

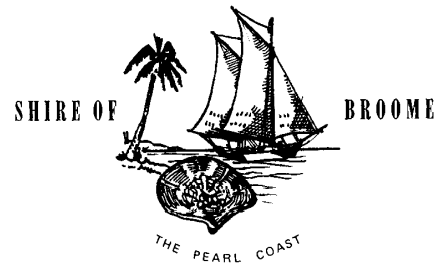
Shire of Broome

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Media Release



4th May 2007

For immediate release

Shire of Broome 2007 Firebreak & Householder Hazard Reduction Notice'

With the Bush Fire season fast approaching and the memory of last year's fires still relatively fresh in most minds, it is timely to remind everyone of the risks to lives and homes posed by poor attention to basic fire prevention and preparedness measures.

"Losses experienced through bushfire can be devastating. The Local Government and Emergency Services do everything within their capacity to manage situations such as bushfire, however property owners and occupiers also have an active part to play in protecting homes and property," said Paul Dickson, Manager of Emergency, Ranger and Beach Services.

"The recent above average "wet season", with heavy downpours late in the season, has generated an abundance of plant and grass growth," he said.

"Reducing this growth prior to the onset of the Bush Fire season makes sense, as does the clearing away of unnecessary rubbish and garden waste on properties. Remember being fire safe may save your life," said Mr Dickson.

To assist the community to keep safe from bushfire, the Shire has issued its annual Fire Break & Hazard Reduction Notice. All property owners and/or occupiers need to be aware of the requirement to comply with the Notice. Information contained in the Fire Break Notice is relevant to all property owners/occupiers.

The Fire Break Notice tells landowners/occupiers what actions must be undertaken and that all fire hazard reduction works must be carried out on rural and pastoral lands, townsite lands, rubbish sites, fuel dumps and depots by the 15th May 2007.

The Shire of Broome's Ranger Services, in accordance with the Bush Fires Act (1954) will perform checks on properties throughout the townsite to ensure all property is free from inflammable materials and landowners/occupiers have complied with the requirements of the Act prior to 15th May 2007.

The penalty for failing to comply with the Bush Fires Act (1954) is a fine of \$5,000 or a modified penalty of \$250.

To assist further in keeping the residents of the Shire of Broome safe from "Wildfire" you are encouraged to join the Broome Regional Volunteer Bushfire Brigade.

Fire safety is everyone's responsibility. **'Protect yourself, protect your community!'**

Further information on the Fire Break Notice, joining the Bushfire Brigade and/or preparing for the fire season can be obtained by contacting the Shire's Ranger Services on (08) 91 913 456 or FESA on (08) 9158 3200.

Ends