



Shire of Denmark

Bushfire Management Plan

"Urban Land"

Preparation Kit



Fire Management Plan

CRITERIA FOR THE APPROVAL OF A FIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN 'URBAN LAND'

'Urban Land' is any land zoned 'Residential' within the Shire of Denmark

If the land is Urban Land and the area is greater than 0.25 hectares the land owner may opt to prepare a Fire Management Plan. If that Plan is approved by the Council it will thereafter replace and totally relinquish the landowners obligation to otherwise implement the standard or default fire risk mitigation.

Should the implementation of the Fire Management Plan and any subsequent maintenance not be completed to the satisfaction of the inspecting Fire Control Officer (FCO) by the 1st of December of each year the Fire Management Plan will be deemed not to comply and the standard default fire risk mitigation specification will be enforced.

GUIDELINES FOR THE PREPARATION FOR APPROVAL OF A FIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Your Fire Management Plan must include the following:

PART 1

Please complete Part 1 "Bushfire Hazard Self Assessment" and submit as part of your application.

PART 2

Please complete Part 2 and ensure the following information is provided:

1. Landowner/s details
2. Location
3. Sketch Plan

Using information from Part 1 include on your sketch plan

- (a) Building Location and building envelope if applicable
- (b) Building Protection Zone or Low fuel Zone (if your Building Protection Zone is less than the recommended 20 metres wide, what are your reasons for this?)
- (c) Hazard Separation Zone or Fuel Reduced Areas
- (d) Leave Alone Areas
- (e) Strategic Fire Access System (The Shire shall require the landowner be responsible for the maintenance of any Strategic Fire Access crossing the individual lot. No exemption applies.
- (f) Location and Type of Water Supplies
- (g) Fire Service Access/Egress and Driveways
- (h) Fire Breaks (If no firebreaks are included, explain why are they deemed not necessary)
- (i) Firefighting Services and Facilities (details of any sprinkler systems, pumps and any other firefighting equipment)

When Parts 1 and 2 are complete, forward both to the:

Shire of Denmark
PO Box 183
DENMARK WA 6333

Bushfire Hazard Self assessment Plan

WHAT HAVE I GOT ?

Before you can manage the Fire Hazard on your property, consider what you need to protect.

List Your Assets

(a) How big is my property?

Approximate area in hectares or acres

(b) What are my assets?

The house (eg 3 bedroom, weatherboard)

Outbuildings (eg woodshed, steel garage)

Recreation facilities (eg pool, tennis court)

Income related facilities (eg studio, workshop)

Fencing (paling, post and wire)

(c) What are the natural values on my property?

Types and extent of native vegetation (eg native shrubs, trees with thick undergrowth)

.....
.....
.....

WHAT ARE MY RISKS ?

The slopes, aspect, type of vegetation and the way vegetation is managed within and outside your property influence the amount of risk from fire.

(a) How steep is my land?

If you live on or near very steep slopes (10 degrees or greater) it's a high risk area. The steeper the slope, the faster a fire will burn up it. A low risk area will have gentle slopes or be quite flat (0 – 10 degrees)

Where is the house situated on your block?

What is the slope of the ground in degrees? (please circle your greatest slope)

(Flat) (0>10) (10>20) (20>30) (30+)

(b) How much vegetation do I have?

Fires need fuel to burn. If you have a heavy coverage of long grass, forest floor litter and flammable scrub nearby, you're in a high risk area. A low risk area would have little or no such fire fuel.

Describe your vegetation within the following zones around your house.

0 – 10 metres.....

10 – 20 metres

20 – 30 metres

Over 30 metres

Is your home in the middle of the bush, on the edge or in open area or pasture?

.....

If you have garden around your house. Where is the heaviest and most flammable vegetation?

What direction from the house and how far?.....
.....
.

Could you replace highly flammable species with "fire resistant" plants? Where?
.....

Is the vegetation continuous from the ground up to the tree tops?

When will you undertake fuel reduction work? (eg: every spring/mow lawn regularly etc)
.....
.....

(c) Where is a fire likely to come from?

High temperature, high winds and low humidity add up to bushfire weather. The worst "fire weather in our district occurs when there is a hot strong wind from the north or north-east. Northern slopes are drier than southern slopes. The drier the vegetation, the greater the fire hazard.

