

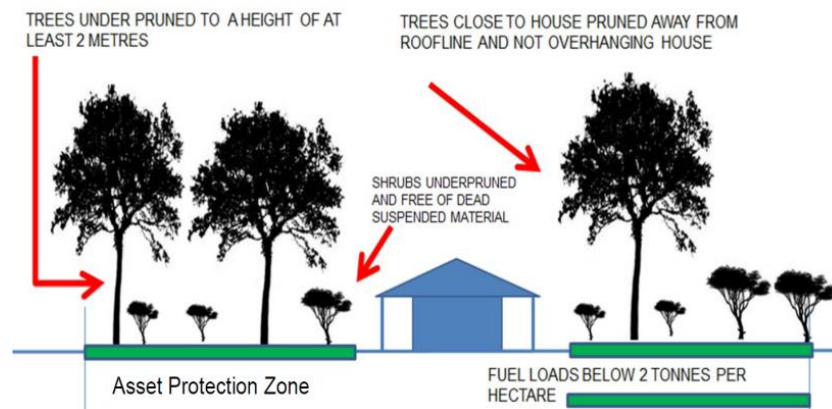
SHIRE OF ESPERANCE FIRE HAZARD REDUCTION NOTICE - DEFINITIONS & GUIDANCE NOTE



This is to be read in conjunction to the Shire's Fire Hazard Reduction Notice.



For wording from the Notice in **bold** with a * please refer to the below table.

(The) Act	Meaning the Bush Fires Act 1954 (as amended).
Asset Protection Zone	<p>(Formally Building Protection Zone) is a low fuel area immediately surrounding a building. These requirements are designed to reduce the fire's intensity and minimise the likelihood of flame contact with buildings. APZ gives more protection to families should a fire threaten suddenly and they cannot leave;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The width of an APZ is to be a minimum of 20m, increasing by 10m per 10 degree in slope and located within the boundaries of the property on which the building is situated; Fine fuels are to be reduced to and maintained at two tonnes per hectare; All grasses within the APZ are to maintained to a height no greater than 100mm; Trees (>5m in height) at maturity should be a minimum of 6 metres from the building, branches should not touch or overhang the building, lower branches should be removed to a height of 2 metres above the ground, canopies should be at least 5 metres apart and coverage should be less than 15%; Shrubs (0.5m to 5m in height) should not be located under trees or within 3m of buildings or planted in clumps of >5 metres square in area; Ground covers (<0.5m in height) can be planted under trees but must be maintained to remove dead materiel and any part within 2 metres of a building; Firewood piles to be stored in a safe distance away from buildings and no greater than 1m in height; and, Fences and sheds within the APZ are constructed using non-combustible materials (e.g. iron, brick, limestone).



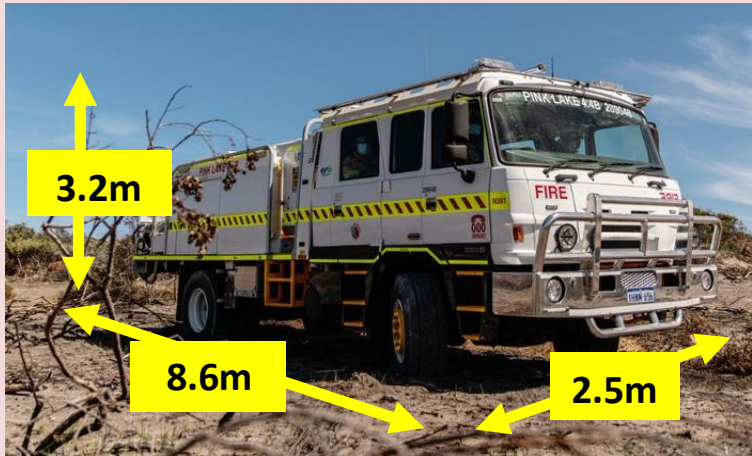

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Authorised Officer	Any Fire Control Officer or Ranger appointed by the Chief Executive Officer under the <i>Bush Fires Act 1954</i>
Bare Earth Firebreaks	A strip of land that has been cleared of all trees, bushes, grasses and any other object or thing or flammable vegetation material leaving clear bare mineral earth - Achievable by ploughing, grading or spraying.
Boundary Breaks	<p>Clear either a 4 metre wide bare earth firebreak* or a 4 metre wide mulched/slashed firebreak immediately inside all external boundaries. Firebreaks shall have a 5 metre vertical clearance so it provides unrestricted access to emergency service vehicles</p> <div data-bbox="539 635 1077 1358"></div> <div data-bbox="1144 635 2107 1358"></div>

