



FIRST AND FINAL NOTICE

COMPLIANCE DUE BY: 1 November 2026

Important: The works outlined below must be completed by 1 November 2026 and maintained in this state up to and including 30 April 2027

Bush Fire and Fire Hazard Reduction Notice 2026/2027

Notice to all owners and occupiers of land within the Shire of West Arthur

To assist in the control of bushfires, and pursuant to the powers contained in section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954 (the Act) notice is hereby given to all owners and occupiers of land within the Shire of West Arthur (the Shire), you are required and therefore ordered by the local government to carry out fire prevention work in accordance with the requirements of this Notice, on or before 1 November 2026, and maintain the requirements up to and including 15 April 2027 or within 14 days of becoming an owner or occupier of land if after that date, to comply with the requirements set out in this notice.

Failure to comply with this notice is an offence and can result in a penalty of up to \$5,000 or the issue of a \$250 infringement notice and liability for any costs incurred by the Shire in relation to works undertaken on behalf of the landowner. The Shire's Authorised Officers are authorised under the Act and have powers to enter land pursuant to section 14 and section 33 (4) of the Act. The Shire advises that its officers, contractors, vehicles, machinery, and appliances (as the officers deem fit) may carry out the requisitions of this notice that are not complied with by 1 November 2026, and any costs and expenses incurred may be recovered from you as the owner and/or occupier of the land.

When and what can I burn?

	GARDEN REFUSE	WOOD OR SOLID FUEL BBQ, CAMP AND COOKING FIRES	GRASS, Paddock, BONFIRE, BUSH
Restricted Burning Period 30 September to 31 October	Permit Required Contact your local Fire Control Officer	Allowable* Check Fire Danger Ratings	Permit Required Contact your local Fire Control Officer
Prohibited Burning Period 1 November to 23 February**	PROHIBITED	PROHIBITED	PROHIBITED
Restricted Burning Period 24 February to 15 April	Permit Required Contact your local Fire Control Officer	Allowable* Check Fire Danger Ratings	Permit Required Contact your local Fire Control Officer

*Cannot be used when the Fire Danger Rating is High or above, or when a Total Fire Ban has been declared.

Permits to Burn

A Permit to Set Fire to the Bush (permit to burn), must be obtained from your local area Fire Control Officer (FCO) before you light a fire during the restricted period.

- When issued with a permit, you must comply with the conditions set out on that permit.
- All permits are automatically cancelled on days when the Fire Danger Rating for that district is High, Extreme or Catastrophic. Under certain circumstances an authorized Fire Weather Officer may issue a permit on a forecast High fire danger forecast day.
- Notice must be given to Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) if the intended burn will be within 3km of State Forest.
- The period of notice required under this section shall be no more than 28 days, or less than 4 days, except where the notice is given verbally, in which case the minimum period of the notice may be determined by mutual agreement.

Burning without a permit will lead to prosecution; fines up to \$10,000 applicable.

Forest to Wheatbelt

The table below outlines the requirements of landowners and/or occupiers in the Shire of West Arthur.
Please refer to the column that best describes your land size to view your legal responsibilities.

All land with an area of:	Less than 2024m ²	Greater than 2024m ²
Asset Protection Zone (Fuel reduction near all houses, buildings and assets) Maintain a reduced fuel zone around all buildings or assets that extends 20m from the outermost point of the building or asset. - Gutters, roofs, and walls of all buildings to be free of flammable material and maintained - Fuel load within the 20m zone is to be reduced and maintained by no more than 5 tonnes per hectare (10,000m²), or approximately 10cm litter depth by removing dead branches, leaf litter, twigs, and bark. - Grasses are slashed/mowed and maintained to a height of less than 10cm. - Trees or shrubs within 2m are pruned to maintain a 1m horizontal and 5m vertical clearance. - Garden beds are allowed within this area if they are reticulated and maintained.	✓	✓
Bushfire Management Plans Where a property is affected by an approved bushfire management plan, property owners must still comply with all the requirements in the Notice and any additional requirements outlined in that plan.		✓
Garden Refuse and/or household wood stacks Install and maintain a 2m clearance around all piles of garden refuse and/or wood.	✓	✓
Fuel storage and haystack protection zone Install and maintain a 4m firebreak not closer than 6m around haystacks and immediately around fuel storage tanks or gas cylinders.		✓
Hazard Separation Zone Maintain areas of natural vegetation within 100m of relevant buildings to at or below 8 tonnes per hectare (10,000m ²) by passive methods of fire reduction, removing dead branches, leaf litter, twigs, and bark, and reducing grass height to not more than 10cm.		✓
Ungrazed Pastureland Slash, mow, trim or by other means reduce grasses to a height no greater than 10cm and remove cuttings/swath across the entire property.		✓
Vacant Land – Cleared Blocks Slash, mow, trim or by other means grasses to a height no greater than 10cm and remove cuttings/swath across the entire property.	✓	
Vacant Land – Timbered or Bush Block Reduce and/or maintain all dead flammable material below 8 tonnes per hectare (10,000m ²) by removing dead branches, leaf litter, twigs, and bark.	✓	✓

DEFINITIONS

FIREBREAK: A bare mineral earth break immediately inside all boundaries no less than 2.5m wide and with a vertical clearance of 4m.