Where do winds predominantly blow from at your place during summer months?
.....

Is your property exposed to these fire weather winds?

What might start a fire and where will it come from?.....
.....

What might a fire be like in my area (grass, bush, town etc)

(d) In the event of fire would fire trucks be able to get to my house/property?

Think about ACCESS and EGRESS. Maintain entry/exit points in two directions if possible. Ensure that at least one access point is located on the side of the property away from the greatest potential hazard.

A bushfire brigade truck is 3 metres long, 3 metres high and 7.5 metres long. Driveways need to be 4 metres wide with 4 metres vertical clearance.

Can a tanker get along your driveway?

Does your driveway have passing bays if it is a long way from the main road?
.....

Is there room for a tanker to turn around near your home?

Can a tanker turn easily through your gates? They need to be a minimum width of 3.6 metres

Can the bridges and culverts on your land carry a 12 tonne truck?.....

(e) Can a fire truck access my water supplies?

Fire trucks need to be within 6 metres of a dam, tank or pool to pick up water.

How close can they get at your place?

Does your water tank have a roof hatch or suitable fittings so a fire truck can draw water?
.....

WHAT CAN I DO TO MINIMISE FIRE RISK

You may not be able to change the way the land around you is managed. You can change the way your own property is managed by maintaining a variety of **Low Fuel Zones**.

SELECT METHODS THAT I THINK APPLY TO ME

(A) Create a Low Fuel Zone around the house and outbuildings by:

Maintain green areas (lawns and garden beds) YES NO

Incorporate existing utility areas such as car parking and tennis courts into strategically placed low fuel zones. YES NO

Plan any property improvements/utilities so as to create or expand a low fuel zone. YES NO

Cut back overhanging limbs around the house, underprune shrubs/trees to create a safety zone. YES NO

Locate and mark out Leave Alone Areas of Bushland away from buildings and lower risk areas YES NO

Clear bushland areas of fine fuels by raking and removing leaves, twigs and branches. YES NO

Hazard reduction burning of bushland areas (burns can also assist in regeneration of native species, however too frequently can adversely affect sensitive vegetation types. YES NO

- Graduate the fuel reduction zones from property assets outwards.
- 1 - 10 metres gravel, paving, lawns and garden beds (watered and maintained) YES NO
 - 10 – 20 metres slashing or mowing up to and around large trees and shrubs YES NO
 - 20 – 30 metres reduce fine fuels (branches, twigs and leaves) YES NO
 - 30+ metres Leave Alone Areas (still managed to a safe fuel loading) YES NO

(B) Create a Low Fuel Zone along property boundary by:

Establishing and maintaining a 3 metre fire break with a 10 metre low fuel zone abutting along boundaries with an aspect that faces potential fire fronts and where the risk does not warrant a larger break.

YES NO

Establishing and maintaining a 3 metre fire break with a 20 metre wide low fuel zone abutting where there are assets on neighbouring land or along boundaries with an aspect that faces potential fire fronts.

YES NO

Supplement an existing break on adjoining land by creating a break or low fuel zone on your property.

YES NO

Incorporate an existing break on adjoining land into your fuel reduction plan.

YES NO



Fire Management Plan 'Urban Land'

