



Keep You and Your Family Safe

If you are going to burn here are some tips to keep yourself and your family safe.

Keeping Safe

- Wear long sleeved natural fibre clothing, such as cotton or wool. Synthetic materials can melt and can cause severe injuries.
- Wear laced up leather boots and head protection.
- Plan how you are going to burn to ensure the weather conditions, fire breaks and methods for lighting up are right for the conditions.
- Always have a planned safe escape route away from the fire.
- Planning for the worst case, so you have adequate resources to control the fire if things don't go to plan and escape routes if necessary.
- Be flexible, if the weather changes during a burn, or the day is not right when you plan to burn, change your plans to suit the weather.

Know your responsibility

- It is the responsibility of the person lighting the fire to ensure there are sufficient resources on site to manage the fire and that the fire is contained at all times.
- A fire should not be lit unless public liability and fire suppression insurance is taken out.
- Liability for damage or fire suppression costs caused by any fire is the responsibility of the person lighting the fire.

Plan ahead

- Think about the time of year you want to burn. During March-April and September-October strong equinoctial winds make burning potentially dangerous and fire bans can be put in place during summer.
- Give your vegetation plenty of time to dry out. The majority of sap is water. Stacking your vegetation and leaving for up to six months will allow it to dry out and give you a much better burn.
- If possible cut and stack your vegetation in the spring and burn in the autumn. This gives the vegetation plenty of time to dry, producing a good clean burn and reduces the likely hood of fire escaping as we enter the wetter time of year.