



NEW SPRING  
CHURCH

**PROCEDURE:  
CHURCH BONFIRES AND FIRE PITS  
AND  
GARDEN REFUSE AND RUBBISH FIRES**

## **1. Purpose**

The following are to be implemented at any time a need arises for a fire to be lit for social gatherings, grounds maintenance or any other purpose.

The organiser must pay particular attention to the time of year and any applicable restrictions/prohibitions pertaining to the lighting and management of fires that, as imposed by the City of Armadale and/or the Department of Fire and Emergency Services.

Once the relevant conditions have been met, permission must first be obtained from the Executive Pastor to use the church grounds for the lighting of fires, regardless of the purpose for doing so.

***It is an offense to light any type of fire in the event the Department of Fire and Emergency Services has declared a Total Fire Ban.***

## **2. Personal Protection (recommended)**

### Garden Refuse and Rubbish

It is important to wear loose-fitting clothing made from natural fibres, such as pure wool, heavy cotton drill or denim, to protect oneself from injury. Suitable protective clothing include:

- ☐ long-sleeved shirt
- ☐ long trousers/jeans
- ☐ enclosed footwear
- ☐ goggles or safety glasses
- ☐ leather or fire-proof gloves

### Bonfires and Fire Pits

The above requirements as to suitable protective clothing applies to the person in charge of the fire.

The use of sensible non-flammable clothing and closed footwear applies to all other participants.

## **3. Garden Refuse and Rubbish**

### Period: June 1 to September 30

Garden refuse may be burnt without a permit during the burning-permitted period between 1 June and 30 September each year, giving consideration to the following:

- ☐ there is at least a 3-metre fire break around the fire (recommended);
- ☐ the fire is at least 20 metres from any buildings (recommended);
- ☐ the smoke does not cause a nuisance to neighbours;
- ☐ the smoke does not create a traffic hazard;
- ☐ the fire is not used to burn household or commercial waste or any noxious or toxic materials; and
- ☐ the fire is not used to burn green or wet material.



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**Important:**

1. In accordance with Clause 49 (2) (a) of the *City of Armadale Environment, Animals and Nuisance Local Laws 2002*, it is prohibited to do a garden refuse and/or rubbish burn on a Sunday or Public Holiday.
2. Even if a fire permit has been issued, fires are not to be lit when the
  - ☐ Fire Danger Rating is classified as Very High or above; or
  - ☐ during a Total Fire Ban.

Period: October 1 to November 30 and April 1 to May 31

A permit to burn (set fire to bush on land in the City of Armadale) is required for the burning of any bush, large quantities of garden rubbish or refuse between 1 October and 30 November and 1 April and 31 May.

The following restrictions must be adhered to:

- ☐ the fire can only be lit between 6 pm and 11 pm
- ☐ the fire must be completely extinguished by midnight;
- ☐ a 5-metre-wide area, clear of any flammable material, must surround the pile;
- ☐ only one heap may be being burnt at any one time;
- ☐ at least one capable person must stay with the fire until it is completely extinguished;
- ☐ a means of extinguishing the fire must be available at all times (e.g., garden hose, knapsack spray or fire unit);
- ☐ neighbours must be informed of the intention to burn;
- ☐ the smoke must not cause a nuisance to neighbours;
- ☐ the smoke must not create a traffic hazard; and
- ☐ household or commercial waste, or any noxious materials must not be burned.

**Important:**

1. Even if a fire permit has been issued, fires are not to be lit when the
  - ☐ Fire Danger Rating is classified as Very High or above; or
  - ☐ during a Total Fire Ban.
2. During the period December 1 to March 31, inclusive
  - ☐ All burning of grass/bush, garden refuse and solid fuel devices (wood, heat beads, etc.) such as pizza ovens, fire pits and BBQs is strictly prohibited.

**4. Bonfires and Fire Pits**

With reference to the applicable parts of Garden Refuse and Rubbish (above), and only after permission has been granted by the Executive Pastor, the following must also be implemented for social bonfires and/or fire pits, etc.:

- ☐ a responsible person of at least eighteen years of age or older to be present at all times;
- ☐ participants must be advised that only a responsible adult will be permitted to add fuel to the fire and/or make any adjustments to the burning wood;
- ☐ the person-in-charge will ensure that any cooking of food (e.g., marshmallows) is undertaken in a safe manner by all participants; and
- ☐ the fire must be completely extinguished and left in a safe manner at the conclusion of the event.