



2024 Fire Hazard Reduction Notice Review

Community Information Webinar

July 2024

Acknowledgement of Country



Ngalak Maali Boodja Kadij, Whadjuk Moort
Noongar Boodjara, Baalap Kalyagool Noyyang,
Boodja Kep Moort, Ngalak Kwabaduk Wirn,
Kabarli Bworan Kora Kora, Yeyi Ngoongoolong.

The City of Swan acknowledges the traditional
custodians of this region, the Whadjuk people of
the Noongar nation and their continuing
connection to the land, waters and community.
We pay our respects to Elders past and present,
and their descendants.

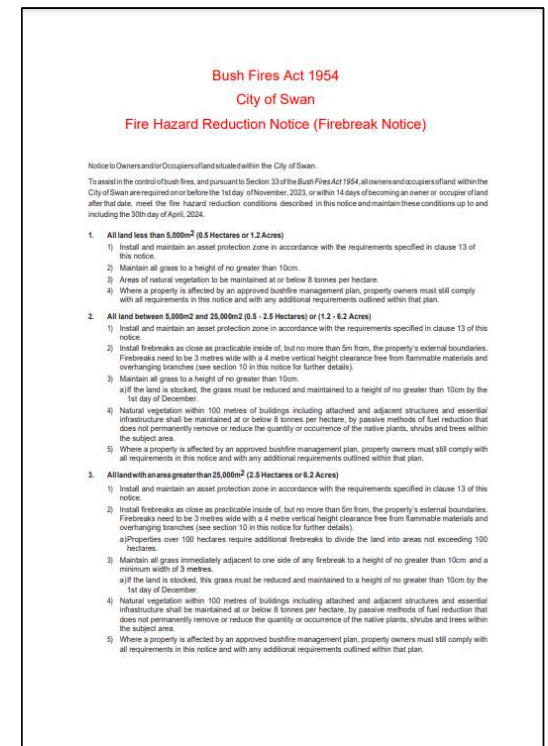
Agenda

- What is a Fire Hazard Reduction Notice?
- Why is the City reviewing the Notice?
- Key changes to the proposed draft Notice
- Determining your property category and hazard reduction requirements
- What help and resources are available
- Community Consultation – how to have your say

What is a Fire Hazard Reduction Notice?

Under Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954 (WA)

- A legislative document that gives local government powers requiring landowners or occupiers to put in place measures to prevent or minimise the spread of bushfire
- An important tool to keep community safe, protect assets, protect natural environment and consider place values.
- Gazetted in September every year prior to fire season



Project Background

In 2024 the City undertook a significant review of the Fire Hazard Reduction Notice (the Notice) to align with the new WALGA and DFES Guidance note and to incorporate community feedback.

- Redundant or unnecessary provisions removed
- Shortened and clearer layout
- Acknowledging changes and development within areas of the City of Swan
- Aligning with State-level Planning and Strategic documents.

This is our first major review* in 10 years and we are inviting feedback from community and key stakeholders.

**minor reviews of the Notice are undertaken every year prior to Gazetting and fire season*



Project Timeline



Early 2024

Major review of the draft Notice and internal stakeholder consultation



July

Community and stakeholder consultation

Survey open
8 July – 2 August



August

Revision and Council endorsement



September

Gazette the new Notice and distribute 2024/25 Fire Season Guide



1 November

Compliance with the Notice begins

Key changes to the Notice



Minor Changes

- Firebreaks, Fire Service Access Routes, Emergency Access Ways and driveway clearance heights increased from 4m to 4.5m
- Removal of separate category for plantations
- Burning and Cooking Fires references removed
- Heritage consideration noted



New Category Variation

If your property is over 5,000m² (½ Hec/1.2 acres) you **do not** require boundary firebreaks **IF 90% of your property is covered by a combination of ..**



