

## The Bushfire Warning System

There are three levels of warnings. These change to show the increase in risk to life and property. They will assist you to make the decision of when to leave.



### Emergency Fire Warning

You are in danger and need to take immediate action to survive. There is a threat to lives and homes. Sometimes emergencies can occur very quickly, as you may not get a warning. Stay aware and act according to your personal circumstances.



### Watch and Act

There is a possible threat to lives or homes. You need to leave or get ready to defend, do not wait and see.



### Advice

A fire has started but there is no immediate threat to lives or homes. Be aware and keep up to date.

## Prepare your Property

Give your property the best chance against a bushfire, by using this checklist. Set reminders to do these jobs on a regular basis.

Landowners have a legal responsibility to comply and maintain their land according to the City's Fire Control Notice. You can find the Fire Control Notice at [rockingham.wa.gov/firecontrol](http://rockingham.wa.gov/firecontrol)

- ☐ Where appropriate cut the grass around your property to 5 cm or less.
- ☐ Where appropriate prune shrubs so they are not overhanging your buildings.
- ☐ Clean gutters.

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- ☐ Remove any shrubs from against the home.
- ☐ Keep gas cylinders away from likely direction of fire (i.e. where bush is) and turn release valves outwards.
- ☐ Remove wood, mulch or any flammable material against or near the house.
- ☐ Create a minimum 2 m gap between your house and tree branches.
- ☐ Install metal fly wire mesh on all windows, vents and install a protective screen on evaporative air conditioners.
- ☐ Block any gaps under floor, in the roof spaces, under eaves, external vents, skylights, chimneys and wall claddings.
- ☐ Install a fire or heat radiant shield such as a solid fence.
- ☐ Make sure fire trucks can access and turn on your property.
- ☐ Check bridge loading and cattle grid loading for fire truck access.
- ☐ Store petrol and gas safely away in a shed.
- ☐ Install underground water pumps that lead from dams to the house.
- ☐ If fire threatens, move livestock to a well grazed paddock.
- ☐ Create a mineral earth firebreak along the boundary of your property.



## Burning Guidelines

### Camping, Heating and Cooking

Solid fuel devices such as fire pits, hangis, chimineas, barbecues and pizza ovens are allowed in the following conditions:

- ▶ When there is no declared Total Fire Ban.
- ▶ When there is no declared Total Fire Ban (see the fire danger rating section on the reverse of this leaflet).
- ▶ A 2 m clearance in radius has been established, clear of all bush and flammable material.
- ▶ Where smoke is controlled so as not to be a nuisance.
- ▶ Enclosed gas fired devices are exempt and are allowed at any time.
- ▶ Fires are not allowed on any City of Rockingham beaches at any time.



## Important Dates

### 1 December

By law, all properties need to be compliant in accordance with the City's Fire Control Notice from 1 December and maintained until 31 May. Firebreak inspections to check compliance commence on 1 December.

Penalties apply for non compliance.

### 1 December - 31 March

Prohibited burning period. No burning is allowed on all properties at any time.

### 1 April - 31 May

Permits required (rural and semi-rural properties only) - apply online via [rockingham.wa.gov.au/permitstoburn](http://rockingham.wa.gov.au/permitstoburn)

### 1 June - 30 September

No permits required (rural and semi-rural properties only).

### 1 October - 30 November

Permits required (rural and semi-rural properties only) - apply online via [rockingham.wa.gov.au/permitstoburn](http://rockingham.wa.gov.au/permitstoburn)

# Emergency Ready

Get Prepared



[rockingham.wa.gov.au](http://rockingham.wa.gov.au)



## Create Your Plan

Would you know what to do if disaster struck?

Disasters can happen at any time, anywhere and without warning. In a few simple steps, this guide can help you prepare yourself, your family and animals to be emergency ready.

Plan now with help from the Australian Red Cross [redcross.org.au/prepare](http://redcross.org.au/prepare)

Do you have people living with a disability in your home? Use this toolkit to help you plan [collaborating4inclusion.org/home/pcep](http://collaborating4inclusion.org/home/pcep)

Consider relocating to family/friends first. Use evacuation centres as a last resort.