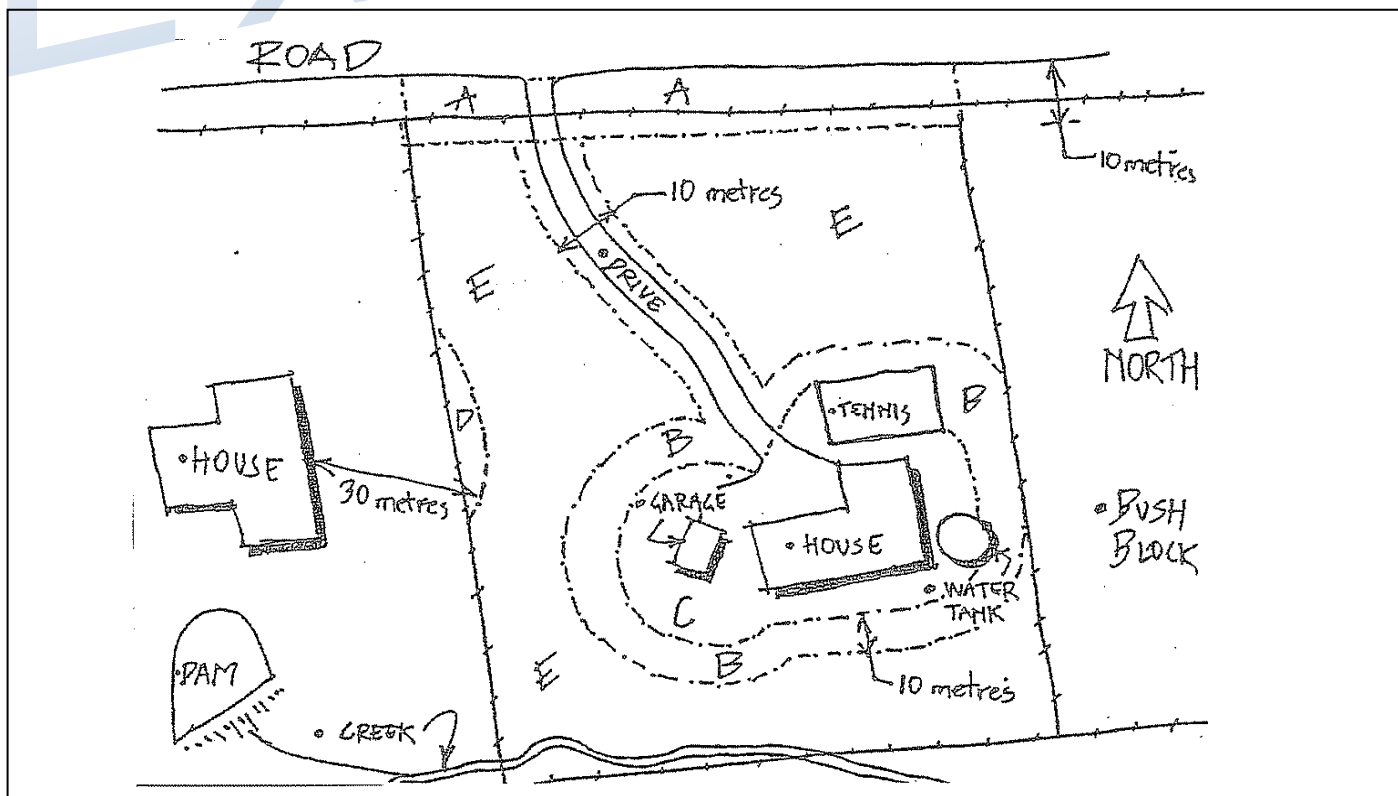
PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY IN CAPITALS

Name and Address.....John Brown.....
.....23 Hazard Road.....
.....Tinderbox....WA...6666.....

Postal Address.....PO Box 1111.....
.....Tinderbox...WA...6666.....

Property Details Lot No.....1234.....
Road.....Hazard.....
Area.....4000.square.metres.....

SKETCH MAP



MAP LEGEND

- Zone A...Firebreak – Northern.....
- Zone B...Low Fuel Zone – bushland.....
- Zone C...Utility Area – green belt, paving.....
- Zone D...Firebreak – western.....
- Zone E...Leave Alone Areas.....

DESCRIPTION OF TASKS

Zone A...NORTHERN FIRE BREAK..... *Five metres inside property boundary to compliment roadside slashing. Mow in November and January.....*

Zone B...BUSHLAND LOW FUEL ZONE.....
Remove fallen tree limbs, rake and remove fine fuels up to 20 metres from buildings.. Pre-fire season no later than November, then as required.....

Zone C...UTILITIES.....
Maintain gravel and paved areas free of vegetation, Water and maintain green belt of lawns and garden beds (includes vegie garden).....

Zone D...WESTERN FIRE BREAK.....
Hazard reduction burn along Western boundary in Spring or Autumn 2007. Review fuel loads in 3 years. Mow the break if unable to burn.....

