

Burning Checklist

- ☐ Fire danger rating not high/extreme/catastrophic
- ☐ Wind speed less than 20km/h
- ☐ Neighbours notified 24hrs prior
- ☐ DFES notified (9395 9209) - and DBCA if applicable
- ☐ 2x Rakes, 2x Shovels, 1x Axe
- ☐ Access to water supply
- ☐ Dry garden refuse only
- ☐ Pile size not greater than 2m³ (or 3m³ for properties over 20,000m²)
- ☐ Burn only one pile at a time
- ☐ 2 persons present at all times
- ☐ No overhanging trees/branches
- ☐ 5m ground clearance
- ☐ Fire must be completely extinguished before leaving the site

Permit to burn garden refuse

Information guide for
permit holders

Visit emergency.wa.gov.au for
all alerts and warnings

For all emergencies call 000

City of Mandurah
3 Peel Street
Mandurah WA 6210

Phone: 9550 3777
Email: ranger.admin@mandurah.wa.gov.au



Permits to Burn Garden Refuse

The burning of garden waste within the City of Mandurah is prohibited without a Permit to Burn Garden Refuse.

Permits can only be issued between 1 May and 31 October and only for the following properties:

- properties zoned rural residential, or rural small holding under the City of Mandurah Local Planning Scheme 12; or
- on all land 4000m² and greater.

Please refer to your permit for further information and conditions.

Alternative measures

- Mulching
- Composting
- Taking greenwaste to the waste transfer station
- Greenwaste verge collections twice per year

Tree preservation areas

If your property is in a Tree Preservation Area, you need permission to prune, remove or otherwise alter trees. Applications must be made in writing to the City.



Construction of piles

Guidelines for building safe piles for burning:

- Only burn vegetation from the local area. Do **not** include household or building waste (e.g. plastics, pallets, cardboard).
- Build **low and wide** piles instead of tall ones. Piles that are too high produce more intense heat and retain heat for longer.
- Ensure all material is **dead and dry**. Drying piles in direct sunlight helps reduce smoke and improves burning efficiency.
- Never build piles **under or near power lines** – heat, smoke, and ash can damage or interfere with them.
- Where possible, construct piles on level ground. Fires will burn more quickly on slopes. If burning on a slope, stack logs to reduce the likelihood of them rolling downhill during the burn.
- Avoid placing piles **around tree bases or overhanging branches**. Choose open areas away from tree canopies.
- Stay clear of **fences and property boundaries**, and be mindful of nearby residents.

Properties 4000m² up to 20,000m²



Burning of piles

Safety Tips for Conducting a Pile Burn

- Have **tools ready**, such as rakes and shovels, to manage the fire and control any spot fires.
- **Never use accelerants** like petrol to light the pile.
- Ensure that there is a sufficient water supply. Use a hose with enough pressure and reach to manage the fire.
- Wear **protective gear**: long-sleeved shirt, heavy cotton pants, boots, gloves, and a wide-brimmed hat.
- **Disturb the pile before lighting** to scare off wildlife (e.g. lizards, snakes) that may be sheltering inside
- **Check the weather**—only burn in calm conditions (wind less than 20km/h).
- Light the fire at one point only. A pile that is lit at multiple points may burn with more intensity and may be difficult to contain.
- On slopes, **ignite from the uphill side** so the fire burns slowly downhill.
- **Supervise the fire at all times** to monitor for any spread or flare-ups.
- Once finished, Ensure the fire is completely extinguished by the application of water or earth.
- Burning of vegetation can potentially be hazardous. **Ultimately you are responsible for any fire you light and if it escapes you may be liable for the damage it causes.**

Properties 20,000m² and over

