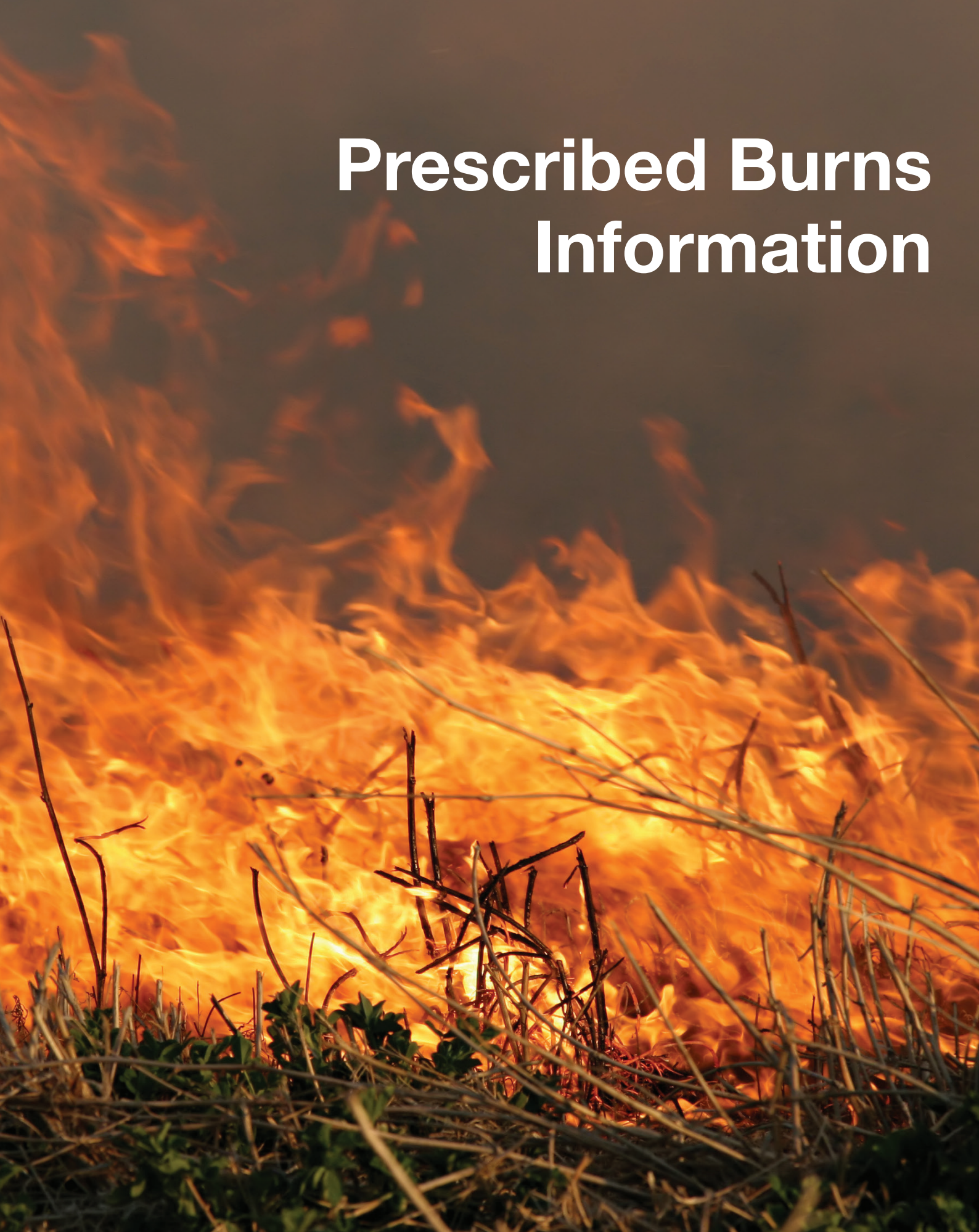


Prescribed Burns Information





Fire Management

Given Logan's leafy areas and large areas of natural bushland, bushfire is a potential threat, particularly in the drier months. Bushfire season can vary significantly from year to year, depending on the fuel loads, long-term climate and short-term weather conditions.

