

# FIRE PREVENTION - TAKE ACTION NOW

**In the wake of recent bushfires, we have seen first hand the devastating impacts a fire can cause. In preparation for the Fire Danger Season it is important to clean up now, before a fire does.**

Under the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005* it is the responsibility of all landowners to take reasonable steps to prevent the outbreak of a fire or the spreading of fire to or from their property.

Bushfires will happen, so we need to plan to survive. Fuel hazard reduction is one of the most important preparations you can undertake. Know your responsibilities, take positive action to prepare for fires by taking simple steps around your home.

The following are the minimum recommendations for fuel hazard reduction around your property:

- For residential properties with buildings - reduce flammable undergrowth on your property to a maximum height of 10cm by spraying, mowing or slashing;
- For vacant land in townships surrounded by residential homes - reduce flammable undergrowth including grass, weeds and pest plants by spraying, mowing or slashing to a maximum height of 10cm over the entire property;
- For land within the township over 0.5 hectare in size - establish a fuel break by mowing, slashing or spraying flammable undergrowth to a maximum height of 10cm, in a strip 10 metres wide as near as practicable to the perimeter of the allotment, and within 20 metres of a dwelling;

- For primary production properties - establish a fuel break by mowing, slashing or grazing flammable undergrowth to a maximum height of 10cm in a strip 5 metres wide as near as practicable to the perimeter of the allotment, and within 20 metres of a dwelling

**These standards must be maintained throughout the entire Fire Danger Season.**

Some other tips for fuel hazard reduction include:

- Removal of any accumulated litter or waste materials (piles of tree cuttings, heaps of bark, piles of wood etc) that are close to any buildings;
- Pruning of any low limbs or trees overhanging buildings; and
- Removal of leaf litter and debris from all gutters and roof areas.

Council will commence property inspections within the township, for the level of preparedness and height of flammable undergrowth at the end of October. Should it be noted that fuel hazard reduction works have not been undertaken on your property, Council will take action necessary to ensure works are completed, which may result in expiation.

**The lives of you and your family are irreplaceable - it is important to clean up now before a fire does.**

**For further information in relation to bushfire prevention measures and bushfire survival plans, please contact SA Country Fire Service on 1800 362 361 or visit [www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au)**