

Open air burning – Rural Zone

The following burning off regulations apply to residents and property owners whose property is in the Rural Zone.

Not sure which zone you live in? Check your zone at:
www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/burningoff

What is permitted in Rural Zone?

- Burning off for bushfire fuel reduction on Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.
- Alternative options, such as green waste bin service or bookable hard and green waste collections are available. Go to: www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/recycling for more information.
- Firepits and chimineas are permitted for use, for food and personal comfort, anytime except on CFA-declared Total Fire Ban Days, provided they do not cause an unreasonable nuisance and basic safety requirements are met. Go to: www.cardinia.vic.gov.au for more information.



Conditions	Rural Zones
Days when fires are permitted. No burning off in July.	Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays between 7am and 7pm
Number of fires permitted at any one time.	2
Minimum distance required from the edge of the fire to any buildings.	12 metres
Minimum fire break size (an area clear of combustible materials around the fire).	5 metres
Maximum size of fire (the size of the amount of material).	3 metres in any dimension

Other legal requirements

The following conditions must be met at all times:

- **No burning on a CFA-declared Total Fire Ban Day or during the fire danger period.**
- You **must** register your burn to ESTA/Triple Zero Victoria on 1800 668 511 or www.firepermits.vic.gov.au
- You must have the land owner or public land manager's consent.
- No burning on severe weather warning days as issued by the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM).
- No burning on days when the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Air Quality Index is 'poor', 'very poor' 'or hazardous'.
- Burning off is permitted for bushfire fuel reduction only.
- No burning of industrial or domestic waste.
- Use of accelerants is prohibited.
- Use of incinerators is prohibited.
- You must ensure all fires are attended at all times and be able to extinguish the fire at any time.
- All open air fires must be extinguished before being left unattended.
- You must comply with direction from emergency services or an authorised officer in respect of an open air fire.
- A person must not, without a permit, light a fire in a public place.
- Your open air fire must not be a danger or nuisance.
- You must take reasonable measures to advise neighbouring landowners and occupiers at least 24 hours prior to burning.

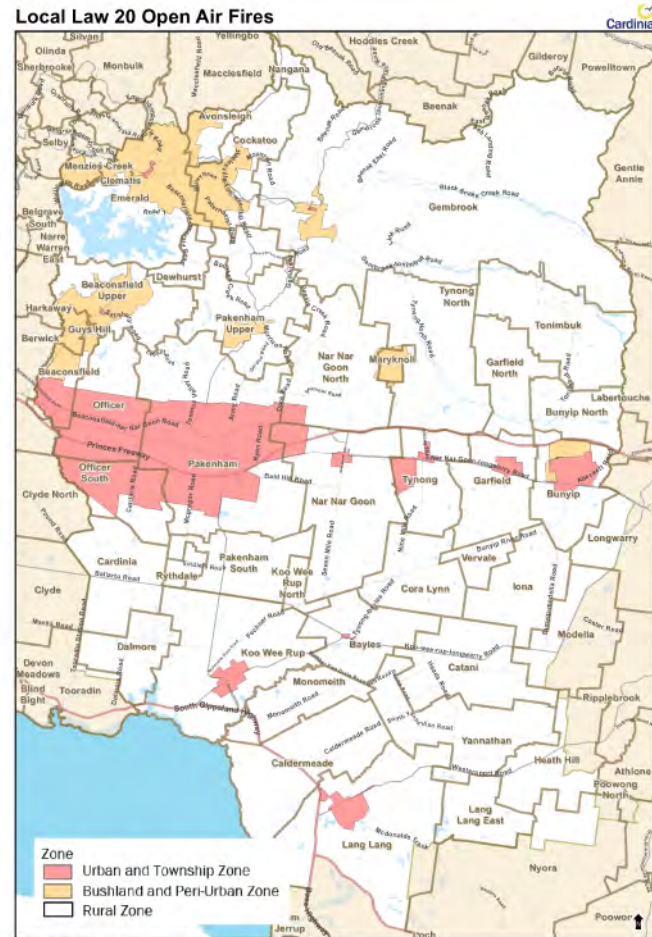
Why have a local law including open air burning provisions?

The *Cardinia Shire Local Law 20 Open Air Fires* came into effect on 1 July 2022. The open air burning provisions are in place to achieve a greater balance between managing fire risk and addressing environmental and health concerns. Council is committed to ensuring a safe and clean environment for all visitors and residents. As part of that commitment, Council's open air burning provisions aim to:

- minimise nuisance and hazards caused by smoke
- manage fuel loads
- minimise bushfire risk
- protect the amenity of Cardinia Shire.

The open air burning provisions are fully detailed in the *Cardinia Shire Local Law 20 Open Air Fires* which can be downloaded from Council's website: www.cardinia.vic.gov.au

Cardinia Shire Local Law 20 Open Air Fire Zones



For more information, including information about permits, visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au or go to www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/burningoff or contact Council on **1300 787 624**.

Burning off is a last resort

Burning off to reduce fuel loads on your property and to get rid of dry weeds, undergrowth, tree clippings and other vegetation should always be a last resort.

Alternatives to burning off include Council's optional green waste bin service or bookable hard and green waste collections. Please visit www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/recycling for more information.

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