

How to burn off safely

The City of Ballarat has created **Community Local Law 2017 – Clause 15 Burning** to minimise community and environmental harm as a result of burning any offensive materials, emission of smoke and odour entering neighbouring properties.

If you want to burn off....

Do

- ✔ Apply for and obtain a City of Ballarat local law permit to burn in the open, outside the Fire Restriction Period
- ✔ Remember – outside the Fire Restriction Period, local law permits are not required if the land is zoned Rural Living or Farming and is larger than two hectares
- ✔ Remember – outside the Fire Restriction Period, local law permits are not required if you're using a portable barbecue for cooking food or a properly constructed fireplace for outdoor heating
- ✔ Apply for and obtain a permit to burn within the Fire Restriction Period from the City of Ballarat Municipal Fire Prevention Officer. Remember: Burn offs are only issued for broadacre burning for stubble and grass as part of farming practices during this time
- ✔ Ensure open-air fires are a distance of five metres from property boundaries and buildings
- ✔ Clear any flammable material for a radius of three metres around the fire
- ✔ Ensure fires are supervised by an adult at all times and are not left unattended
- ✔ Ensure an appropriate water supply, such as a working hose, is available
- ✔ Notify neighbours of an open-air burn
- ✔ Ensure your open-air burn is registered with the CFA Burn Off line on 1800 668 511
- ✔ Ensure a fire lit for cooking or warmth is in a barbecue or properly constructed fireplace

Don't

- ✘ Burn on a day declared a Total Fire Ban. No fires can be lit in the open from 12.01am to 11.59pm. Using incinerators or welding, gas-cutting, soldering, grinding, charring and heating bitumen is also prohibited
- ✘ Burn green and wet garden waste and leaves. Mulch them instead
- ✘ Burn green or wet material, non timber-based building materials, rubber or plastic, including plastic mulch, plant pots and packaging materials
- ✘ Burn furnishings and carpet, manufactured chemicals, petroleum or oil products, paint, including containers in which paint is kept
- ✘ Burn food waste, manure and straw or other offensive, noxious or toxic matter as determined by an Authorised Officer
- ✘ Light fires on a windy day, when wind speed is more than 10kph
- ✘ Burn off if you have access to the City of Ballarat's Green Waste Collection.

Remember: On-the-spot fines can be issued to anyone not complying with the local law or lighting a fire when a local law permit is required.

For more information on how to apply for a local law permit visit ballarat.vic.gov.au. To find out more visit cfa.vic.gov.au

Customer Service

Monday to Friday 8:15am–5:00pm

The Phoenix, 25 Armstrong Street South, Ballarat

✉ info@ballarat.vic.gov.au

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