

 City of Mount Gambier	F125 CITY BURNING POLICY	Version No:	1
		Issued:	June 2018
		Next Review:	June 2020

1. INTRODUCTION

This document sets out the policy of the City of Mount Gambier (“Council”) for all burning activities within the City of Mount Gambier.

Scope

This policy applies to the burning of garden refuse, dry grass and materials for bushfire prevention in South Australia and is regulated by the Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005. In addition, the Environment Protection (Air Quality) Policy 2016 aims to protect and improve the environment and the health of South Australians by reducing the impact of smoke on human health.

Purpose

The City of Mount Gambier recognises the need for residents to utilise the method of burning to clear properties especially to minimise fire fuel loading and risk of bushfire outbreak. The purpose of this policy is to set out the requirements of the relevant legislation and instances when permits for burning are required.

2. BURNING IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS

No permits will be issued for burning in residential areas inside or outside the Fire Season.


3. BURNING - NO PERMIT REQUIRED

Pursuant to the Environment Protection (Air Quality) Policy 2016 introduced in July 2016 and subject to any ban, prohibition, restriction or other requirement under the Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005 residents may undertake the following burning activities:

- (1) **Except for Total Fire Ban Days**, light or maintain a fire in the open on and using charcoal, dry wood or other dry plant material such as paper, cardboard and garden pruning’s:
 - (a) for the purpose of preparing food or beverages;
 - (b) for a campfire or barbecue in the course of camping, scouting or a similar outdoor recreational activity.
- (2) **Except for Total Fire Ban Days**, burn charcoal, dry wood or other plant material such as paper, cardboard or garden pruning’s in a brazier, chimera or fire pit for domestic heating.

4. BURNING - PERMIT REQUIRED

Pursuant to the Environment Protection (Air Quality) Policy 2016 and the Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005, Council supports responsible burning of excess vegetation that may otherwise increase the risk of an uncontrolled fire. Council may issue a permit to larger properties outside residential areas for the purpose of bushfire prevention. Enquiries regarding applications to undertake controlled burning of stockpiled vegetation for bushfire prevention should be directed to the Councils Fire Prevention Officer.

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5. TOTAL FIRE BAN RESTRICTIONS

BURNING MUST NOT OCCUR ON DAYS DECLARED A TOTAL FIRE BAN

If a permit has been issued it becomes invalid on such days that any activities (e.g. welding, grinding, friction tools, burning) on a day of a total Fire Ban Day is declared, and MUST obtain a Schedule 10 permit prior to any activities undertaken.

6. RELEVANT DELEGATED POWERS AND DUTIES

Any actions or decisions made regarding this policy, will be enacted in accordance with Council's current Delegations Register.

7. REVIEW AND EVALUATION

This Policy is scheduled for review by Council in February 2020; however, will be reviewed as required by any legislative changes which may occur.

8. AVAILABILITY OF POLICY

This Policy will be available for inspection at Council's principal office during ordinary business hours and on the Council's website www.mountgambier.sa.gov.au. Copies will also be provided to interested members of the community upon request, and upon payment of a fee in accordance with Council's Schedule of Fees and Charges.

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File Reference:	AF18/49
Applicable Legislation:	Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005 EPA (Air Quality) Policy 2016
Reference: Strategic Plan – Beyond 2015	
Related Policies:	N/A
Related Procedures:	N/A
Related Documents:	Council By-Laws

DOCUMENT DETAILS

Responsibility:	General Manager City Growth
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