

Burn SMART Checklist



Burn SMART

Stages 1 and 2: Planning the burn

Planning should be undertaken weeks or even months in advance of your planned burn.

	✓ COMPLETE
Develop a fuel management strategy for your property. Sketch how you will divide your property into manageable burn patches. Refer to full instructions on pages 12-14 of the Burn SMART guide.	
Contact your local government for information on burning restrictions in your area. A permit to burn will be required during restricted burning season.	
Prepare your burn patch. Refer to and complete the list of preparations on page 14 of the Burn SMART guide.	

Stage 3: Before the burn

	✓ COMPLETE
Confirm it has been two days but no more than 10 days since it last rained (5 mm or greater). You can check at www.bom.gov.au/climate/data .	
Check for mild weather conditions for the next several days at www.bom.gov.au/places/wa . Do not burn if strong winds and dry conditions are forecast.	
Ensure all equipment is available and in good working order. Include a metal rake, shovel, hose or another source of water.	
Confirm that the people helping you with the burn are still available.	
Notify all neighbours no less than four days prior to burning. This includes neighbours separated by a road, lane or waterway.	

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Stages 4 and 5: Day of the burn

	✓ COMPLETE
Visit www.emergency.wa.gov.au for current Total Fire Ban and Fire Danger Ratings in your area.	
Visit www.bom.gov.au/wa/warnings to check that the Bureau of Meteorology has not issued a severe weather, strong wind warning or haze alert for your area.	
Check your local weather forecast at www.bom.gov.au/places/wa . Wind speeds should be less than 20 kilometres per hour. Relative humidity should be greater than or equal to 40%.	
Notify your local government of your intent to burn, if required. If a permit has been issued, ensure burn conditions comply with those outlined on the permit and any additional notifications are completed.	
Complete the leaf moisture method on pages 8-9 of the Burn SMART guide. Confirm fuel moisture levels are appropriate for a burn.	
Call your neighbours and remind them that you're burning today.	
Register your burn with the DFES Communications Centre on 08 9395 9209 .	
Conduct a pre-burn briefing with everyone who will be helping with your burn.	
Know the steps you need to take in Stage 5: During the burn shown on page 17 of the Burn SMART guide.	

If the above steps have been completed and the conditions are suitable, progress with your burn.

Stage 6: After the burn

	✓ COMPLETE
Check the burn area the following day to ensure the fire has not reignited. There should be no smoke, smouldering vegetation or glowing embers.	
Thoroughly check the burn patch several times a day for at least two days after the burn. Check for longer if the weather becomes hotter, drier or windier. Larger fuels may continue to smoulder for several days and potentially reignite. Monitor the area until you are confident that the burn is completely extinguished.	

For more advice, consult your local government (www.walga.asn.au/About-Local-Government/Online-Local-Government-Directory.aspx). Always check your local government requirements before conducting a burn.

Find out more at: dfes.wa.gov.au/plannedburning / Email: BushfireCoE@dfes.wa.gov.au

