

## TOTAL FIRE BAN EXCEPTIONS

– BUSH FIRES REGULATIONS 1954 (regulations 24ZM-24ZR)

# Catering Activity

## Prescribed activity and conditions

This information is to assist persons who would otherwise require an exemption under section 22C of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* to carry out catering activity in the open air during a total fire ban (TFB).



## What conditions do I need to comply with to carry out catering activity during a TFB?

**During a total fire ban, catering activity (see definition next page) may only be carried out in the course of trade or commerce, and only when:**

- the Fire Danger Rating is not Catastrophic, and
- all of the following conditions are complied with:
  - ✓ Notification must be provided to DFES and the relevant local government between 24 hours and 30 minutes prior to the catering activity commencing using the online notification form on the DFES website.
  - ✓ If the catering activity is to be carried out within 3 km of land managed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions' Parks and Wildlife Service, notification must be provided to the relevant local District or Regional Duty Officer of the Parks and Wildlife Service between 24 hours and 30 minutes prior to the catering activity commencing.
  - ✓ The ground within a 10 m radius of the catering activity must be clear of inflammable material.
  - ✓ Any chimney on the catering appliance must be fitted with a suitable spark arrester that is maintained in a clean, sound and efficient condition.
  - ✓ If the catering appliance consumes solid fuel, then the burning fuel must be sealed from the open air by a secure, sealable door.

- ✓ An approved fire hose (see definition next page) capable of covering the entire area around the catering activity within a 20 m radius must be readily assessable on the site, connected to:
  - a reticulated water supply; or
  - if there is no reticulated water supply available at the catering site, a storage tank containing a minimum of 400L of water (this can be either on the ground or mounted on a vehicle) and attached to a pump in proper working order that is capable of delivering a minimum of 120L of water per minute at 700kPa through the hose.
- ✓ At least two approved fire extinguishers (see definition next page) in proper working order must be located within close proximity to the catering activity.
- ✓ At all times when the catering activity is being carried out, and for at least 30 minutes after it is completed, an able-bodied person trained in the operation of approved fire extinguishers must remain on the catering site (see definition next page), and must not leave until they are satisfied that any burning solid fuel in the appliance has been extinguished and there is no fire or anything likely to cause a fire on the catering site.

Note: The able-bodied person may in this case be the catering operator, provided they are trained in the use of approved fire extinguishers.
- ✓ Once the catering activity is completed, if there is any burning solid fuel (such as coal, briquettes or wood) in the appliance it must be completely extinguished before the appliance is transported from the catering site.

# Definitions

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**Catering activity** means any of the following activities undertaken for the purpose of cooking food:

- the use in open air of an appliance that consumes solid fuel;
- the use in the open air of an appliance comprising fire;
- the use in the open air of a cooking process which produces fire (for example, flambéing).

Note: Catering activity does not include the use of an enclosed gas barbeque at a person's home or in a designated barbeque area where there is no combustible material within 5 m of the barbeque.

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**Approved fire hose** means a fire hose that is:

- ✓ at least 20 m in length; and
  - ✓ at least 19 mm in diameter; and
  - ✓ fitted with an adjustable nozzle having a full spray pattern capable of projecting a 6m jet of water.
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**Catering site**, in relation to catering activity, means the place at which the catering activity is carried out.

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**Approved fire extinguisher** means a fire extinguisher that has:

- ✓ a 2A:10B:E fire rating; and
  - ✓ a capacity of at least 9 L.
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## Ways to keep informed of a TFB:

A TFB is declared the evening before it is to take effect. You can check after 6.00pm to see if a TFB has been declared for the following day.

- Call TFB hotline 1800 709 355
- Visit <https://www.emergency.wa.gov.au>
- Call 13 DFES (133 337)
- Listen to ABC local radio and other media outlets
- Check roadside Fire Danger Rating signs
- Follow DFES on Facebook or Twitter
- Subscribe to RSS at the following link to receive email notifications  
<https://www.emergency.wa.gov.au/#cap-rss>



## Follow the steps!

<b>Check</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Confirm if it's a TFB</li><li>• DFES Total Fire Ban + <a href="http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/totalfirebans">www.dfes.wa.gov.au/totalfirebans</a></li><li>• Phone: TFB hotline 1800 709 355</li></ul>
<b>Notify</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Notify DFES and the relevant local government by completing the DFES online notification form between 24 hours and 30 minutes prior to the activity commencing.</li><li>• Notify Parks and Wildlife Service (P&amp;W) between 24 hours and 30 minutes prior to the activity commencing where the activity is occurring within 3 kms of land managed by P&amp;W.</li></ul>
<b>Proceed</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Subject to prescribed activity conditions, proceed with the activity as required.</li></ul>

### Can anyone carry out this activity during a TFB?

**No** – the prescribed activity can only be carried out in the course of trade or commerce, or by (or on behalf of) a public authority. This activity is NOT allowed to be carried out during a TFB by the general public. For more information on restrictions during a TFB, please refer to the DFES website <https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/totalfirebans/Pages/TotalFireBanWhatCantIDo.aspx>

### Penalties for non-compliance with activity conditions:

Stakeholders who do not comply with the conditions within the Regulations may receive an infringement of \$1,000, or upon conviction receive a penalty of \$25,000 and/or be jailed for 12 months.

### Who should I contact if I need further information?

Please call the Total Fire Ban Hotline (available 24/7) on 1800 709 355 or email [exemptions@dfes.wa.gov.au](mailto:exemptions@dfes.wa.gov.au) during business hours.