## Be Informed

Keep up to date with alerts and warnings by visiting [emergency.wa.gov.au](https://www.emergency.wa.gov.au)

For recorded emergency information call **13 DFES (13 3337)**. For State Emergency Service emergency assistance during a storm, cyclone, earthquake, flood or tsunami call **132 500**.

Listen to your local ABC radio station for warnings and updates before, during and after emergencies.

Stay alert through subscribing to weather bureau updates, Emergency WA, ABC radio and City of Rockingham social media.

Follow emergency services in your local region on Facebook and Twitter for real-time alerts and updates.

## Stay Connected

- ▶ Stay in touch regularly with family, friends and neighbours.
- ▶ Stay connected with the community via a virtual space, or in person by being part of a club, association, group or volunteering.
- ▶ Set up a communication group for your street through Facebook or Whatsapp.
- ▶ Check in on your neighbours, particularly if they live alone or are at higher risk to the impacts of an emergency.

Stay connected and informed through [rockingham.wa.gov.au](https://www.rockingham.wa.gov.au) or [City of Rockingham](https://www.facebook.com/cityofrockingham).

## Get Packing

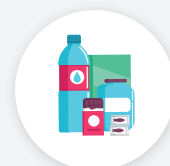
Having an emergency kit is an important step in being emergency ready.

A pre-prepared kit will save you valuable time.

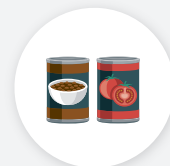
Remember to check your kit regularly and replace any out of date items. Below is a list of suggested items you may want to include in your kit:



Torch (with batteries stored separately)



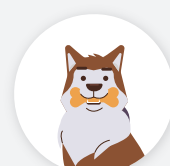
Water



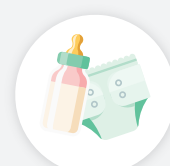
Non perishable food



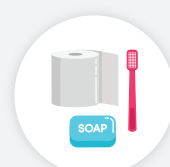
USB with scanned documents (passport, wills, drivers licence, photos of valuable items etc)



Pet food and supplies



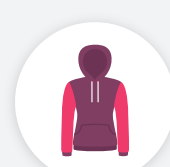
Baby food and supplies



Toiletries



Radio (battery powered or wind-up)



Spare clothes



First Aid Kit

On the day of the emergency remember to grab:



Wallet, phone and charger



Prescription medication



## Fire Danger Rating

The Fire Danger Rating describes the potential level of danger should a bushfire start.

The ratings indicate the level of threat and what you need to do to stay safe.

- Plan and prepare
- Be ready to act
- Take action now to protect life and property
- For your survival leave bushfire risk areas

The City of Rockingham has five electronic Fire Danger boards at the below locations:

- ▶ Patterson Road
- ▶ Mundijong Road
- ▶ Mandurah Road
- ▶ Safety Bay Road
- ▶ Kulija Road

Check the daily Fire Danger Rating at [emergency.wa.gov.au](https://www.emergency.wa.gov.au) or [bom.gov.au](https://www.bom.gov.au)

## Total Fire Ban

Total fire bans are declared on days of extreme weather or when fires are stretching firefighting resources.

A total fire ban is declared the evening before it is due to take effect.

Check [emergency.wa.gov.au](https://www.emergency.wa.gov.au) after 6pm to see if a ban has been declared for the next day.

**During a Total Fire Ban you cannot:**

- ▶ Light, maintain or use a fire (even while camping).
- ▶ Burn leaves, garden waste or grass cuttings.
- ▶ Use an incinerator.
- ▶ Grind, weld, solder, gas cut or use other type of 'hot work' in the open air.
- ▶ Use fireworks.
- ▶ Use a BBQ that uses solid fuel (wood, charcoal or heat beads).
- ▶ Use an outdoor wood-fired pizza or stove.

