

# CFS GUIDE

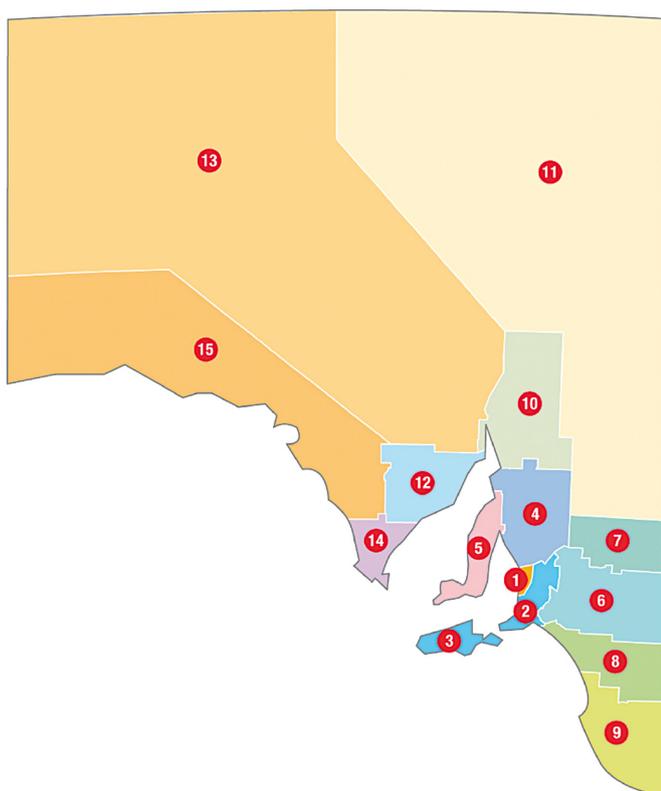
## The Fire Danger Season

The Fire Danger Season generally runs from November through to April, although these dates may change due to seasonal conditions.

The exact dates are published prior to the Fire Danger Season on the CFS website.

During the Fire Danger Season restrictions are placed on lighting fires to reduce the chances of large fires starting.

These restrictions are escalated when a Total Fire Ban Day is declared.



### Fire Ban Districts

South Australia is divided into 15 Fire Ban Districts.

The Fire Ban Districts are:

1. Adelaide Metropolitan
2. Mount Lofty Ranges
3. Kangaroo Island
4. Mid North
5. Yorke Peninsula
6. Murraylands
7. Riverland
8. Upper South East
9. Lower South East
10. Flinders
11. North East Pastoral
12. Eastern Eyre Peninsula
13. North West Pastoral
14. Lower Eyre Peninsula
15. West Coast

# The Fire Danger Season

It is important to know which districts you live in, you may travel through and you work in, as restrictions may differ for each district on a day-to-day basis.

Each district has individual Fire Danger Season dates.

Dates and restrictions for each district may vary due to fuel loads, rainfall, ground moisture levels, and population densities.

To find which district you live in and the Fire Danger Season dates for your district, visit the CFS website [www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au) and use the interactive map and map legend to find your location.

Alternatively, you can call the Information Hotline on 1800 362 361 (TTY 133 677).

## Fire Danger Ratings

Fire Danger Ratings indicate the degree of difficulty of stopping a fire under the predicted weather conditions.

The Bureau of Meteorology, in partnership with CFS, determines the Fire Danger Ratings based on a combination of predicted weather conditions and current observations.

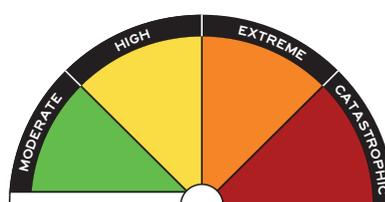
The official Fire Danger Rating for the following day is issued after 4:30pm by the CFS, and includes preliminary forecasts for the next four days.

The ratings do not predict how likely bushfires are to occur, but rather how a fire would behave if one started.

The higher the Fire Danger Rating, the more dangerous the fire conditions are in that district.

Fire Danger Ratings should be used to determine your Bushfire Survival Plan response for the following days.

Fire Danger Ratings forecast two to four days out should be used as a guide only and may change.



## KNOW YOUR DAILY FIRE DANGER RATING

<b>MODERATE</b>	<b>HIGH</b>
Plan and prepare.	Be ready to act.
<b>EXTREME</b>	<b>CATASTROPHIC</b>
Take action now to protect life and property.	For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas.

# The Fire Danger Season

## Total Fire Bans

The CFS Chief Officer declares a Total Fire Ban for each Fire Ban District on days where the Fire Danger Rating is Extreme or Catastrophic.

A Total Fire Ban day can be declared at any time of year and for any Fire Ban District.

The ban stays in place for 24 hours.

The CFS releases the information to the media the evening before the Total Fire Ban day to coincide with nightly news broadcasts.

Total Fire Bans can also be declared on the morning of a day if actual weather forecasts differ from predicted weather.

**Penalties of up to \$10,000 and two years' jail or on-the-spot fines of up to \$315 may be enforced if Total Fire Ban conditions are not met.**

	Fire Danger Season	Total Fire Ban Day
Do restrictions apply to me if I live in the city or a built-up area?	<b>Yes</b> Urban areas are included in Fire Ban Districts.	<b>Yes</b> Urban areas are included in Fire Ban Districts.
Can I light a fire or burn-off on my property?	<b>No</b> Unless you have a Schedule 9 permit from your local council.	<b>No</b> Fires are NOT permitted.
Can I burn rubbish or grass clippings?	<b>No</b> Unless you have a Schedule 9 permit from your local council.	<b>No</b> Fires are NOT permitted.
You must check with your local council for compliance with Environment Protection Authority restrictions.		
Can I have a fire in a forest reserve?	<b>No</b> No fires, including barbecues and campfires, are permitted in forest reserves between November 30 and April 30 each year. Gas barbecues may be permitted under certain conditions. For enquiries, contact the Forestry Reserve office.	<b>No</b> Fires are NOT permitted.
Can I have a fire in a National Park Reserve?	<b>No</b> Strict regulations apply in National Parks and Wildlife Reserves. For further information, contact the Park Office.	<b>No</b> Fires are NOT permitted.