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Bushfire Management Plan (BMP)	A document that sets out short, medium and long-term risk management strategies for the life of the development. It is to be prepared by an accredited Bushfire Planning Practitioner in accordance with the requirements of State Planning Policy 3.7 Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas (SPP3.7) and associated Guidelines.
Driveways	<p>Driveways must be cleared to a minimum of 4 metres wide and 5 metres in height, that can provide unrestricted access to emergency service vehicles gaining entrance and traversing your property during an emergency.</p> <p>It is recommended for landowner/occupiers to have suitable turnaround areas near houses and dedicated fire water tanks.</p>  

Fire Fuel	<p>Any combustible material, dead or alive, in isolation or clusters or aggregation with other combustible materials that, in the opinion of an authorised officer, is likely to fuel a bushfire.</p> <p>Including but not limited to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Heavy leaf litter on the ground, dead leaves in gutters, fallen branches and any combustible vegetation in clusters. Of particular concern are combustible materials suspended off the ground;• All dry grasses exceeding 100mm in height;• Any tree within the APZ or branch of a tree that may fall onto a building which in the opinion of an authorised officer constitutes an unacceptable fire risk. <p>It does not include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vegetable gardens, tended lawns, landscaped gardens (including deciduous or ornamental planted trees), isolated planted shrubs, established natural or planted trees that, in the opinion of an authorised officer, does not constitute an unacceptable fire risk;• Well compacted dead vegetative material e.g. mulch, that in the opinion of an authorised officer does not constitute a fire risk.
Flammable Material	<p>Any material that is easily ignited, capable of burning and of carrying a fire.</p>
Grassland & Pastures	<p>Unmanaged pasture and grasslands must be maintained to height no greater than 100 millimetres, except for when a paddock is being utilised for feed or agistment maintain a 2 metre slashed break inside all fence lines.</p> <div data-bbox="595 1056 1133 1428"></div> <div data-bbox="1314 1056 2011 1428"></div>

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(The) Notice	Meaning the Shire of Esperance Fire Hazard Reduction Notice.
Parkland Clearing	<p>Parkland clearing must be carried out in all open paddocks and along the boundary of the property. Clearing means the removal of all dead vegetation and flammable material* by either mulching, slashing or disposing.</p> <div data-bbox="539 491 1310 1074"></div> <div data-bbox="1344 667 2114 1074"></div>

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Power Infrastructure

Establish and maintain a Low Fuel Zone (parkland cleared) 1 metre wide, around Power infrastructure e.g. Metre Box, and Underground Power Domes



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Tree Lines (Established)

Where established trees are located along fence lines, clear either a 4 metre wide **bare earth firebreak*** or a 4 metre wide mulched/slashed firebreak within 5 metres of the external fence line and reduce the **fire fuel*** between the firebreak and external fence line.



Variations

If it is impracticable for any reason to clear firebreaks or to take measures in accordance with this Notice, you may apply to the Shire in writing before the **24 September** each year for permission to provide firebreaks in alternative locations or take alternative measures to prevent the outbreak or spread of a bush fire.

If permission is not granted in writing by the Shire, you shall comply with the requirements of this Notice.

The requirement for an **Asset Protection Zone*** may be varied by Council on application. Where it is not practical for an existing dwelling to provide a 20 metre **Asset Protection Zone*** a landowner may apply for a variation to the Firebreak Notice. In considering any such request regard will be given to;

- The topography of the site or privacy issues;
- Potential environmental impacts; and,
- Provision of alternative low or managed fuel zones.

Variation forms can be found via the Shire website. The Shire may approve variations to the Asset Protection Zone for either a 1 year or a 3 year period.

