-flammable coats, gloves, pants, shoes).



A bushfire survival kit.

Whether your plan is to evacuate or shelter in place, consider your pets and animals.

Animal welfare in emergencies information can be found on the Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development website under Agriculture and Food:

[agric.wa.gov.au/animalwelfare/
animal-welfare-emergencies](http://agric.wa.gov.au/animalwelfare/animal-welfare-emergencies)



23 Dundobar Road, Wanneroo, WA 6065

Locked Bag 1, Wanneroo, WA 6946

T (08) 9405 5000

After Hours 1300 13 83 93

Enquiries wanneroo.wa.gov.au/contactus

wanneroo.wa.gov.au

