



# MARIGINIUP BUSHFIRE

## Safety information about peat fires



Be aware of the risk of peat fires around Jandabup Nature Reserve, Mariginiup Lake, Da Vinci Park and surrounding areas in the City of Wanneroo.

Please stay away from the area for your safety.

**If you see smoke or flames, phone triple zero (000) immediately.**



## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Smaller fires are expected to burn in or around the Mariginiup bushfire area for several weeks or months due to the presence of large amounts of peat in the soil.
- Peat is the part of soil made up of organic material from plants.
- Peat is especially common around wetlands.
- Peat is highly flammable.
- Soils with peat repel water.
- A peat fire can burn underground and you may not see it.
- A peat fire can be challenging to extinguish so sprinklers may be used to slowly soak the soil.
- A peat fire can restart even if it seems extinguished.

## STAYING SAFE

### **Remain aware of hidden fires**

Be cautious of hidden fires in peat soils. Even though the main fire is out, it may continue to smoulder. Report any signs of smoke or fire immediately by phoning triple zero (000).

### **Avoid walking on blackened or charred ground**

The ground in peat soil areas may be unstable after the fire. Avoid walking on charred ground to prevent accidents or injuries. Stick to designated paths and follow safety instructions in the area.

### **Do not enter closed parks or walking trails**

Fires burning underground can be located some distance from where the fire actually burnt (e.g. on the other side of parks and lakes) and the ground itself can be unstable. Parks and walking trails may be closed for people's safety.

### **Report hazards**

Report any fire hazards including hidden fires by phoning triple zero (000). Early reporting helps firefighters take prompt action.

## LOOKING AFTER YOUR LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

### **Avoid disturbance**

Prevention is key, so avoid unnecessarily disturbing organic soils in and around the fire area.

### **Consider water use**

If you have access to bore water, save water whenever you can and follow guidelines on usage. Excessive use of water from rivers and wetlands can contribute to soil erosion.

### **Revegetation**

Planting native vegetation helps stabilise the ground and reduces the risk of erosion.

### **Stay connected with recovery efforts**

Stay informed and engaged with community recovery efforts.



## STAY INFORMED

To stay up-to-date on current alerts and warnings visit the Emergency WA website ([emergency.wa.gov.au](https://www.emergency.wa.gov.au)) or by calling 13 DFES (13 33 37).

**Remember, if you see smoke or flames, phone triple zero (000) immediately.**

To learn more about the bushfire risk of peat in soils, scan the QR code.

