

Fire Danger Period Declared Fact Sheet

The Queensland Fire and Rescue Service (QFRS) has declared a Fire Danger Period resulting in new rules on the lighting of fires.

The Fire Danger Period means Queenslanders will not be allowed to light a fire, regardless of the size, without a permit from **midnight Sunday 4 September to midnight on Sunday 1 January 2012.**

It is common practice for QFRS to implement a Fire Danger Period during bushfire season as a step towards preventing fire from escaping and potentially putting lives and property at risk.

A Fire Danger Period is **not** a Fire Ban. It simply means that you may need to receive a Permit to Light Fire for fires where a permit is not usually required, however there are still some types of fires that can be lit without a permit during the Fire Danger Period.

I want to light a fire - what do I do?

1. Contact your local Fire Warden to complete an Application for Permit to Light Fire. To find your Fire Warden, visit the Fire Warden Finder on the Rural Fire Service website (www.ruralfire.qld.gov.au)
2. Complete the Application for a Permit to Light Fire with your local Fire Warden. You will be granted or denied a Permit depending on the conditions, applicable local laws and your ability to control the fire.

Which fires are exempt from requiring a permit during a Fire Danger Period?

- A fire lit for the purpose of burning the carcas of a beast;
- A fire lit at a sawmill for the purpose of burning sawdust or other residue resulting from the operation of a sawmill;
- A fire lit outdoors for the purpose of cooking and warmth, if enclosed in a fireplace so prepared as to prevent the escape of fire or any burning material.

What is a properly prepared fire place?

A properly prepared fireplace means an area cleared of flammable material around and above the area, so as to prevent the escape of fire or burning material.

Regardless of the type of fireplace, it is the responsibility of the person lighting the fire to ensure all precautions are taken to contain and control the fire.

Is a Fire Danger Period a Fire Ban?

No, however a Fire Ban can still be implemented during a Fire Danger Period.

A Fire Danger Period identifies a time of the year during the fire season when uncontrolled fires can be dangerous.

A Fire Ban would be imposed during this period when conditions are such that fires would be difficult to control and pose a danger to communities.

You should always check if a Fire Ban has been implemented in your area prior to lighting any fires. Information regarding Fire Bans is available on this website, or by calling the Fire Ban Information Line on 1800 020 440.

Prepared fireplace, means:

- An area cleared of flammable material around and above, so as to prevent the escape of fire or burning material.
- Example; clear the ground fuel for three metres around the fire, ensure there are no overhanging branches within three metres, dig a pit, or enclose the fire in an area whereby the burning material cannot roll away, ensure a water supply is available to control fire.

Rural Operations Area Office Contacts:

Barcaldine	4651 1190	Ipswich	3381 7122
Bundaberg	4153 3244	Mackay	4965 6641
Caboolture	5420 1333	Maryborough	4190 4839
Cairns	4042 5468	Rockhampton	4938 4736
Caloundra	5420 7517	Roma	4622 2074
Charters Towers/Cloncurry	4761 5130	Toowoomba/Miles	4616 1945
Emerald	4982 0001	Townsville	4796 9082
Innisfail	4061 0650		