Definitions

In this Fire Control Order unless the contrary intention appears:

"Rural Land"
all land not located within the boundaries of a townsite as shown on the Shire of Merredin Town Planning Scheme No. 6.

"Townsite Land"
all land located within the boundaries of a townsite as shown on the Shire of Merredin Town Planning Scheme No. 6.

"Firebreak"
ground from which all flammable material has been removed to a height of four (4) metres and on which no flammable material is permitted.

"Flammable materials"
material that can be easily ignited, i.e. – dead or dry grass, leaves, timber, paper, plastic and other material or thing deemed by an authorised officer to be capable of combustion but does not include green growing trees or green growing plants in gardens.

"Occupier of land"
a person or persons as defined in Section 7 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer:
Glenn Crees – 0428 447 017

Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer:
Paul Wanless – 0427 867 487

Shire of Merredin:
(08) 9041 1611

If you require assistance with your firebreaks, you can contact Merredin Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service on (08) 9041 2522.

In an emergency dial 000

(08) 9041 1611
admin@merredin.wa.gov.au
Cnr King and Barrack Sts, Merredin
www.merredin.wa.gov.au

SHIRE OF MERREDIN
INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT

FIREBREAK & BURNING NOTICE 2026/27

Bush Fires Act 1954 Firebreak Notice

Pursuant to section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954, all owners and/or occupiers of land are required to comply with the terms of this notice.

Due Date: 31 October annually
Maintained Until: 16 March annually

Note: If you purchase land during this period, you have fourteen (14) days from settlement to comply with this order.

Failure to comply may result in a fine or prosecution.

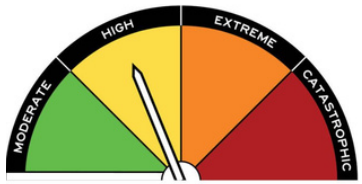
Variation to Firebreak Notices

If for any reason it is not possible to comply with any of the requirements of the firebreak notice, you should apply for a variation. Requests must be made to the Shire of Merredin in writing by 16 October in any given year and must include details of proposed alternate measures.

If permission is not granted in writing by the Shire of Merredin, you must comply with the requirements of this notice.

Fire Danger Rating (FDR)

Each level of the FDR system shows you how dangerous a bushfire could be if one starts and comes with clear actions to take. The higher the FDR, the more severe the bushfire could be. Merredin's FDRs are updated daily on the Shire of Merredin website homepage, as well as on the FDR signs at each entrance to town.



MODERATE	HIGH	EXTREME	CATASTROPHIC
Plan and prepare	Be ready to act	Take action now to protect life and property	For your survival, **leave bushfire risk areas**

Duties of the Owner and/or Occupier

Townsite Land with a building on it:

- Where the area of land is two thousand (2, 000) square metres or less, the land shall be cleared of all flammable materials;
- Where the area of land exceeds two thousand (2,000) square metres, install a 3-metre-wide firebreak immediately inside the external boundaries of the land;
- Maintain all grass on the land to a height no greater 5cm (50mm);
- Prune trees and shrubs and remove dead flammable material within 6 metres of all buildings on the land; and
- Ensure the roofs, gutters and walls of all buildings on the land are free of flammable matter.

Vacant Townsite Land:

- Where the area of land is two thousand (2,000) metres square or less maintain all grass and flammable matter on the land to a height no greater than 5cm (50mm); and
- Where the land exceeds two thousand (2,000) metres square install a 3-metre-wide firebreak immediately inside all external boundaries of the land by removing all flammable matter within that 3-metre-wide fire break to a height of four (4) metres.

Rural Land:

- Install firebreaks to a width of three (3) metres immediately inside and along all external boundaries of the land;
- Install firebreaks to a width of twenty (20) metres around all buildings, hay sheds and fuel storage areas on the land; and
- Where the land is greater than 400 hectares in area, install sufficient internal 3-metre-wide firebreaks so as to divide the land into areas of 400 hectares or less which are bounded by a 3-metre-wide firebreak.

Fuel Dumps and Depots:

- Remove all inflammable matter within ten (10) metres of where fuel drums, fuel ramps or fuel dumps are located and where fuel drums, whether containing fuel or not, are stored.

Burning Periods 2026/27

OPEN PERIOD
17 March - 15 September
Burning Permitted

RESTRICTED BURNING
16 September - 31 October
Permit Required to Burn

PROHIBITED BURNING
1 November - 16 February
No Burning

RESTRICTED BURNING
17 February - 16 March
Permit Required to Burn

Burning Permits

Permits to burn are required for the whole of the restricted burning periods and can only be obtained from the Fire Control Officers in your area as listed on the Shire of Merredin website. Any special conditions stated on the permit or imposed by the permit issuing officer, and all conditions detailed on the back must be strictly adhered to.

For more information or to download a list of fire control officers, visit bit.ly/merredinfirecontrol.

Penalties

Penalties apply for non-compliance with this order, and may include infringement, prosecution and recovery of costs by the Shire of Merredin.

For more information

www.emergency.wa.gov.au
www.dfes.wa.gov.au
www.merredin.wa.gov.au

In an emergency dial 000