IMPORTANT INFORMATION RELATING TO YOUR RESPONSIBILITY AS A LANDHOLDER IN THE SHIRE OF DONNYBROOK BALINGUP

FIRE BREAK ORDER 2021/2022

Pursuant to Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954, you are required to carry out fire prevention work on land owned or occupied by you in accordance with the provisions of this order.

This work MUST be carried out by 1st December 2021 and kept maintained until 31st March 2022.

RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD*
1 NOVEMBER 2021 - 14 DECEMBER 2021

PROHIBITED BURNING PERIOD*
15 DECEMBER 2021 - 31 MARCH 2022

RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD*
1 APRIL 2022 - 26 APRIL 2022

***THESE DATES ARE SUBJECT TO VARIATION ACCORDING TO SEASONAL CONDITIONS, ANY ALTERATIONS WILL ADVERTISED LOCALLY.**

000 EMERGENCY

IN AN EMERGENCY CALL TRIPLE ZERO

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To contact the police, fire or ambulance in an emergency, call Triple Zero (000) from any telephone in Australia. Calls are free.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO LANDOWNERS AND OCCUPIERS

The Shire forwards a copy of this Firebreak Order with Shire rates notices annually.

The notice is also published locally and additional copies are obtainable at the Shire Administration Office. The aim of the Shire is to eliminate destructive bush fires and to this aim, some areas of the Shire are subject to mitigation works which are carried out by volunteer Bush Fire Brigades and the Shire's workforce. The requirements of this order are considered to be the minimum standard of fire prevention work required to protect individual properties and the district generally. In addition to the requirements of this order, The Shire may issue special order to owners or occupiers if additional hazard removal is considered necessary.

Inspections will be carried out by an Authorised Officer. Fire breaks shall be constructed to a mineral earth standard free of all flammable material and maintained throughout the entire compliance period.

Failure to comply with the requirements of this order may result in the issuing of an infringement notice or prosecution. The Shire of Donnybrook Balingup may also arrange for works to be carried out at the expense of the owner or occupier.

Applications for variations to this notice must be made in writing to the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup no later than the 1st day of November each year.

1. RURAL LAND
(Land Zoned General Agriculture or Priority Agriculture – LPS NO 7)

(a) On land which is divided by or abuts a formed or partly formed road or railway reserve, a fire break not less than 2 metres wide shall be provided within 60 metres of the boundary of the road or railway reserve. Breaks are not permitted on road reserves without written approval from the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup.

(b) Where rural land (whether bushland or pastured) abuts a residential zone boundary a 3 metre fire break shall be constructed along the common boundary of the residential area.

(c) A fire break two metres wide shall be provided immediately surrounding and within 20 metres of the perimeter of all buildings, hay sheds and fuel storage areas situated on the land.

(d) A cleared area of at least a 6 metre radius shall be provided around all combustion pumping engines.

(e) A cleared area of all flammable material of at least a 3 metre radius shall be provided around an operational gas gun and that the owner of the gas gun shall ensure that the gas gun is secured in an upright position.

(f) If a Total Fire Ban is declared by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services in accordance with the *Bush Fires Act 1954*, the use of gas guns is prohibited within the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup.

2. EUCALYPTUS AND PINE PLANTATIONS

(a) Fire breaks not less than 10 metres in width around the perimeter of land on which trees are planted.

(b) Not less than 10 metres in width along those portions of plantations which enjoy a common boundary with a road reserve.

(c) Not less than 6 metres in width in such positions that no part or compartment of a plantation shall exceed 28ha in area.

(d) Where 10 metre breaks are required in accordance with this Section of the Shire's Fire Break Order, pruning of overhang shall be carried out up to a height of 5 metres above the fire break.

(e) In addition to the breaks specified, plantations traversed by Western Power transmission lines have additional obligations under the *Electricity Act 1945.*

3. TOWNSITE LAND

(Includes residential, commercial and industrial land)

Townsites: Donnybrook, Balingup, Kirup, Mullalyup, Newlands, Preston and Noggerup.

(a) Where the area of land is 2024m² or less, remove all flammable material on the land except living trees, shrubs and plants from the whole land, and;

(b) Where the land exceeds 2024m² clear fire breaks not less than 2 metres wide, unless otherwise specified in the Local Planning Scheme, immediately inside all external boundaries of the land, and also immediately surrounding all buildings situated on the land. Grass on the remaining area of the land must be either grazed, cut for fodder, or totally removed from the land.

(c) The Shire of Donnybrook Balingup, in consultation with the relevant Fire Control Officer, may vary these conditions in certain circumstances.

(d) A person shall not set fire to rubbish, refuse or other materials on land 2000m² or less situated within a townsite without prior approval from the Local Government.