Logan City Council is responsible for the sustainable management of 900 parks and several bushland reserves in the city. This requires a proactive approach to minimising the dangers posed by uncontrolled bushfires, through the provision of targeted training, systems and procedures to facilitate fire management planning, implementation and monitoring across the City of Logan.

Council's fire management program is guided by the National Guidelines for Prescribed Burning Operations: Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council (AFAC) and is continually reviewed and improved. As part of the program Council undertakes a range of bushfire mitigation activities, including:

- prescribed burning to reduce fuel loads when weather conditions are favourable;
- regular fire break maintenance to ensure access is maintained for emergency vehicles and fuel reduced areas to limit fire intensity where access is not possible; and
- targeted community education to inform residents of actions they can take to better prepare for bushfires.

Prescribed Burn Program

Logan City Council's Prescribed Burn Program intends to strategically reduce the bushfire hazard in selected areas of parks and reserves throughout the city.

Council mitigates the impacts of bushfires by working in partnership with Queensland Fire and Emergency Services and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service to undertake planned burns on Council-owned land and State-controlled land.

Council staff involved in fire management activities are trained in bushland management, planned burning techniques and wildfire suppression.

What is prescribed burning?

Prescribed burning is the process of planning and using controlled fire in a predetermined area to reduce the amount of ground vegetation, decreasing the risk of serious bushfires occurring.

There are a number of factors that are considered when planning for prescribed burns. This includes the monitoring of fuel loads and weather conditions to identify when a prescribed burn can be conducted safely and effectively.

Prescribed burning is also referred to as planned burning, controlled burning, fuel reduction burn, prescription fire and prescription burn.

Why conduct prescribed burns?

Prescribed burning not only reduces fire fuel hazards but also helps to maintain biodiversity and assists with vegetation management across the City of Logan.

A prescribed burn is a planned operation used to achieve the following objectives:

- Reduce the fuel hazard rating in bushfire prone areas by slowly burning off undergrowth in controlled conditions;
- Improve forest health by allowing and promoting natural regeneration of local plant communities;
- Bushland safety by conducting the fire under a Permit to Light, issued by Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) in suitable weather conditions.

Reducing fuel hazards can make bushfires easier to control and also help prevent a bushfire spreading to residential areas.

How prescribed burns are managed

Prescribed burn season generally runs from April through to July and aligns with 'Operation Cool Burn', a key period when Queensland Fire and Emergency Services has a particular focus on bushfire mitigation. This timeframe can be extended based upon favourable seasonal conditions.

- Burn block selection is identified using a prioritised, risk based approach relating to overall bushfire risk, safety for operations staff and the impact on flora and fauna
- Council staff use online weather forecasts to determine the most suitable day to implement the prescribed burn as per the permit
- Council staff that develop and implement the Prescribed Burns are trained in conservation & land management, fire management and wildfire suppression.