HAYSTACKS: Means a collection of hay including fodder rolls or large bales placed or stacked together within 200m of any homesteads, buildings, or fuel installations.

PLANTATIONS: Defined as an area exceeding 3ha within a townsite, or an area exceeding 20ha within a rural area, of trees planted for commercial purposes.

HARVEST VEHICLE MOVEMENT BAN: Ban imposed for a defined period of time to restrict the use of engines, vehicles, plant, and machinery that may contribute to activities that are likely to cause a bush fire or contribute to the spread of a bush fire.

FLAMMABLE MATERIAL: Accumulated fuel such as dry grass, leaf litter, twigs, branches, trash, dead trees, firewood, stored fuels and scrub that can be easily ignited or is likely to catch fire and burn. It includes any other thing deemed by an Authorised Officer to be likely to catch fire but excludes living standing trees, growing bushes and plants in gardens and/or lawn areas under cultivation.

Forest to Wheatbelt

HARVESTING OPERATIONS: A harvesting, swathing, baling or forestry machine may not be operated in any crop or timber cell during the PBT or RBT unless it is equipped with a fire extinguisher (minimum 7.5 litres). A fully operational mobile firefighting unit with a tank of 400 litre minimum capacity is to be located in or adjacent to any paddock/cell where harvesting, swathing, baling or slashing of stubble is being undertaken.

The operation of harvesting machines and the movement of grain equipment in paddocks on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day is prohibited. From time-to-time weather conditions may result in the issue of a Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban being imposed which will place restrictions on the movement of vehicles and use of plant or machinery in paddocks. Bans will be advertised on local radio. It is the responsibility of persons harvesting to be aware if bans are in place.

Ignorance to the existence of a ban will not avoid prosecution.

PLANTATIONS: The Guidelines for Plantation Fire Protection provide the minimum standards and a consistent approach to fire management. In addition, the Shire requests that no heaps be lit after 31 August each year and that the Shire is notified prior to any plantation burning.

STUMP GRINDING: A fully operational mobile firefighting unit with a tank of 400 litres minimum capacity to be located in the same cell of the plantation at all times during stump grinding. Any ignition from stump grinding is to be reported to an FCO. Person to remain on site for at least 1 hour after finishing stump grinding in the RBT and PBT.

STUBBLE PADDOCK BURNING: A firebreak of no less than 2.5m wide is to surround the paddock prior to burning the stubble.

BURNING OF GARDEN REFUSE & RUBBISH: Permits are required during the restricted burning times. Garden refuse and rubbish may be burnt as follows:

- In a properly constructed incinerator designed to prevent the escape of sparks or burning material provided it is situated no less than 2 metres from any building or fence, and an area of 2 metres surrounding the incinerator is clear of inflammable material.
- On the ground between 6:00pm and 11:00pm of the same day and completely extinguished no later than midnight on that day. An area of 5 metres must be cleared all around the site during the whole time the fire is burning. The user must extinguish the fire by the application of water or earth.
- No fire shall be lit on a day of high, extreme, or catastrophic fire danger forecast for the district.

BRIGADE CONTACTS – Fire Control Officers

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer: Graeme Peirce

Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer: Alan Manuel

Weather Committee: Adrian South, Alan Manuel, Duncan South, James Campbell, John Pascoe, Todd Lubcke,

Arthur River		Darkan		Duranillin	
Sam Burgess	0430 641 638	Cameron Buller	0408 720 467	Ben Buller	0437 818 654
Alan Manuel	0427 626 002	Todd Lubcke	0417 958 888	Matt Telfer	0477 888 070
Ben Robinson	0438 626 066	Duncan South	0427 361 147	Adrian South	0428 935 000
John Pascoe	0400 080 622	Gavin Kirk	0417 933 958	Ben Murphy	0439 585 849
Neil Morrell	0429 629 066	James Campbell	0427 864 277	Garry Abbott	0429 631 012
Paul South	0400 433 365	Peter Lubcke	9736 1169	Graeme Peirce	0419 765 196
				James Jefferies	0409 629 043
				Jamie Park	0429 631 092

Dual Fire Control Officers

Boyup Brook	Collie	Wagin	Williams	Woodanilling
Kieran Power 0488 435 221		Shaun Robinson 0438 626 034	Justin Duff 0428 851 409	
	Peter Lubcke	Ben Robinson	Todd Lubcke	Neil Morrell

If you require any further information, please contact the Shire of West Arthur on 9736 2400, visit

www.westarthur.wa.gov.au/fire-control.aspx or email shire@westarthur.wa.gov.au

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Darkan WA 6392

Phone: 9736 2400

Email: shire@westarthur.wa.gov.au

Website: www.westarthur.wa.gov.au

