

FIRST AND FINAL NOTICE

Pursuant to the *Bush Fires Act 1954 section 33*, owners or occupiers of land situated within the Shire of Narrogin are required by law to comply with the prescribed Fire Control Order here within.

1. Land Zoned General Agriculture, Rural Smallholding & Rural Residential

1.1. Firebreaks

(a) at least 2.5 metres wide shall be maintained inside and within 20 metres of the boundary of all land; and surrounding such other positions as is necessary to divide land in excess of 400 hectares into area not exceeding 400 hectares, each completely surrounded by a firebreak.

(b) at least 6 metres wide shall completely encircle all buildings and haystacks.

(c) fuel tanks, whether containing fuel or not, shall have the ground surface cleared to a distance of 6 metres from and encircling the tank/s of all flammable material.

1.2. Fire Fighting Equipment – Where the land owners total land holding is 100 hectares or greater a readily mobile operational fire fighting unit containing a minimum of 800 litres of water on standby and available for inspection is required during the period from 1 November to 1 May, inclusive.

1.3. Harvesting – A person shall not undertake or allow harvesting during the Prohibited Burning period unless–

(a) one hand held water filled fire extinguisher with a minimum capacity of 7.5 litres is filled in a readily accessible position on the machine, and

(b) a readily mobile fire fighting unit of a minimum of 800 litre capacity powered by an engine driven pump is in attendance in or adjacent to the entrance of the paddock being harvested.

1.4. Harvest bans and other bans – permitted activities

(a) Water carting for stock and domestic purposes provided it is accompanied by a mobile fire fighting unit, or alternatively, the water carting vehicle acts as the mobile fire fighting unit and meets minimum specifications.

(b) Checking of stock and water for stock, provided it is accompanied by a mobile fire fighting unit, or alternatively, the water carting vehicle acts as the mobile fire fighting unit and meets minimum specifications.

(c) All necessary travel to and from and within piggeries, sheep or cattle feed lots, provided this is undertaken with a mobile fire fighting unit in attendance.

(d) All necessary carting of livestock, provided that such a vehicle is accompanied by a mobile fire fighting unit.

(e) Essential service provider checking for telecommunications, power or utility water services, provided they are accompanied by a mobile firefighting unit.

(f) Activities which received specific exemptions from the Shire or the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer.

1.5. Public Holidays

(a) A harvest ban and a ban on the movement of all vehicles and machinery and the operation of internal combustion engines is imposed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day each year.

(b) All other activities or operations may only be undertaken during a ban on the movement of all vehicles and machinery and a ban on the operation of internal combustion engines after approval has been granted by the Shire. Approval has to be sought on an individual basis, and is subject to specified conditions. It should be noted that approval may not be granted.

2. All Other Land, Including Residential, Rural Townsite, Service Commercial, and Industrial

(a) Where the area of land is 4,000 m² in area or less – all flammable material on the land shall be reduced to a height of less than 10 cm.

(b) Where the area of land exceeds 4,000 m² in area –
(i) firebreaks shall be maintained at least 2.5 metres wide immediately inside all external boundaries of the land and surrounding all buildings situated on the land; and

(ii) flammable material on the remainder of the land shall be reduced to a height of less than 10 cm.

(iii) A special control zone or other land not elsewhere specified in this Notice, shall comply with the higher level measures required by adjoining land unless varied under clause 5.2.

3. Open Air Fires

(a) Open air fires are permitted during the Restricted Burning period, subject to compliance with the provisions relating to Restricted Burning periods and Shire of Narrogin Local Laws eg. requiring a permit.

(b) Open air fires are not permitted at all during the

(c) Prohibited Burning period (including garden refuse).

(d) No fires in the open air are permitted on any day when the fire danger rating is "High" or above.

4. Properties with Fire Management Plans

All properties with approved fire management plans shall comply with the plan and or this notice whichever is the greater.

5. General

5.1. If the requirements of this Notice are carried out by burning, such burning must be in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Bush Fires Act. A permit to burn is required during the Restricted Burning periods from an Authorised Officer.

5.2. If it is considered to be impracticable for any reason to clear firebreaks or to remove flammable material from the land or any other provisions required by this notice you may apply to the Shire or its duly Authorised Officer not later than 1 October, for permission to provide firebreaks in alternative positions or to take alternative action to manage fire hazards on the land. If permission is not granted by the Shire or a duly authorised person, you shall comply with the requirements of this notice.

5.3. Penalties apply to persons who fail to comply with the requirements of this Notice.

5.4. A person who fails to comply with the notice is also liable, whether prosecuted or not to pay the cost of performing the work directed in this notice if it is not carried out by the owner or occupier by the date required by this notice.

DEFINITIONS

Authorised Officer: An officer appointed as a Shire of Narrogin Fire Control Officer.

Ban On The Movement Of All Vehicles: includes machinery and the operation of internal combustion engines within the Shire or a part of the Shire and during a time as specified in a Notice or broadcast with the exception of the movement of vehicles and machinery on constructed gazetted roads, internal vehicle access and yards;

Firebreak: means a strip of land cleared to the specified width by ploughing, cultivating, scarifying, burning or otherwise clearing;

Flammable Material: includes bush (as defined in the Bush Fires Act), timber, boxes, cartons, paper and like flammable materials, rubbish and also any combustible matter, but does not include green standing trees, or growing bushes and plants in gardens, or lawns;

Harvest Ban: applies on the operation of all grain harvesting machines including swathing, baling or slashing machines within the Shire or part of the Shire and during a time, as specified in a notice or broadcast;

Harvesting: includes grain harvesting, swathing, baling or slashing of stubble or hay in any crop;

Internal Vehicle Access: is defined as a trafficable surface, free of all flammable material, a minimum width of four metres, and with overhanging vegetation pruned back so as not to come into contact with parts of a vehicle;

Mobile Fire Fighting Unit: is defined as having a minimum water carrying capacity of eight hundred (800) litres, fitted with a hose and pump capable of delivering water through an adjustable nozzle in the spray and jet configurations;

Yard: is defined as an area, greater than four metres wide, with a constructed, trafficable surface, free of all flammable material save live standing trees.

DEFINITIONS

Prohibited Burning: This period commences on 1 November of each year until and including 1 March of the following year. This time may be amended, subject to prevailing seasonal conditions.

Restricted Burning Time: This period commences on 2 March until and including 1 May and recommences on 1 October until and including 31 October of any year. This time may be amended, subject to the prevailing seasonal conditions.

Unrestricted Burning Time: The time period each year where a permit to burn is not required, in areas zoned rural under the Shire of Narrogin Town Planning Scheme. This period commences on 2 May until and including 30 September. This time may be amended, subject to the prevailing seasonal conditions.

Firebreak Time: The time each year where fire hazard reduction works must be maintained as specified in this Fire Control Order. This period commences on 1 November each year until and including 1 May of the following year.

Fire Control Enquiries

Phone: 08 9890 0900, 8.30 am – 5.00 pm

email: ranger@narrogin.wa.gov.au

General Enquiries

Shire of Narrogin

89 Earl St

Narrogin WA 6312

Phone: 9890 0900

email: enquiries@narrogin.wa.gov.au

Visit the Shire office between

8.30 am – 4.30 pm, Monday to Friday

A Standard Australian Fire Danger Ratings System (AFDRS) will be implemented Australia wide on 1 September 2022. Details are available on the Shire Website.



Shire of
Narrogin

Love the life

Fire Control Order

Effective for 2023-24

