



INVERELL SHIRE COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES BULLETIN

September 2014

BUSH FIRE PROTECTION

Now is the time to undertake maintenance around your property and home in preparation of the bush fire season.

Most people connect bush fire threat with close proximity to dense vegetation (e.g. Goonowigall Reserve, Clive State Forest, etc.). Whilst these areas pose a significant threat, a bush fire can also be sustained within grass paddocks and can spread long distances via wind blown embers. Therefore, a large number of properties within the Inverell Shire are at risk from a bush fire attack.

To prepare for the bush fire season, it is recommended that property owners:

- Maintain asset protection zones;
- Ensure that a water supply dedicated to fire fighting is available;
- Maintain any fire trails; and
- Mend any holes in the sub-floor, window or gutter guards.

The New South Wales Rural Fire Service provide useful information in relation to bush fire protection. Attached to this bulletin is the Fact Sheet—Bush Fire and Your Home, which outlines maintenance activities to be undertaken around your house and garden.

Please remember—not all homes can be protected. Your safety is always the first priority. Additional information in relation to bush fire protection can be found at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au.

TEMPORARY SWIMMING POOLS

As we approach the warmer months, the use of swimming pools will start to increase. Accordingly, residents are reminded that any pool that is capable of being filled with water to a depth of 300 millimetres (30cm) or more requires a pool fence (child-resistant barrier). This includes an inflatable, demountable or portable swimming pool.

Depending on the size, capacity and location of the temporary swimming, you may also require development consent from Council.

Many of these pools can be purchased over the counter at various retailers. It is always best to contact Council to check the requirements before making your purchase.

For further information in relation to swimming pool safety and regulations, Council's Assistant Building Surveyor can be contacted on 6728 8241.



CONTACT DETAILS

Anthony Alliston

Manager Development Services

0425 271 633

Mick Fox

Senior Building Surveyor

0409 368 371

Howard Marsden

Assistant Building Surveyor

02 6728 8241

Jade McIlwain

Assistant Building Surveyor

02 6728 8285

Elise Short

Trainee Town Planner

02 6728 8239

Chris Faley

Development Planner

02 6728 8251

Administration Centre, 144 Otho Street (PO Box 138), Inverell NSW 2360

Ph: 02 67 288 288 | Fax: 02 67 288 277 | www.inverell.nsw.gov.au



Bush Fire and Your Home

PREPARE YOUR HOME AND PROPERTY FOR BUSH FIRES

These maintenance tips may help prevent burning embers destroying your house:

- Install metal gutter guards
- Repair damaged or missing tiles on the roof
- Install fine metal mesh screens on windows and doors
- Fit seals around doors and windows to eliminate gaps
- Enclose the areas under the house
- Repair or cover gaps in external walls
- Attach a fire sprinkler system to gutters

DID YOU KNOW
Not all homes can be defended - your safety is always the first priority.



Things to do around your house and garden:

- keep lawns short and gardens well maintained
- cut back trees and shrubs overhanging buildings
- clean up fallen leaves, twigs and debris around the property
- have hoses long enough to reach around your house
- if you have a pool, tank or dam, put a Static Water Supply (SWS) sign on your property entrance
- check that your insurance is adequate and up to date
- complete your Bush Fire Survival Plan available at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au.

In a bush fire many houses are destroyed through ember attack, when burning twigs and leaves carried by the wind land on or around the house. Even houses away from the direct path of the fire can be affected.

Look for the places embers could start fires - on the roof, under the floor and around windows and doors – and take action to prevent them.

PREPARE.

ACT.

SURVIVE.

BUSH FIRE INFORMATION LINE | 1800 679 737