	Fire Danger Season	Total Fire Ban Day
Can I use a gas or electric barbecue or cooking appliance?	<p><b>Yes</b> Providing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The barbecue or cooking appliance is clear of all flammable vegetation to a distance of at least 4 metres.</li> <li>A person who is able to control the fire is present at the site of the fire until it is extinguished.</li> <li>An appropriate extinguisher is at hand.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Yes</b> If it is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Within 15 metres of a domestic or commercial premises OR</li> <li>On a coastal foreshore.</li> </ul> <p>Providing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is clear of all flammable vegetation to a distance of at least 4 metres.</li> <li>A person who is able to control the fire is present at the site of the fire until it is extinguished.</li> <li>An appropriate extinguisher is at hand.</li> </ul>
Some local councils allow gas or electric barbecues in caravan parks or cleared picnic areas. Look for signs or contact the council for advice.		
Can I use a solid fuel (wood/charcoal/heatbeads) kettle barbecues?	<p><b>Yes</b> Provided that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The barbecue is clear of all flammable vegetation to a distance of at least 4 metres</li> <li>A person who is able to control the fire is present at the site of the fire until it is extinguished</li> <li>An appropriate extinguisher is at hand</li> </ul>	<p><b>No</b> Unless you have a Schedule 10 permit from your local council. These permits are generally only issued for emergency purposes.</p>
Can I use a pizza oven?	<p><b>Yes</b> Provided it is a gas or electric – see above for barbecues. Wood fired ovens should comply with CFS Code of Practice and must be in a properly constructed fireplace, have a 4m clearance from flammable vegetation, someone in attendance while it is lit and adequate extinguishing agent at hand.</p>	<p><b>No</b> Unless it is gas or electric – see above for barbecues – or you have a Schedule 10 permit from your local council.</p>

	Fire Danger Season	Total Fire Ban Day
Can I use a chainsaw, brush cutter, mower or slasher?	<p><b>Yes</b> Providing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A shovel or rake and portable water spray are at hand.</li> </ul> <p>Additionally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All engine exhaust exits through the exhaust system, and</li> <li>• The exhaust system prevents the escape of burning material,</li> <li>• Heated parts of the exhaust system are prevented from coming into contact with flammable material/vegetation,</li> <li>• The exhaust system is in good working order.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Yes</b> Providing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A shovel or rake and portable water spray are at hand.</li> </ul> <p>Additionally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All engine exhaust exits through the exhaust system, and</li> <li>• The exhaust system prevents the escape of burning material,</li> <li>• Heated parts of the exhaust system are prevented from coming into contact with flammable material/vegetation,</li> <li>• The exhaust system is in good working order.</li> </ul>
Can I use an angle grinder, welder or any other cutting tool that produces sparks outside?	<p><b>Yes</b> Providing you have a 10-metre cleared space around the area, and water or an extinguisher is at hand. A person able to control the device is present at all times while the activity is being undertaken.</p>	<p><b>No</b> Unless you have obtained a Schedule 10 Permit from your local council.</p>
Can I have a campfire, bonfire or light a fire for warmth or comfort?	<p><b>Yes</b> Providing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The fire is in a 30 cm deep trench and no more than one square metre in area.</li> <li>• You have a four-metre cleared space around and above the fire.</li> <li>• A responsible person is in attendance at all times with water and/or an extinguisher.</li> </ul> <p>Only charcoal can be used for comfort fires within a metropolitan area or township boundaries under EPA legislation.</p> <p>Check with your local council before lighting a comfort fire.</p> <p>The use of above ground fires such as chimineas, fire drums, braziers are only permitted with the appropriate permits.</p>	<p><b>No</b> Unless you have obtained a Schedule 10 Permit from your local council.</p>

	Fire Danger Season	Total Fire Ban Day
Can I use fireworks?	<p><b>No</b> Private use of fireworks is banned.</p> <p>Licensed pyrotechnicians may conduct public fireworks displays providing a Schedule 9 permit has been obtained from CFS.</p>	<p><b>No</b> Private use of fireworks is banned.</p> <p>Licensed pyrotechnicians may conduct public fireworks displays providing a Schedule 10 permit has been obtained from CFS.</p>
Can I smoke cigarettes?	<p><b>Yes</b> But you must not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Smoke within 2 metres of flammable bush or grass outside of a township (penalties apply).</li> <li>Throw a cigarette butt from a vehicle (penalties apply).</li> <li>Drop or throw a cigarette butt where it will come into contact with flammable vegetation (penalties apply).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Yes</b> But you must not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Smoke within 2 metres of flammable bush or grass outside of a township (penalties apply).</li> <li>Throw a cigarette butt from a vehicle (penalties apply).</li> <li>Drop or throw a cigarette butt where it will come into contact with flammable vegetation (penalties apply).</li> </ul>

Disclaimer: These regulations are accurate at the time of publication but may change. For the most up to date information visit the [CFS website](#).

**If you are in any doubt, call the Information Hotline on 1800 362 361 (TTY 133 677)**