

Firebreak Notice 2026/2027

Notice to the Owner or Occupier of Land Section 33 of the *Bushfires Act 1954*

Pursuant to the powers contained in Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954, you are hereby required on or before the 1st day of January, (or within fourteen days of becoming owner or occupier of land should this be after the 1st day of January), to clear and maintain mineral earth breaks and reduce the fuel load from the land owned or occupied by you as specified hereunder and to have the specified land and firebreaks clear of all flammable material all year round.

Summary of Specified Requirements

Note: The specified requirements include mining and/or construction accommodation facilities.

Land In Town Sites

Land area 2000m² (½ acre) or less

- All flammable material is reduced over the whole of the land.
- Grasses slashed to a height 75mm and removed

Land Outside Town Sites

Land only

- A minimum 5-metre-wide mineral earth break cleared of all flammable material is installed immediately inside and along the boundaries of the land.

For all buildings

- Two 5-metre-wide mineral earth breaks cleared of flammable material must surround the buildings:
- The inner mineral earth break is to be sited 20 metres from the perimeter of the building(s)
- The outer mineral earth break is sited 100 metres from the inner mineral earth break.

Additional Works

Additional works considered necessary may be required by an Authorised Officer and will be advised in writing to the owner/occupier. If the requirements of this Notice are conducted by burning, such burning must be in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Act. A prescribed burning plan may be required.

Powerlines & power transmission lines In Town Sites

Power and transmission lines

- Power line infrastructure must be maintained as per the guidelines issued by Energy Safety.

Power lines conducting less than or equal to 33,000 volts

- Ground fuel must be cleared to a minimum of 5 metres on either side of a centre line created by the poles/towers.
- The minimum total cleared area is 10 metres in width
- The area is maintained to the mineral earth break standard.

Power transmission lines conducting greater than 33,000 volts

- A 5-metre-wide mineral earth break is maintained on either side of the widest point of the arms/cross arms on the pole/tower
- A 5-metre-wide mineral earth break is maintained directly under the power line corridor

Water supply pipelines & infrastructure

- A 5-metre-wide mineral earth break is cleared on either side of the pipeline and associated infrastructure.
- Clear of flammable material.
- Access points installed and maintained for Emergency Services access.

Explosives magazines & storage areas

Flammable Materials

- A 15-metre-wide perimeter cleared to bare earth around the magazine/storage areas.

Fuel storage areas – and Stockpiled flammable material such as Haystacks

Fuel storage areas

- A 10-metre-wide area cleared of flammable material around any fuel type storage area regardless of size, full or empty.

Stockpiled flammable materials such as Haystacks

- A 10-metre-wide mineral earth break installed around any:
- Stockpiled flammable materials; and/or
- Haystacks.

If I don't comply – what penalties can be applied?

Properties will be inspected on an annual basis to ensure compliance. If a property is not compliant on first inspection the owner/occupier will be contacted and given 14 days from notification to comply. People who do not comply with the Notice may be issued with an infringement Notice (\$250) or prosecuted with a penalty up to \$5,000.

In addition to any enforcement action if the owner/occupier does not complete the specified work, pursuant to Sec.33(4), the Shire may enter the property to complete the required work. The subsequent costs may be recovered from the owner/occupier of the land.

Firebreak Variations

If it is considered impractical to comply with this Firebreak Notice and the specified requirements for the land you own or occupy you may apply to Council in writing for a variation. Applications to Council are to be submitted by the 30th of August each year. If the application is unsuccessful you must comply with the requirements of this notice. Applications are to be lodged on the Shire's Website: www.eastpilbara.wa.gov.au

Permit to Burn

A permit to burn is required before lighting a fire in the Shire all year unless exempt by this notice or is subject to conditions before ignition is permitted. A permit to burn can be applied for on the Shire's website.

Please note you can only apply to one Fire Control Officer for a permit within the Shire for your location. If a permit is refused by the FCO it is illegal to ask another FCO for the same permit.

When you apply for a Permit to Burn, have the following information ready:

- Location of the proposed burn?
- Size of the proposed burn?
- Type of material to be burnt?
- What is the location of the burnt?
- Have neighbors been advised?
- What are the resources required for you to manage the burn?

Please Note

Prior to ignition, you must:

- Notify your neighbors; and
- Notify the Chief or Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officer; and
- Notify the Department for Biodiversity, Conservation Attractions if the planned burn is within 3kms of their managed lands; and
- Establish a minimum 3-metre-wide mineral earth break cleared of all flammable material is installed immediately inside and along the boundaries of the land.

Steven Harding
Chief Executive Officer

Shire of **EAST**
Pilbara
THE HEART OF THE PILBARA

Fire Safety Information

What does a compliant property look like?

Compliant Residential Property (Townsite)



Compliant Vacant Land (Townsite)



Compliant Mineral Earth Break



**The Shire of East Pilbara is in a
RESTRICTED BURNING period all year round.**

For more information contact us.

Phone: (08) 9175 8000

Duty Ranger: 0419 860 376

admin@eastpilbara.wa.gov.au

www.eastpilbara.wa.gov.au

Camping and Cooking Fires are **not permitted:** •

- When the Fire Danger Rating is High or above or no rating is indicated;
- Where a campground prohibits camping and cooking fires at any time;
- On private property when the Fire Danger Rating is High;
- Outside of 6:00 pm and 12:00 am;
- Where the consent of the owner/ manager has not been given;
- A Permit has not been issued by an Authorised Fire Control Officer;

Where there is:

- less than a 3-metre-wide area cleared of flammable material around the fire;
- One able-bodied person capable of extinguishing the fire is not in attendance;
- Insufficient water and fire suppression tools are readily available to extinguish the fire.

Total Fire Ban

A Total Fire Ban (TFB) is declared on days when the Fire Danger Rating is Extreme based on weather conditions that will impact fire suppression activities.

The need for the ban is assessed throughout the day and the ban may be revoked if weather conditions ease.

A Total Fire Ban is declared the evening before it is to take effect.

Check the Emergency WA website after 6 pm for declared bans in your area - www.emergency.wa.gov.au

When a TFB is declared it prohibits the lighting of any fires in the open air and any other activities that may start a fire. A TFB includes all open-air fires for the purpose of cooking or camping. It also includes incinerators, welding, grinding, soldering, or gas cutting.

Shire of **EAST
Pilbara**
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