Bare earth, low vegetation and clean gutters are a great way to reduce bushfire risk on your property.

Rural property
Bushfire Planning Guide

Are you prepared?
**Having a bushfire plan helps:**

- landowners understand and manage risk
- compliance with the Bushfire Management Act 2016
- increase the level of community preparedness
- start a conversation between families and neighbours

**Your legal responsibility**

- You need a permit to burn all year around if you live in the Fire Protection Zone. Contact your local brigade or Bushfires NT for a permit.
- Even with a permit you cannot burn on a fireban day.
- You need no less than a 4m firebreak around the boundary of your property, structures and stationary engines. Firebreaks can be slashed, graded or sprayed with herbicide. Check if you can drive around these in a truck.
- Gamba grass must be managed within 15m of boundary, internal roads and structures.

**Making your place less flammable**

- clean gutters and cut back overhanging trees
- sprinkler systems, green spaces and bare ground are effective in slowing fire down
- store flammable material in a safe place
- slash, burn, spray or graze grasses down with stock
- manage grassy weeds

**Things needed to fight the fire**

- protective clothing
- portable water tank and pump
- water filling point such as a bore, dam, tanks or swimming pool
- long hoses

Firebreaks aren’t there to stop fire, they provide safe access for firefighters

Keep flammable material away from structures
Create your own bushfire plan

- From the left hand layers panel, click the plus next to basemaps and select background (e.g. Google satellite)
- Go to the top line menu and select name your property, click generate
- List your property uses (e.g. horticulture - mangoes)
- List your fire management objectives (e.g. exclude fire from mangoes)
- Mark zones, firebreaks and other features on the printed map with a pen (e.g. water, irrigation, gates) and list your fire management actions for each zone
- Talk to your neighbours about your plans and record their contact details

Example: Small property bushfire plan for blocks less than 100ha

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOT NUMBER</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>PHONE</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency</td>
<td>000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bushfires NT Batchelor</td>
<td>8976 0098</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My Volunteer Brigade</td>
<td>0300 000 001</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jon Citizen</td>
<td>0300 000 002</td>
<td>Not home Tuesdays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mary Smith</td>
<td>0300 000 003</td>
<td>Weekender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Tuan Nguyen</td>
<td>0300 000 004</td>
<td>Market gardener</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Thor Strongman</td>
<td>0300 000 005</td>
<td>Retired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Minh Yeow</td>
<td>0300 000 006</td>
<td>Vacant block</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Wanda Pluto</td>
<td>0300 000 007</td>
<td>Earthmoving company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Manolis Sikarkis</td>
<td>0300 000 008</td>
<td>Sunset Tourist Park</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Property uses
- Tourism
- Rural lifestyle/haven
- Nature (no livestock or pets)

Fire management objectives
- Protect buildings and guests by excluding fire from infrastructure zone
- Protect rainforest by excluding fire
- Manage fuel in woodland zone

Fire management actions
- Maintain perimeter and internal fire breaks
- Mow to keep grass low
- Use sprinklers
- Create bare earth buffers
- Conduct planned burns early in the dry or wet season
- Check firefighting equipment (fire trailer) and water supply
- Manage grassy weeds (slashing, spraying, burning)
- Clean gutters and trim trees close to buildings
Stay or go? You decide

When a wildfire comes you must decide whether to leave early or stay and defend. Either way, being prepared will reduce the risk to your family and property.

Think about the following:
- Can you see smoke? If so, what direction is it? Where is the wind coming from?
- Is your property clearly identified with a street number or lot number?
- Where will you go if you leave?
- Are gates locked? Leave gates unlocked during wildfires.
- Plan for pets/livestock (e.g. have horse in float and prearrange friend where you can take it).
- Move stock into grazed paddocks.
- Activate your Bushfire Action Plan (example below).

Wildfire information

- **Call 000**, they will contact Bushfires NT who will respond appropriately.
- Bushfires NT Facebook page [www.facebook.com/BushfiresNT](http://www.facebook.com/BushfiresNT)
- Bushfires NT Twitter [twitter.com/bushfiresnt](http://twitter.com/bushfiresnt)
- Check bushfire alerts on SecureNT [securent.nt.gov.au](http://securent.nt.gov.au)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alert level</th>
<th>What it means</th>
<th>Your plan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Emergency Warning   | • highest level of bushfire alert  
                      • you may be in danger and need to take action immediately  
                      • any delay now puts your life at risk | □ leave or retreat to safe zone  
                      □ ensure all visitors are leaving/have left |
| Watch and Act       | • there is a heightened level of threat  
                      • conditions are changing  
                      • take action now to protect your family and your property | □ call local bushfire brigade or neighbours  
                      □ unlock all gates to allow easy access for fire brigade  
                      □ prepare firefighting equipment  
                      □ ask visitors to prepare to leave (e.g. move caravans off site) |
| Advice              | • a fire has started in the area  
                      • monitor the situation for changes  
                      • decide what to do if situation changes  
                      • check social media/websites to stay informed | □ turn sprinklers on  
                      □ inform visitors of the situation  
                      □ advise guests of muster point location  
                      □ contact friends/neighbours for assistance  
                      □ monitor situation |

Example Bushfire Action Plan: Sunset Tourist Park

Sprinklers can be used to wet down vegetation in the event of wildfire

### Protect life, property and environment from the threat of wildfire

**IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY DIAL 000**