Zone E...LEAVE ALONE BUSHLAND.....
Maintain as natural bush. Controlled burn in Northern areas adjacent to driveway to encourage orchids and common heath. Remove pittosporum on Western boundary....

Note: Please specify how often each task will be performed and at which time of year.

AGREEMENT

This is the agreed Fire Management for my property.

I understand that if the works described are not carried out by 1st December each calendar year the Shire of Denmark may issue a requirement to comply with the Fire Regulation Notice.

Signed:

Resident/owner

Date:/...../.....

I confirm having assessed this application and it is Approved / Not Approved

Signed:

Community Fire Manager.....

Date:/...../.....



Shire of Denmark

PART 2

ASSESSMENT No. _____

Fire Management Plan 'Urban Land'

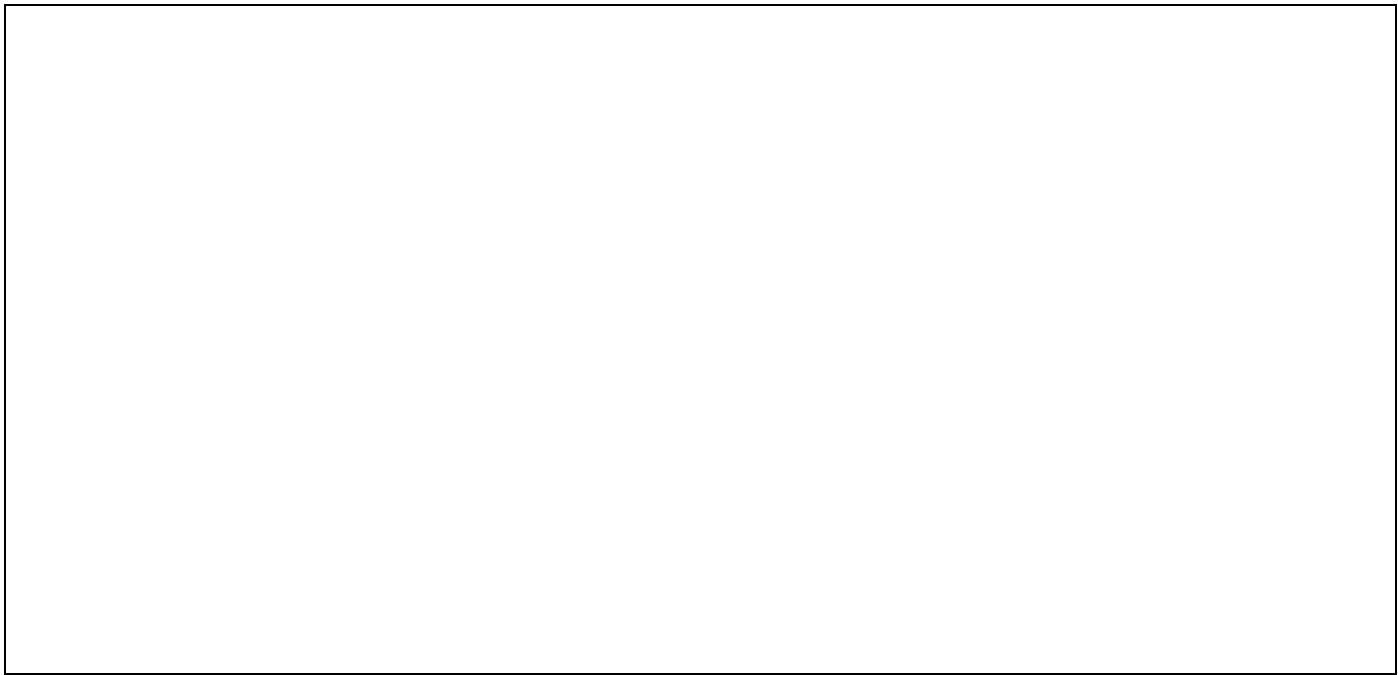
PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY IN CAPITALS

Name and Address.....
.....
.....

Postal Address.....
.....
.....

Property Details Lot No.....
 Road.....
 Area.....

SKETCH MAP



MAP LEGEND

Zone A.....
Zone B.....
Zone C.....
Zone D.....
Zone E.....

