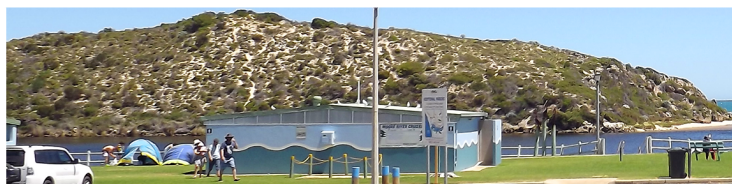


Council to Community

Guilderton Foreshore Ablution Works

From next week the Shire will be undertaking a series of works at the ablutions located on the foreshore in Guilderton. These works are being undertaken to address long outstanding issues and we trust that community members will exercise patience whilst these works are ongoing. The ablutions will remain open for public use but we ask that you please be aware of staff and contract workers moving in the vicinity undertaking these works.

Works will include plumbing upgrades, carpentry repairs/replacement, painting inside and out and a deep clean of the ablutions.



Restricted Burning Period

The Restricted Burning Period is tentatively due to commence from 1 March 2022 subject to conditions being appropriate. The weather has been extremely hot and dry recently so the Prohibited Period is likely to be extended at this stage.

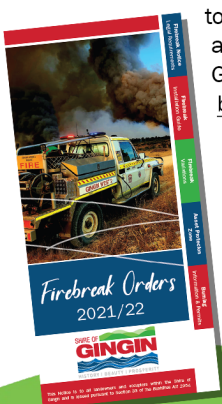
Residents of the Shire of Gingin district wishing to undertake any burning from when the Restricted Period commences are reminded that you will need to apply for a permit from your local Fire Control Officer (FCO) to burn any grass, paddocks, bush, etc. Refer to your Fire Break Orders (www.gingin.wa.gov.au/fire-breaks-bans-information) for a list of local FCOs.

REMEMBER – YOUR FIRE: YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

If you have misplaced your copy of your Fire Break Orders (posted to all rate payers last August) then copies are available for downloading from the Shire of Gingin's website – www.gingin.wa.gov.au/fire-breaks-bans-information.

REMEMBER - you must comply with the conditions set out on your Fire Permit. You are asked to comply with these conditions for a number of reasons including the safety of yourself and your neighbours.

Further enquiries may be directed to Phil Barrett, the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer for the Shire of Gingin, on 0408 943 576.



Lawn Mowing during Fire Bans

Of late the Shire has been receiving a lot of queries in relation to lawn mowing and if you are allowed to undertake this when either a Total Fire Ban or a Harvest, Hot Works & Vehicle Movement Ban (or both) has been put on.

To clarify, DFES has advised on their website that "this depends on how the equipment is powered. The operation of any equipment powered by an internal combustion engine on bush, crop, pasture or stubble (including residential grass/lawns) is not allowed. Exceptions may apply if the equipment is part of an agricultural activity and the local government hasn't implemented a Harvest Vehicle Movement Ban during the Total Fire Ban. There are further exceptions for business and industry (e.g. a lawn mowing business) where the conditions prescribed in the *Bush Fires Regulations 1954* are met, which include notifying DFES.

Electric or battery powered equipment or machinery can be used. However, activities that may cause sparks (e.g. mowing dry grass) should be postponed."

To summarise: it is preferred that if you can postpone it then you do so. However, if it's urgent that it be done then provided your grass isn't dried out then it can be done. This is subject to the provision however that it be done with either an electric or battery powered lawn mower. Or if you are a contractor/business undertaking mowing works and you have met the conditions prescribed under the Act and have notified DFES, then you are also permitted.

ENQUIRIES

Contact the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, Phil Barrett, on 0408 943 576 during office hours.

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**This edition of the Shire of Gingin's
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Thank you to Bendigo Bank for
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Incentive Prize Night.

March

#WeAreInThisTogether

Guilderton Boardwalk closed for Repairs

The boardwalk at Stephens Crescent in Guilderton has been temporarily closed after a recent inspection deemed it to be unsafe.

Shire staff are currently working on having repairs undertaken.

ENQUIRIES

Contact the Shire's Operations & Assets Department on (08) 9575 5100, option 7.

Cowalla Bridge Works from 28 Feb - 4 March

Maintenance works are required to be undertaken on Cowalla Bridge on Cowalla Road.

Consequently Cowalla Bridge will be closed from 6am - 6pm daily. The bridge will be open at night from 6pm - 6am to all traffic whilst these works are undertaken from 28 February to 4 March 2022.

The Shire will endeavour to undertake these works promptly during this time period although works may take an additional few days after the set time period.

The Shire understands that this bridge is on a major road with a decent amount of traffic so we thank the public in advance for your patience whilst we undertake these works.

Please plan ahead and travel east/west via Gingin Brook Road and onto either Indian Ocean Drive or Brand Highway. Bennies Road, Nabaroo Road and Karakin Road will be for local traffic only and not accessible for heavy vehicles.

ENQUIRIES

Contact the Shire's Operations & Assets Department on (08) 9575 5100, option 7.



Line Marking Gingin Brook Rd from 7 March

From 7 March the Shire's Operations team will be commencing line marking on Gingin Brook Road. This will take approximately 5-7 days. Motorists should expect delays and please take care of road workers on Gingin Brook Rd whilst these works are being undertaken.

ENQUIRIES

Contact the Shire's Operations Department on (08) 9575 5100.

Do you know how your Council operates?

Western Australia's Constitution requires that the State Government establish local governments to provide services for the community.

Local Governments are the closest tier of government to the community and are established under the *Local Government Act 1995*. This Act sets out that the general functions of a local government are to:

- Provide for good government;
- Provide services and facilities to meet the community's needs;
- Deliver services effectively and efficiently; and
- Be accountable to the community.

A Local Government comprises two parts – a Council and an Administration. The Council is responsible for:

- Setting the strategic direction of the council;
- Determining the range and scope of services to be provided;
- Approving the Annual Budget;
- Ensuring an appropriate administration structure; and
- Adopting policies.

The Council is made up of Councillors (also known as elected members) and the President or Mayor. Our Council is led by a President, (Towns and Cities are led by Mayors). The President does not have any more power than other Councillors but does have extra duties to perform such as chairing Council meetings, carrying out civic and ceremonial functions, liaising with the CEO and speaking on behalf of the local government.

The duties of a Councillor are to:

- Represent the interests of electors, ratepayers and residents;
- Provide leadership and guidance to the community;
- Facilitate communication between the community and the Council; and
- Participate in the local government's decision-making processes at Council and committee meetings.

Councillors have no power to act individually and decisions are made collectively at Council meetings.

To find out what the duties of the Administration is, how Councillors are elected, how you can participate in Council Meetings (Petitions, Deputations) and how to contact your local Councillor, please visit the Shire's website - www.gingin.wa.gov.au.

All of your Councillors (no matter where they live in the Shire) represent all community members across the Shire. If you have an issue you would like one of your Councillors to speak about on your behalf to the rest of Council then please contact them.

SAVE THE DATES!

- **1 March 2022 - Restricted Burning Period commences. This date is tentative due to recent hot and dry conditions.**
- **15 March 2022 - Ordinary Council Meeting at 3pm at the Shire Administration Centre, Gingin**
- **18 March 2022 - Community Funding Program application period closes. Apply via gingin.wa.gov.au/funding-and-grants**