Buildings



**Non-
vegetated
areas**



**Irrigated
orchards
and/or
vineyards**

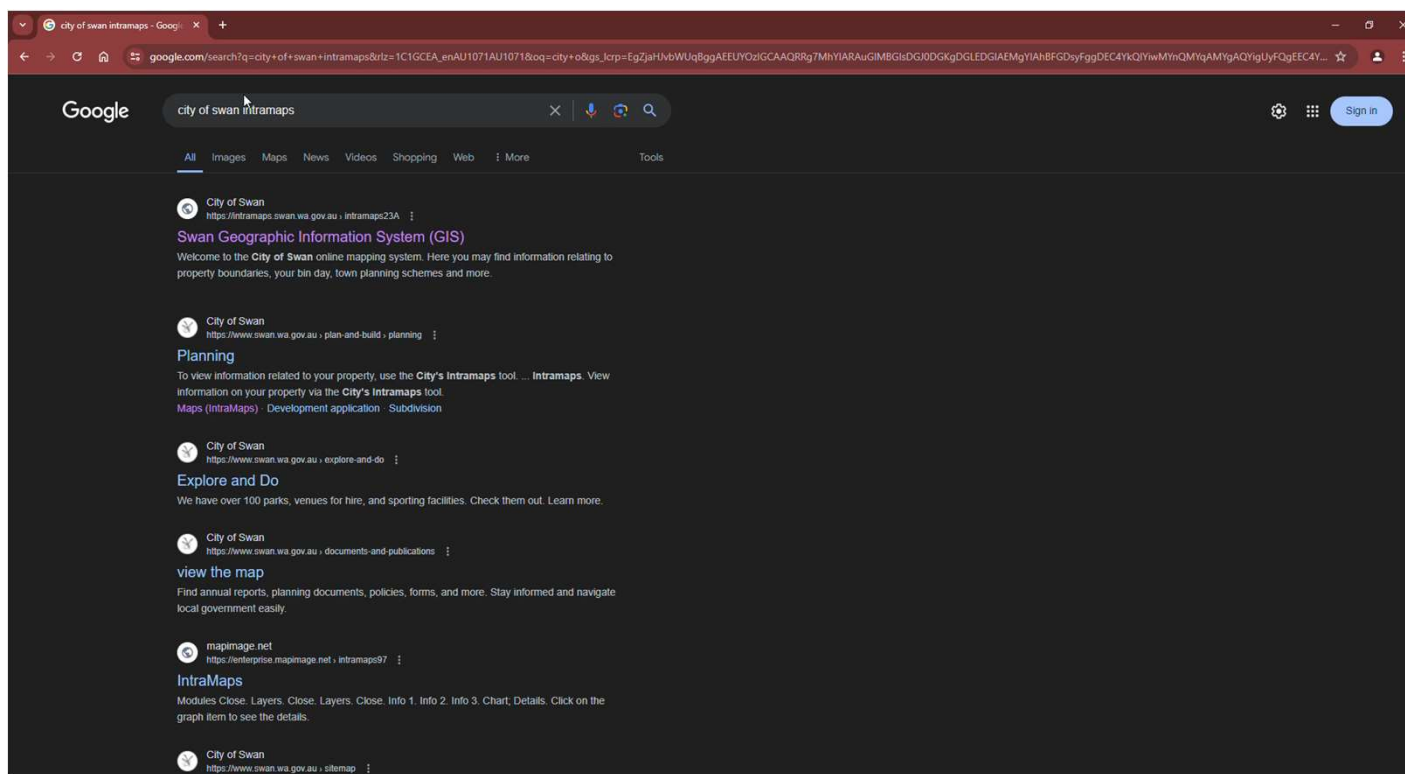
All other requirements in the Notice must be adhered to including:

- **All grass height to <10cm**
- Firebreaks around stockpiled flammable material & fuels
- Asset Protection Zones

New Category Examples



How do I check my property size?



$(\text{New Category Area} \div \text{Total Property Area}) \times 100 =$
If this is more than 90 you may not require
a boundary firebreak

$$21,983 \div 23,941 = 0.92$$

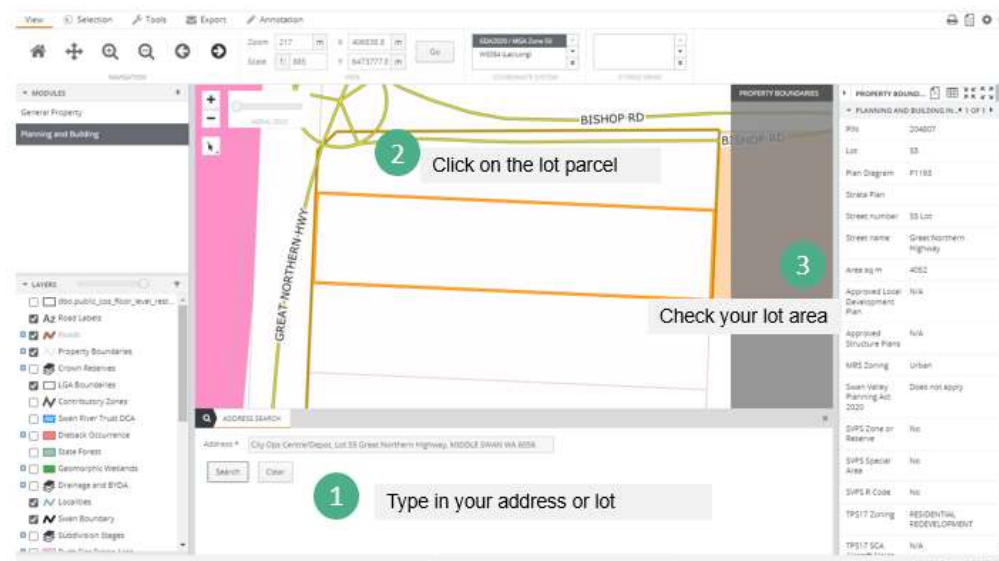
$$0.92 \times 100 = 92\%$$

Contact the City of Swan if you are not sure if you qualify for boundary firebreak exemption

How do I check my property size?



- Access the [City of Swan Intramaps](#) page via the Swan Engage project page (or Google)
- Type in your address and navigate to your property. Click and check total property area. Navigate to Tools, then use the area tool to map out any buildings, non-vegetated areas, and irrigated orchards/vineyards.
- Refer to the draft Notice or Fact Sheet to understand your requirements.



$(\text{New Category Area} \div \text{Total Property Area}) \times 100 = \text{If this is more than 90 you may not require a boundary firebreak}$

Resources for property owners

- Check out the City's current Fire Season Guide (resource links on **Swan Engage**)
- Check out guidance from DFES on construction and maintenance of firebreaks (resource links on **Swan Engage**)
- Review DFES Bushfire Preparation advice at <https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/hazard-information/bushfire/prepare>



Community consultation

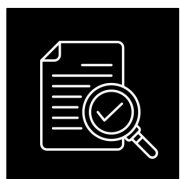
Head to **Swan Engage** and read the draft Notice, learn about the project and take our **Community Survey**.

Complete your feedback by Friday 2 August.

Register your interest for future bushfire preparedness updates and events.



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Thank you

Community Safety Team