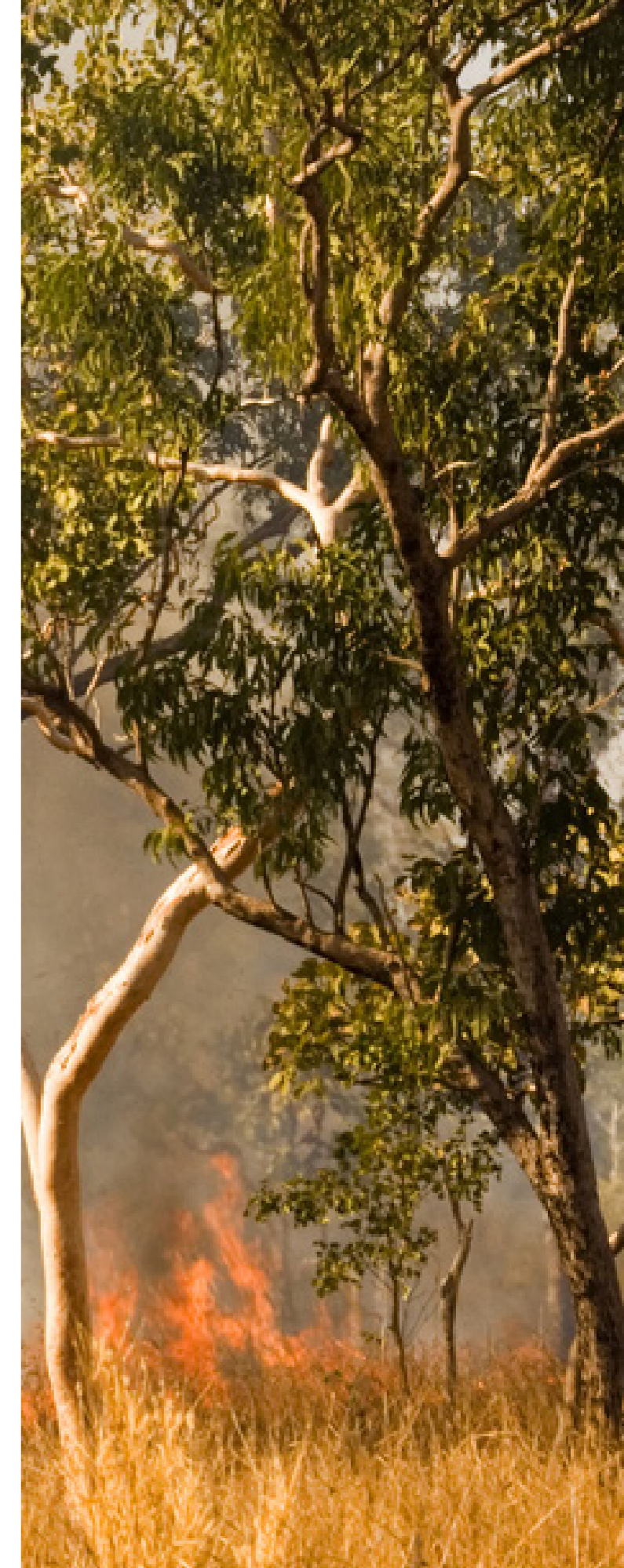
How we will let you know when prescribed burns are planned

Council will keep the community informed of prescribed burns by:

- Delivering community notifications via individual letter mail out to properties adjoining a reserve, as per the requirements in the Permit to Light; and
- Providing information via social media and the Council Website to provide a wider reaching communication leading up to a prescribed burn.

If a prescribed burn needs to be postponed, Council will advise the following:

- Burns postponed due to poor weather conditions will be rescheduled at the next suitable day; and
- If a prescribed burn is postponed until the next year's Burn Season, notification letters will be emailed or mailed to previously notified residents and key stakeholders informing them of the change in schedules.



How to prepare for a prescribed burn in your local area

A prescribed burn may cause some inconvenience however, you can prepare yourself and your property to reduce its impact by:

- closing doors and windows
- taking in washing
- limiting outdoor activities if smoke is a nuisance
- driving to suit conditions if there is decreased visibility

For more information on how you can prepare for a prescribed burn in your local area and the proposed locations please visit Council's website:

logan.qld.gov.au/prescribedburns

Prepare yourself and your property

You don't have to live in the bush to be threatened by bushfires, as fires can occur in suburbs where houses are surrounded by grassland, bush or parkland. When there is a bushfire in or near your area, you and your home may be affected by burning material, embers and smoke.

Residents as a private landowner are responsible for maintaining their own property safety and preparedness for bushfire.

There are a number of steps that residents can take to minimise the impact of bushfires:

- Prepare a Bushfire Survival Plan and contact your local fire brigade for more information and advice;
- Trim low-lying branches and native shrubs growing too close to the house;
- Remove all rubbish, leaf litter, firewood and fuel containers near the house;
- Mow your grass regularly to keep it short;
- If possible, make a firebreak around your home (use mower, rake, spade); and
- Some landowners may benefit from conducting controlled burns on their land with appropriate weather conditions, planning and advice. Landowners must seek information and approvals from their local fire brigade before conducting any burning on private property.

For more information on preparing for a bushfire, visit Council's website:



If you have any immediate concerns regarding bushfires please dial 000 or for more information, visit the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services website.