4. RURAL RESIDENTIAL LAND, RURAL SMALL HOLDINGS, TOURIST ZONING

The owners of all land zoned as "Rural Residential, Rural Small Holding or Tourist" under Local Planning Scheme No. 7, shall:

a) maintain a fire break not less than 2 metres wide, immediately inside all external boundaries of the land, free of overhanging branches to a height of 4 metres.

b) The Shire, on the recommendation of a Bush Fire Control Officer, may vary these conditions in certain circumstances.

c) A low fuel zone of twenty metres wide shall be provided immediately surrounding all buildings situated on the land. Grass on the remaining area of the land must be either grazed (within conventional practice), cut for fodder or completely removed from the land.

5. FUEL AND/OR GAS DEPOT

In respect of land owned by you on which is situated any container normally used to contain liquids or gas fuel, including the land on which any ramp or support is constructed, the land shall be cleared of all flammable materials.

6. WELDING, CUTTING, AND GRINDING EQUIPMENT

A person shall not operate welding or cutting apparatus of any kind in the open air unless at least one fire extinguisher is provided at that place and a fire break which is at least 5 metres wide surrounds that place.

7. ROADSIDE VERGES

The Shire of Donnybrook Balingup's Fire Control Policy number 8.3 states that no verge is to be burnt without a permit for that specific purpose.

BUSH FIRES ACT 1954 SUMMARY

1. Permits to burn are required for the whole of the Restricted Period and can be obtained from the Bush Fire Control Officers listed in this notice.

2. Any special conditions imposed by the Fire Control Officer when issuing permits must be strictly adhered to.

3. The permit holder shall give notice of his intention to burn to:

i. The Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (9764 1021) or Community Emergency Services Manager (0439 595 355) no later than on the day when the burning is to take place.

Weekend burning must be notified by Friday at 4.00pm.

ii. The owner or occupier of adjoining land.

iii. The nearest Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions Office if the land is situated within 3km of State Forest.

iv. DFES Communications on 9395 9209

4. The period of notice to neighbours prior to burning cannot be more than 28 days or less than four days, although less notice may be determined by mutual agreement of all neighbours.

5. Your attention is drawn to Items 5, 6 and 7 printed on the back of the permit.

6. All landowners and occupiers who incur a bushfire have an obligation to assist each Bush Fire Control Officer to compile a Fire Report Form.

7. Open fires requiring solid fuels within the Shire are not permitted from 15th December to 31st March each year, except in properly constructed fire places situated in authorised areas and not when a 'very high' to 'catastrophic' Fire Danger Rating has been issued by the Bureau of Meteorology for that area.

8. During the restricted period, up to 1 cubic metre of garden refuse and rubbish may be lit between the hours of 6.00pm and 11.00pm. This must be completely extinguished with water or earth by midnight. 1 person capable of extinguishing the fire must be in attendance at all times. All flammable matter is to be cleared within five metres at all points of the site of the fire. No fires to be lit during the prohibited burning period, or on very high or extreme forecast days.

9. Any incinerator is not permitted to be used when the Fire Danger Forecast issued for that area by the Bureau of Meteorology for that area 'very high' to 'catastrophic'. Any incinerator used to burn rubbish must be properly constructed - an open drum with or without a lid is not an appropriate incinerator.

10. Slashing/mowing of grass and scrub is not permitted on days where the Fire Danger Forecast issued for that area by the Bureau of Meteorology is 'very high' to 'catastrophic'. A serviceable fire extinguisher must be present for all slashing activities carried out in the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup.

MAGNET ATTACHED

CHIEF BUSH FIRE CONTROL OFFICER *FERNDALE/STIRLING PARK* **Max Walker**	9764 1021	0428 641 021
DEPUTY CHIEF BUSH FIRE CONTROL OFFICER *DONNYBROOK TOWNSITE* **David Tooke**	9731 1330	0428 920 045
DEPUTY CHIEF BUSH FIRE CONTROL OFFICER **Ian Ralph**		0407 959 325
ARGYLE IRISHTOWN **Scott Rowe**		0427 345 377
BALINGUP **Paul Davis**		0439 091 717
BEELERUP **Stuart Simmonds**		0429 371 842
BROOKHAMPTON **Tim McNab**		0419 094 606
KIRUP-BRAZIER **Chris Wringe**	9731 6168	0427 316 168
LOWDEN **Michael Anderson**		0408 321 316
MULLALYUP **Andrew Scott**		0477 822 606
MUMBALLUP **Garry Hatch**		0428 641 197
THOMSON BROOK **Graham Foan**	9731 8104	0429 311 840
MUNRO **Tosh Thamo**		0427 641 148
UPPER CAPEL **Bevan Dix**		0429 579 571

ALL QUERIES RELATING TO FIREBREAK COMPLIANCE CAN BE DIRECTED TO THE SHIRE OF DONNYBROOK BALINGUP RANGER SERVICES ON 9780 4200 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

FOR ALL EMERGENCIES, CONTACT 000