

# FACT SHEET

## Lighting Fires

The *Fire and Rescue Service Act 1990* is the principal legislation that deals with lighting fires in the open in Queensland.

The *Fire and Rescue Service Act 1990* makes it illegal to light a fire without a 'Permit to Light Fire' issued by a fire warden.

### Obtaining a Permit to Light Fire

Visit the Queensland Rural Fire Service website to obtain a permit [www.ruralfire.qld.gov.au](http://www.ruralfire.qld.gov.au)

### Control Burn on Council Land

Where a land owner is making an application to QFRS for a controlled burn on Council land, they will need to obtain permission from Council's Fire Management Officer on 1300 308 461 to support their application.

### Fires that do not Require a Permit

Fires exempt from requiring a Permit:

- Fires that are less than 2 metres in any direction.  
Note: These fires are not exempt during a declared Fire Danger Period and at those times a permit must be obtained from a fire warden.
- Fires lit outdoors in a properly prepared fireplace for the purpose of cooking (e.g. BBQ and campfires). In this instance it is the responsibility of the person lighting or maintaining the fire to ensure adequate precautions are taken to prevent the spread of fire.
- Certain fires used by primary producers and for industrial purposes.

**RING TRIPLE ZERO (000) TO REPORT WILDFIRE EMERGENCIES.**

### Council Local Law & Prohibited Fires

Council is responsible for regulating fires that are smaller than 2m x 2m.

#### **COUNCIL DOES NOT ISSUE PERMITS TO LIGHT FIRES.**

Council's Local Law No 3 prohibits the lighting of fires in many circumstances.

### If you are caught lighting Fires

Council Officers may issue fines to the person responsible for lighting the fire or alternatively to the property owner.

You **MUST NOT** light or maintain a fire, including the use of an incinerator (less than 2m x 2m) if it is:

- Within 100m of residence;
- Unless it is directly related to cooking or heating or
- The fire is for a Traditional Smoking Ceremony, and
- All reasonable and practical measures have been taken to control & minimise smoke created by the fire.
- Grass cuttings, leaves, green waste and any other household waste are not suitable fuel for burning.

A person must not light or maintain a fire that causes smoke or other products of combustion and is likely in the opinion of Council Officers, to cause irritation, annoyance, or distress to others.

### Where do I go for help

Visit the Queensland Rural Fire Service website [www.ruralfire.qld.gov.au](http://www.ruralfire.qld.gov.au) for more information

or

Council Officers are available to discuss any concerns relating to lighting fires.

