

Fire Danger Period declared in South Gippsland Shire

The Country Fire Authority (CFA) declared Fire Danger Period is now in place across South Gippsland.

If property owners wish to burn in open air, a written permit from the CFA is now required.

South Gippsland Shire residents are reminded that burning is not the only way to reduce fuel loads. Residents are encouraged to use their green waste bins, make use of Council transfer stations, and employ contractors if they need help with maintaining their property.

Some things you can do around your property to ensure you are prepared this fire season are:

- Clear out gutters of leaf litter
- Cut grass to less than 10 centimetres
- Remove flammable items from decks and verandahs
- Cut overhanging branches
- Remove dry grass, leaves, twigs and bark
- Prune shrubs away from branches
- Move woodpiles away from your home

To help residents dispose of their green waste, Council introduced a Green Waste Amnesty period from 31 October to 31 December 2020.

This period allows residents to take their green waste to any Council transfer station for free.

Visitors to our area are also encouraged to check the CFA websites and take note of the restrictions relating to campfires and barbeques.

Quotes attributable to South Gippsland Shire Council's Manager Community Safety Luke Mullen:

South Gippsland Shire Council's Manager Community Safety Luke Mullen encourages all residents to abide by the rules enforced through the Fire Danger Period.

"This time of year is never easy. Bushfires have broken out in our Shire before and we need to be prepared. Fuel reduction and clearing your property are just a couple of ways you can protect your home, family and the community."

"Council transfer stations are open for those who don't have access to a green waste bin, or have too much waste. Council's Green Waste Amnesty was introduced to assist residents with removing potential fire hazards from their property. We encourage you all to take advantage of it while it is still open."

PR2610 16/12/20