



FARM FIRE SAFETY CHECKLIST

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➤ PROTECT YOUR ASSETS, HOME AND FAMILY



FUEL REDUCTION

- Keep fuel loads to a bare minimum around house blocks, sheds and other assets
- Create a heavily grazed area where stock can be moved on fire risk days
- Maintain slashed or mown fuel breaks to a width of at least 3 metres



HAY

- Use a probe to test for heat and look out for warning signs such as steam, unusual smells or slumping
- Allow for airflow by not stacking hay right up against the roof of sheds
- Store hay in multiple locations to avoid large losses



MACHINERY & HARVESTERS

- Check and clean machinery thoroughly before using for the first time
- Equip harvesters and other large machinery with appropriate fire extinguishers and a shovel
- Think twice before harvesting, grinding, welding or slashing on hot, dry, windy days
- Take regular breaks to check for straw or grass build-up and overheating bearings



AROUND THE HOME

- Have one smoke alarm on each level of the house and in each bedroom where someone sleeps with the door closed
- Check your chimneys and flues before winter for birds' nests, cracks, rust or damaged internal fire bricks
- Always use a fire screen in front of an open fire
- Replace damaged appliances such as heaters or power boards immediately



BURNING OFF

- *Always register your burns:* call 1800 668 511 or email burnoffs@esta.vic.gov.au
- Never leave a burn-off unattended
- Always have resources on hand to contain the fire if necessary



RESPONSE & SUPPRESSION

- Check, service and recharge all knapsacks and extinguishers before the Fire Danger Period
- Phone 000 as soon as you detect a fire. It takes time to get a fire truck on site
- Ensure everyone knows how to use the private firefighting equipment on your property
- Keep a fire extinguisher inside the house and a fire blanket handy in the kitchen



ACCESS FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES

- Make sure your property name and number are clearly visible from both directions at the property entrance
- Make sure a truck can turn around in access tracks near to house blocks, sheds and fences
- Clearly mark all water supplies and ensure water tanks have CFA compatible fittings



BE PREPARED TO ACT QUICKLY IN AN EMERGENCY

- *Have essential items prepared and ready to go:* medications, bottled water, first aid kit, photos, valuables, a battery-powered radio, 100% woollen blankets and essentials for your pets
- Scan important documents including current inventories of feed, stock and fencing onto a CD or memory stick and keep a copy stored off your property
- Keep important contact numbers (family, neighbours, vets, stock agents and insurance) in an easy to access place