

Harvesting Operations

Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans

A harvest or vehicle movement ban may be applied during the Restricted or Prohibited Burning Period. The Shire of Dowerin will determine the need for a ban and advertise the ban via our SMS Notification Service. For further information please contact the Shire of Dowerin during normal office hours on 9631 1202.

A harvest ban is defined as a ban on all harvesting operations on all properties within the Shire of Dowerin. A vehicle movement ban is defined as a ban on all vehicle movements on properties within the Shire of Dowerin except for the essential watering of stock, using a diesel powered vehicle only.

No harvesting operations are permitted on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day.

Conditions for harvesting operators:

1. An Approved Fire Fighting Appliance is required to be present in any paddock being harvested while Crop Harvesting, Straw Raking, Straw Mulching and Bailing operations are being carried out during restricted and prohibited periods. The fire fighting unit must be in a state of readiness and have a minimum of 500 litres of water on board.
2. A ban on harvesting and the movement of vehicles (except for the watering or movement of stock) is likely to be imposed when the predicted weather conditions are classified by the Bureau of Meteorology as VERY HIGH or ABOVE, or when local conditions warrant bans to be applied. All such bans are at discretion of the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer.
3. It is MANDATORY for all operators of harvesters to be registered on the **Shire of Dowerin Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban SMS Notification service**. If a ban has been imposed, all persons registered will be sent a text message advising of details.

To register for this service please contact the Shire office on 9631 1202 or dowshire@dowerin.wa.gov.au

Infringement Penalties

Inspections

An authorised officer will carry out inspections of firebreaks after the specified completion dates.

Any owner or occupier of land who fails to comply with the requirements of this Notice is guilty of an offence under Section 33(3) of the *Bushfire Act 1954*.

Penalties

Persons who fail to comply with the requirements of this notice will be issued with an infringement notice and may be prosecuted.

The penalty for failing to comply with this notice is a fine of up to \$5,000 and the person in default is also liable, whether prosecuted or not, to pay the costs of performing the work directed in this notice.

Avoid the Consequences

- Do not light any fire during the prohibited burning period. This includes open cooking or camp fires.
- Do not light a fire during the restricted period without a valid permit. This includes open cooking or camp fires.
- Do not light a fire on any Sunday or Public Holiday as all permits are invalid.
- Do not light a fire on 'very high' or 'extreme' fire danger forecast days
- Do not burn the road verge without the permission of the Shire and a permit.
- Check the weather forecast before undertaking any burning or other activity that may cause a fire.

For more information please contact the

Shire of Dowerin on

(08) 9631 1202 or visit

www.dowerin.wa.gov.au

Firebreak Order 2023/24



**Prohibited Burning Period
5 November 2023 to 14 February 2024
STRICTLY NO BURNING!**

**Restricted Burning Period
20 October 2023 to 4 November 2023
and 15 February 2024 to 14 April 2024
PERMITS ARE REQUIRED!**



**For All Emergencies
Dial 000**

First and Final Notice

Bush Fires Act 1954

Notice is given to all owners and/or occupiers of land within the Shire of Dowerin under the requirements of Section 33 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*, that firebreaks must be installed by 31 October 2023 and maintained clear of inflammable material up to and including 30 April 2024.

No open fires are permitted between

5 November 2023—14 February 2024

(including for the purpose of cooking and camping)

Firebreaks must be installed

by 31 October 2023

**AN ON THE SPOT FINE OF \$250 WILL BE ISSUED
FOR NON COMPLIANCE**



Contacts

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

Paul Millsteed — 0427 311 721

Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

Phil Pickering — 0429 311 250

Prescribed Burning

Restricted and Prohibited Burning Periods

Restricted Burning period:

20 October 2023 to 4 November 2023 and 15 February 2024 to 14 April 2024.

Permits are required.

During the restricted burning period a permit to set fire to the bush is required before any burning operation can be carried out. These dates may be varied depending on the seasonal conditions.

Prohibited Burning period:

5 November 2023 to 14 February 2024 **Strictly No Burning**

No burning is allowed for any reason during this period. This includes open cooking or camp fires. These times may be varied depending on seasonal conditions.

Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug

 Permit required  No burning

Burning Permits

A permit must be obtained from the Shire of Dowerin and must remain in possession of the permit holder during the burn.

Permits will only be issued for controlled burns that reduce a fire hazard on a property where no alternative method exists to abate the hazard. At least 24 hours notice prior to the burn the permit holder must give notice of intentions to burn to the owner or occupier of adjoining land or a phone call.

Any special conditions imposed by the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer must be strictly adhered to. Permits will NOT be issued for burning on any Sunday or Public Holiday.

Apply for a burning permit, providing your Assessment or Location number/s at the Shire of Dowerin office during business hours on Ph 9631 1202 or email dowshire@dowerin.wa.gov.au.

Fire Break Standards

Properties 20 hectares (50ac) or larger

1. Clear a ground firebreak at a width of no less than 3m, as close as practical, inside the external boundaries of the property, in which all inflammable material must be removed and remain cleared.
2. Firebreaks must be maintained to provide a minimum vertical clearance of 4m to allow adequate access for fire appliances to the satisfaction of Council's appointed officers.
3. Construct a 5m firebreak immediately surrounding all fuel and chemical storage areas.
4. Clear inflammable material within 20m of all dwellings to construct a 20m circle of safety. This can be maintained through domestic grass, mulch or slashed native grasses.
5. Areas cleared and piled for burning require a 20m ground firebreak.

Non Urban Land—rural residential, rural development

Industrial estates and subdivisions between half an acre (2023m²) to 50 acres

1. Clear 3m wide ground firebreak (clear of all inflammable material) with a vertical clearance of 4m high, clear of any obstructions immediately inside or as close as practical inside all external boundaries of the land.
2. Clear all inflammable material within 20m of all buildings to construct a 20m circle of safety.

Urban Land—All town sites

Properties less than half an acre (2023m²)

Clear land of ALL INFLAMMABLE material ie. debris, dry grass, dry bush etc, to a height of 10cm to the satisfaction of Council's authorised officers.

Properties larger than half an acre (2023m²)

Clear and maintain a 3m wide firebreak immediately inside external boundaries of the land. Clear land of ALL INFLAMMABLE material ie. debris, dry grass, dry bush etc, to a height of 10cm to the satisfaction of Council's authorised officers.

MUST BE COMPLIANT BY 31 OCTOBER 2023