Fire Control Notice 2025 - 2026

Change of Compliance Date

Your property must comply on **17 November 2025** and be maintained through to **31 May 2026.**

First and final notice to Property Owners and Occupiers pursuant to section 33 of the *Bushfires Act 1954*.

Penalties of up to \$5,000 for non-compliance.





where the coast comes to life

You have a legal requirement to carry out fire prevention works on your property.

"Take notice that pursuant to **Section 33 (4) of the Bush Fires Act 1954**, where the owner and/or occupier of the land fails or neglects to comply with the requisitions of this Notice within the specified times, the City of Rockingham may, by its officers and with such servants, workmen and contractors, vehicles and machinery as the officers deem fit, enter upon the land and carry out the requisitions of this Notice which have not been complied with and pursuant to **Section 33 (5) of the Bush Fires Act 1954**, the amount of any costs and expenses incurred may be recovered from you as the owner and/or occupier of the land."

Compliance inspections will commence on 17 November 2025.

Failure to comply with the City's Fire Control Notice may result in a penalty of up to \$5,000. Additional contractor and administration costs may apply.

Owners/Occupiers of developed and vacant land with an area of 4047m² or more (more than one acre) are required to:

- install and maintain mineral earth firebreaks as per firebreak specifications
- ensure driveways and access ways to all buildings are maintained at a minimum of three (3) metres in width and a vertical clearance height of four (4) metres, with all overhanging vegetation trimmed back to clear access.



Owners/Occupiers of vacant land with an area of less than 4047m² (less than one acre) are required to:

- remove accumulated fuel such as leaf litter, twigs, dead bush and dead trees capable of carrying a running fire
- have the entire vacant land clear of weed or long grasses by slashing, mowing or other means to a height no greater than 50 mm and maintained in this state.

Owners/Occupiers of developed land are required to:

 ensure driveways and access ways to all buildings are maintained at a minimum of three (3) metres in width and a vertical clearance height of four (4) metres, with all overhanging vegetation trimmed back to clear access.

Firebreak Specifications

- must be no less than three (3) metres wide immediately inside and along all boundaries (including on boundaries adjacent to roads, rail and drain reserves and all public open space reserves)
- must be not more than four (4) metres wide (further width extensions may be considered upon written application for approval by the City)
- may have a corner turning radius of up to ten (10) metres
- must have a vertical clearance height of four (4) metres, with all overhanging vegetation trimmed back clear of the firebreak
- must be a mineral earth firebreak with a continuous trafficable surface for a 4WD vehicle, clear of any obstructions and must not terminate in a cul-de-sac (dead end)
- maintained and living lawns are acceptable in conjunction with, or in lieu of mineral earth firebreaks, provided that the same width and height requirements for a firebreak are maintained.

Firebreaks are intended to minimise the spread or extension of a bushfire and provide safe access for emergency response vehicles.

Additional Works

In addition to the requirements of this Notice, regardless of land size and location, you may be required to carry out further fire prevention works to reduce hazards considered necessary by the Fire Control Officer. Any further requirement would be specified by way of a "work order" forwarded to the address of the owner(s) and/or occupier(s).

Some examples of these could be:

- ensure roofs, gutters and walls of all buildings on the land are free of flammable matter
- remove accumulated fuel such as leaf litter, twigs, dead bush and dead trees capable of carrying a running fire
- reduce unmanaged grasses/weeds by slashing, mowing or other means
- reduce long grasses in areas not being grazed or cultivated by slashing, mowing, bailing or by other means
- reduce vegetation to a low threat state from the outer edge of the firebreak through to the property boundary (e.g. no long grass or overhanging branches)
- specific measures to reduce risks identified in the City's Bushfire Risk Management Plan 2023-2027



Variation to the Fire Control Notice

To request authorisation to use other methods of fire prevention on your land outside of this notice, please apply in writing together with an "Application to Vary Firebreaks" form (available on the City's website rockingham.wa.gov.au/firecontrol). Submit completed forms to the City of Rockingham no later than 15 October 2025. A submission for a variation is required annually for the duration of that year's Fire Control Notice period.

Hiring a Contractor

Any owner and/or occupier who engages a contractor to undertake works on their behalf is responsible for ensuring that the completed works meet the requirements of this Fire Control Notice.

Bushfire Management Plan

All properties that are subject to a Bushfire Management Plan as a result of a subdivision or development application or an approved treatment plan, must comply with the requirements of such plans in their entirety.

If you require further information or would like to talk with a Fire Control Officer, please call 9528 0333 or email firecontrol@rockingham.wa.gov.au

Any Fire Control Notice previously published by the City of Rockingham in the Government Gazette or in any locally circulated newsprint is hereby revoked.