

Fireworks 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 fireworks in the open air during a total fire ban (TFB).



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

During a total fire ban, fireworks 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 fireworks commencing using the online notification form.
- ✓ If the fireworks are to be conducted within 3 km of land managed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions' Parks and Wildlife Service, then notification to the respective local District or Regional Duty Officer of the Parks and Wildlife Service must be provided between 24 hours and 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the fireworks.
- ✓ The ground within a 10 m radius of the fireworks initiation point must be clear of inflammable material.
- ✓ At least one approved fire extinguisher (see definition next page) in proper working order must be located in close proximity to the fireworks initiation point.
- ✓ The number of approved firefighting vehicles (see definition next page) set out in the table must be located on the fireworks site (see definition next page), based on fuel tonnage on the fireworks site and the current Fire Danger Rating (see table above).

Fire Danger Rating	Fuel Tonnage/Approved firefighting vehicles (see definition) required			
	<10t/ha	10-15t/ha	15-20t/ha	>20t/ha
Low-Moderate	1	1	1	1
High	1	2	2	Banned
Very High	1	2	Banned	Banned
Severe	2	Banned	Banned	Banned
Extreme	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned
Catastrophic	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned

Note: the provision of firefighting vehicles for urban areas with a negligible quantity of bushland will be based on a fuel loading of 5t/ha

- ✓ If there is no reticulated water supply available within 1 km of the fireworks site, a bulk water tanker carrying at least 5,000 L of water must:
 - be on the fireworks site at all times during the fireworks activity; and
 - remain on the fireworks site for at least 30 minutes after the fireworks activity is completed.
- ✓ Each of the firefighting vehicles must be located on the fireworks site and manned by at least two firefighting officers (see definition next page) at all times during the fireworks activity.
- ✓ In addition to the firefighting officers, at all times during the fireworks activity, there must be at least one fire detection officer (see definition next page) on the site, dedicated solely to detecting and suppressing any fire caused by the fireworks activity.
- ✓ For at least 30 minutes after the fireworks activity is completed, the fire detection officer and the firefighting officers must remain at the fireworks site with the firefighting vehicle(s), and they must not leave until they are satisfied there is no fire or anything likely to cause a fire on the fireworks site.

Definitions

Fireworks activity means the use of fireworks in the open air.

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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Fireworks site means:

- ✓ the place at which the fireworks are situated when they are initiated; and
 - ✓ any land surrounding the place upon which hot particles, sparks, uninitiated fireworks or other hazardous debris from the fireworks activity may fall.
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Approved firefighting vehicle means a vehicle that:

- has one or more water storage tanks mounted upon it; and
 - is located in close proximity to the hot work; and
 - is capable of traversing the site; and
 - is equipped with:
 - at least 20 m of 19 mm diameter fire hose fitted with an adjustable nozzle in proper working order, having a full spray pattern capable of projecting a 6 m jet of water; and
 - a pump in proper working order that is capable of delivering a minimum of 120 L of water per minute at 700 kPa through the hose.
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Firefighting officer means an able-bodied person who is trained in:

- ✓ the operation of firefighting vehicles; and
 - ✓ the suppression and fighting of bush fire.
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Fire detection officer means an able-bodied person, other than the person initiating the fireworks, who must be trained in the operation of approved fire extinguishers

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!

Check	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Confirm if it's a TFB• DFES Total Fire Ban + www.dfes.wa.gov.au/totalfirebans• Phone: TFB hotline 1800 709 355
Notify	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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.• Notify Parks and Wildlife Service (P&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&W.
Proceed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Subject to prescribed activity conditions, proceed with the activity as required.

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 during business hours.