



Shire of Goomalling Fire-break Notice

Your legal responsibilities and fire safety information - First & Final Notice



The Fire-break Notice below sets out the legal responsibilities for land owners and occupiers in the Shire of Goomalling. As a landowner or occupier you are required under the provisions of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* to carry out fire prevention work on your property. It is important that you read and understand your obligations.

Shire of Goomalling Fire-break Notice

Pursuant to Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954, all residents and ratepayers within the Shire of Goomalling are required to comply with the requirement set out in this notice.

Due Date: 31st October in each year

Maintained Until: 31st March in the following year

NB: Land purchased within the above period must comply with this notice within 14 days from purchase.

1. Land within the Gazetted Goomalling Townsite

- 1.1 All Townsite Lots with an area less than 4,000 m² in area are required to be fire hazard reduced by:
- Removal of all inflammable material or
 - Reduction of the vegetation fire hazard to a maximum height of 75 mm. All slashed material is to be removed.
- 1.2 All Townsite Lots with an area greater than or equal to 4,000 m² shall comply with either clause 1.1 above or clauses 2.1 and 2.2 of this notice.

2. Land Outside the Gazetted Goomalling Townsite

- 2.1 All land which is used for growing crop or pasture requires a fire-break 3 metres wide and 4 metres high installed immediately inside the external boundaries of the land and any adjoining road and railway reserves.
- 2.2 A fire-break 3 meters wide and 4 metres high shall be cleared and maintained immediately around all buildings, haystacks and fuel storage areas. In addition to this, a 15 metre wide low fuel area with a maximum vegetation height of 75 mm is to be maintained. NB: It is not required to remove live trees or shrubs.
- 2.3 A fire-break 3 metres wide and 4 metres high shall be cleared and maintained immediately around a stationary motor.
- 2.4 All Rural and Rural Residential Lots with an area less than 4,000 m² in area are required to be fire hazard reduced by:
- Removal of all inflammable material or
 - Reduction of the vegetation fire hazard to a maximum height of 75 mm.
 - All slashed material is to be removed.

Variations to Fire-break Notice

If for any reason it is not possible to comply with any of the requirements of the Fire-break Notice, you should apply for a variation. All variation requests must be received by the Shire of Goomalling by 1 October in any given year.

Variation requests must be in writing and provide details of preferred alternate measures. If approved the variation will form an individual Fire-break Notice for the property and remain in place until revoked.

Compliance Inspections

Pursuant to Section 14 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* the Shire of Goomalling conducts compliance inspections from 1 November to 30 April to ensure that compliance with the notice has been achieved and maintained.

Penalties apply including infringement, prosecution or recovery of costs by the Shire of Goomalling.

Limited Burning Periods

RESTRICTED

19 September – 31 October Annually

Permit Required

PROHIBITED

1 November - 14 February Annually

NO BURNING

RESTRICTED

15 February – 29 March Annually

Permit Required

Shire of Goomalling

32 Quinlan Street, GOOMALLING WA 6460

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F: (08) 96291017

E: goshire@goomalling.wa.gov.au

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Restricted Burning Period runs in two parts, the first from 19 September to 31 October annually and the second part from 15 February to 29 March the following year. During the Restricted Burning Period, a permit is required from the Shire before any burning can be carried out.

Prohibited Burning Period runs from 1 November to 14 February the following year. No burning is allowed for any reason during this period. This includes open cooking or camp fires.

NB: These dates may be varied depending on the seasonal conditions. Please contact the Shire of Goomalling before burning to ascertain whether these dates have been varied.

Bans/Restrictions may apply at **other times** under Section 46 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*. This may include days of HIGH fire danger or above. Notices will be given via Harvest Ban SMS Notification system.

Permits

During the Restricted Burning Period a permit is required before any burning can take place.

A permit will only be issued for broadacre crop preparation or mitigation activities that reduce a fire hazard on a property where no alternative method exists to reduce the hazard. Conditions will apply to the permit stipulating how the burning will be carried out. Any special conditions imposed by the issuing officer must be strictly adhered to.

Permits are not valid on: any Sunday, Public Holiday or any Saturday where the preceding Friday or following Monday is a Public Holiday (i.e. long weekend); when the fire danger rating is HIGH or above; or when DFES imposes a Total Fire Ban.

Burning Road Verges

A permit is required from the Shire of Goomalling to burn the road verge. Permits will only be issued between May and August each year where no alternative method exists to reduce the hazard.

Camping/Cooking Fires and Burning of Garden Refuse and Burning of Rubbish

The burning of garden refuse and rubbish and lighting of camping or cooking fires is prohibited during the Prohibited Burning Period. During the Restricted Burning Period a wheelbarrow sized pile of garden refuse may be burnt on the ground between 6.00PM and 11.00PM except: on days of a HIGH Fire Danger Rating or above; on any Sunday or Public Holiday; or on days when a Total Fire Ban is declared by The Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES). An area of 5 meters must be cleared all around the site of the fire and at least one adult must remain in attendance during the whole time that the fire is burning and until it is completely extinguished prior to midnight.

Any permitted burning must comply with all relevant requirements of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* - Penalties apply.

Total Fire Bans

A Total Fire Ban may be declared by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) when dangerous fire weather conditions are forecast or due to resource limitations.



When a Total Fire Ban is declared it is illegal to do anything that may start a fire.

NB: Harvesting is prescribed as an exempt activity from the Total Fire Ban provisions unless the Shire of Goomalling has imposed a Harvest, Vehicle Movement and Hot Works Ban.

Harvest, Vehicle Movement & Hot Works Bans

A harvest, vehicle movement and hot works ban may be applied during the Restricted or Prohibited Burning Period.

The Shire of Goomalling will determine the need for a ban and advertise the ban via its Harvest Ban SMS Notification system.

- A **harvest ban** is defined as a ban on all harvesting operations.
- A **vehicle movement ban** is defined as a ban on all vehicle movements except for the essential watering of stock, using a diesel powered vehicle only.
- A **hot works ban** is defined as a ban on the outdoor use of all welding, grinding and abrasive tools.

There is an automatic ban on all harvesting, vehicle movement and hot works on Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day and Australia Day.

Harvest Ban SMS Notification System

The Shire of Goomalling utilises a SMS Notification System for notification of Harvest Bans, Total Fire Bans & changes to the Limited Burning Periods.

For more information or to be included in this service please contact the Shire of Goomalling on (08) 9629 1101 or goshire@goomalling.wa.gov.au.

Fire Control Officers

The following Bush Fire Control Officers have been appointed by Council under Sections 38 and 38A of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*, with authority of Section 39 the *Bush Fires Act 1954*.

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

Brady Anderson 0427 291 229

Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

Lindsay White 0428 211 258

Bush Fire Control Officers

Rodney Sheen 0429 862 265

Barry Haywood 0427 681 910

Russell Beck 0427 556 579

Dale Leeson 0418 941 218

Natalie Bird 9629 1101

Community Emergency Services Manager

Robert Koch 0458 042 104