

Council to Community

Do you need to do your Fire Breaks again?

There has been a little bit of rain this summer which has unfortunately resulted in sporadic fresh green growth around the Shire including on your fire breaks.

All property owners in the Shire of Gingin are required to maintain their fire breaks for the duration of the fire danger season which for our Shire, runs from 1 November until 31 May annually. This requirement is as per the *Bush Fires Act 1954* and the Fire Break Orders which are issued by the Shire to property owners annually in approximately August.

The Shire has received a large number of reports of fire breaks with fresh growth recently. It is important that you maintain your breaks because they are an indispensable defence method in the event of a bush fire. They not only act as an access track for emergency vehicles but they can also slow or halt the spread of grass fires and be used for back burning purposes.

Given two major bush fires have threatened properties and residents both this summer and last, there is no room for complacency. All property owners are reminded to check your fire breaks now. Inspections are ongoing throughout the Shire during the bush fire season and Fire Control Officers and Shire Rangers WILL issue infringements if your fire breaks do not meet the requirements of your Fire Break Orders.

The Shire is serious about bush fires and protecting properties and lives. Please do the right thing and make sure your fire breaks are maintained. This includes checking them yourself personally if you have had a contractor undertake your fire breaks because the responsibility of having maintained fire breaks lies with you as the property owner and not with any contractors that undertake this work for you.

Check your Fire Break Orders for your legal requirements on page 4. If you do not have a copy at home then you may view them on the Shire's website - www.gingin.wa.gov.au/fire-break-orders.

Further queries may be directed to Phil Barrett, Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, on 0408 943 576 during office hours.

**This edition of the Shire of Gingin's
Council to Community is brought to you by:**

CU@PARK

www.facebook.com/cu.at.park.gingin
(08) 9575 1338

Thank you to CU@Park for sponsoring the 2020 Rates Incentive Prize Night.

You are legally required annually to undertake the following at your property (unless a 'Recommendation' is indicated). Failure to do so will result in the issuing of an infringement.

Compliance is required by 1 November and must be maintained until 31 May annually.

- A** If your property is less than 0.4 Ha (option 1)
- B** If your property is less than 0.4 Ha (option 2)
- C** If your property is 0.4 Ha - 8 Ha
- D** If your property is 8 Ha or more

PROPERTY SIZE

A B C D

Install firebreaks that are 3m of bare earth for all external boundaries of the property including any areas planned for stubble burning.

✓ ✓ ✓

Install firebreaks that are a width of 20m for areas cleared for the purpose of burning (stubble burning excluded).

✓ ✓

Burn or slash all grass to a height no greater than 50mm.

✓

Trim all vegetation that overhangs driveways, access ways and firebreaks to leave a minimum vertical access clearance of 4m.

✓ ✓ ✓ ✓

For your assets it is **RECOMMENDED** that you maintain a 20m APZ surrounding all buildings, large hay stacks and fuel storage areas. Refer to page 15 of your Fire Break Orders for further information.

✓ ✓

For your assets it is **REQUIRED** that you maintain a 20m APZ surrounding all buildings, large hay stacks and fuel storage areas. Refer to page 15 of your Fire Break Orders for further information.

✓ ✓

For your assets trim back all vegetation overhanging structures.

✓ ✓ ✓ ✓

**The Shire now has this news and more in an e-newsletter!
SUBSCRIBE NOW (email or post) - call (08) 9575 5150**

April

#WeAreInThisTogether

Work/Asset Projects

The following projects have recently been **completed** by the Shire of Gingin:

- Re-roof of Granville Civic Centre
- Installation of Beach Emergency Number signs

The following projects are **currently in progress** around the Shire of Gingin:

- Upgrade of Granville Park Ablution Block – some items have been completed with re-roof and painting works. Works remaining are re-tiling of floor areas, minor plumbing replacements, external wall stone cladding. Works expected to be undertaken over 4-6 weeks.

The following projects are **due to commence** shortly in the Shire of Gingin:

- Re-roof of Gingin Bowling Club
- Drainage works at the CWA/Arts & Craft Building in Gingin
- Installation of new town entry statements for the Gingin town site
- Upgrade of the Guilderton Foreshore Ablution Block
- Installation of two replacement water monitoring bores within the Lancelin Sporting Complex by the Department of Water & Environmental & Regulation commencing the week of 1 March. This process is expected to take approximately 8 weeks

Further queries about these works may be directed to the Shire's Assets team on (08) 9575 5100, option 7.

Roadworks

The following roadworks have recently been **completed** by the Shire of Gingin:

- Maintenance grading on Wannamal South Road, Wannamal West Road, Red Gully Road, Pin Pin Road and Beermullah West Road

The following projects are **currently in progress** around the Shire of Gingin:

- Reconstruction of Cowalla Rd for 2.5km from Mimegarra Road heading towards Cowalla Bridge has been completed. Now awaiting sealing works
- Reconstruction of Mortimer St, Guilderton have commenced

The following roadworks are **due to commence** shortly in the Shire of Gingin:

- Resealing works on Bootoo St (Lancelin), Edwards St (Seabird), Mullins Way (Guilderton) and Weld St (Gingin).

Further enquires about these works may be directed to the Shire's Operations team on (08) 9575 5100, option 7.

Changes to Pool Hours from 1 April

From 1 April the Gingin Aquatic Centre's hours will be changing. Morning swimming will be coming to an end so the centre will just be open daily from 12pm - 6pm, weather dependent.

At this stage it is expected that the centre will close for this season after Sunday, 18 April. However again, this will be dependent upon the weather and it may be a few days earlier.

Staff at the centre have loved having everyone this season - it's been fantastic fun. They hope you'll continue to visit the centre still over the next few weeks.

Bush Fire Ready Group

Are you a Volunteer Firefighter? Could you be a Bushfire Ready Facilitator?

Bushfire Ready Facilitators are volunteer firefighters and they play a key role in coordinating their local communities to work together and undertake activities to reduce the risk of bushfires.

They also work closely with Street Coordinators and provide updates on bushfire information and resources.

The Shire's LEMC is seeking a local bushfire brigade/or services member to become a Bushfire Ready Facilitator to assist with the facilitation of Bushfire Ready Groups throughout the Shire.

The LEMC understands that this is a big additional responsibility for any volunteer to take on, especially since volunteers are already stretched quite thin between work, family commitments and volunteering.

This may be a role for a volunteer who is no longer comfortable on the fire ground but would still like to contribute to their brigade and the community.

DFES will support all Bushfire Ready Facilitators by providing access to the Community Preparedness Team and the LEMC team will also assist.

If you would like to nominate to take on this role as a Bushfire Ready Facilitator then please contact Cher Groves, Local Recovery Coordinator, via Cher.Groves@gingin.wa.gov.au or call (08) 9575 5138.

SAVE THE DATES!

- **10 April - Immerse Creative Arts Festival, Lancelin**
Visit www.gingin.wa.gov.au/events/ for more details
- **12-16 April - Youth Week Roadshow at various locations**
Visit www.gingin.wa.gov.au/events/ for more details
- **20 April - Ordinary Council Meeting at 3pm at the Shire Administration Centre, Gingin**
- **23 & 25 April - ANZAC Day Services throughout the Shire at various locations**
Visit www.gingin.wa.gov.au/events/ for more details