

Preparing for the Fire Season

South Gippsland Shire Council is urging residents to ensure their properties are fire ready in preparation for the upcoming season.

The Country Fire Authority (CFA) will introduce the Fire Danger Period for South Gippsland on 19 November.

As an owner or occupier of property, there are a number of things that can be done to ensure your property does not pose a fire risk to yourself or others. This may include fire prevention works such as slashing all grass so it is no higher than 100mm and removing all fallen and/or dead vegetation.

To assist with preparing properties, Council's annual Green Waste Amnesty period is open until 31 December where local transfer stations will take green waste for free.

Community members are encouraged to look at the CFA information sheet, 'Can I or Can't I?', or the CFA website www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/can/ for answers to commonly asked questions about lighting fires during the Fire Danger Period and on Total Fire Ban Days.

South Gippsland Shire Council's Manager Regulatory Services Jamie Thorley highlighted the importance of having your property fire ready.

"Local Laws inspected approximately 1800 properties last season and issued 850 fire prevention notices directing land owners to reduce the risk of bushfire fuel from their property.

"There's a really positive reduction year-on-year on the number of property owners' failing to undertake proper fire prevention measures. To keep this positive momentum going, we need our community's help to ensure their property does not become a fire risk – otherwise, there is a real threat to lives and property if we don't," said Mr Thorley.

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