

Preparing for the Fire Season

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

Local Laws will begin property inspections this year after the Country Fire Authority declare the fire danger period. Fire prevention notices will be issued to land owners who need to reduce the risk of bushfire on their property by slashing grass and removing combustibles.

To ensure your property is prepared for the upcoming season make sure:

- Gutters are clear of leaf litter
- Grass is cut to less than 10 centimetres
- Flammable items are removed from decks and verandahs
- Overhanging branches are cut
- Dry grass, leaves, twigs and bark are removed
- Shrubs are pruned away from branches
- Woodpiles are moved away from the home

South Gippsland Shire Council's Manager Regulatory Services Luke Mullen wanted to remind residents of the importance of being prepared for the fire season ahead.

"Fire can have serious consequences, taking both assets and lives in some cases, it is in all our interest to ensure we do everything we can to prevent such an occurrence happening.

"The recent fires in New South Wales and Queensland are a clear indication of just how severe the upcoming fire season could be. We all have the responsibility to take action now and try reduce our risks.

"Council currently has a Green Waste Amnesty underway where all residents can take their green waste to local tips for free. This service is offered to help with fire season preparation," said Mr Mullen.

For advice regarding preparation for the upcoming fire season please contact Council's Local Laws team on 5662 9200 or visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au/prepare

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