Shire of Mt Marshall

THE SANDALWOOD SHIRE

18 October 2021

DIARY DATES

26 October 2021
Recycling Collection

15 November 2021
Ordinary Meeting of Council @ 3pm in Council Chambers

COUNCILLORS

Cr Tony Sachse
President
P: 0429 851 257
crsachse@mtmarshall.wa.gov.au

Cr Nick Gillett
Deputy President
P: 0427 862 060
crgillett@mtmarshall.wa.gov.au

Cr Tanya Gibson
P: 0427 976 880
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Cr Leeanne Gobbart
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Cr Stuart Putt
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Cr Ian Sanders
P: 0427 851 213
crsanders@mtmarshall.wa.gov.au

NO LICENSING AVAILABLE - TUESDAY 26 OCTOBER



Due to IT upgrades taking place in the Shire office on ***Tuesday 26 October*** there will be no licensing available between 11.30am and 2.30pm on this day. We apologise for the inconvenience.

PARKS AND GARDENS OFFICER VACANCY

The Shire of Mt Marshall is seeking a competent and enthusiastic Parks and Gardens Officer to provide attentive care for our numerous parks and gardens, recreation centres, fully grassed reticulated oval, caravan parks, and botanic gardens. The job is based in Bencubbin and involves a diverse range of duties and will be ideal for you if you like variety in your work and are self motivated.

A 'C' class driver's license is a minimum requirement for the position and remuneration is in accordance with Level 4 — 5 of the Local Government Industry Award 2010, dependant on experience. Subsidised Shire housing may be provided and negotiated with the preferred applicant.

Applications are now open and please contact Nadine Richmond on 08 96851202 or admin@mtmarshall.wa.gov.au for a copy of the position description. Applications addressed to the Chief Executive Officer can be emailed to admin@mtmarshall.wa.gov.au, received by mail or delivered in person to the Shire office.

John Nuttall
Chief Executive Officer
PO Box 20
BENCUBBIN WA 6477

CONTACT US

80 Monger Street, Bencubbin WA 6477 | Phone: 08 9685 1202 | Fax: 08 9685 1299
Email: admin@mtmarshall.wa.gov.au | www.mtmarshall.wa.gov.au

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BUSH FIRE ACT 1954
RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD

All burning is restricted in the Shire of Mt Marshall from **Sunday 19 September 2021** to **Sunday 31 October 2021**. During this time a Permit to Burn is required.



Farmers are advised that permits will only be issued on a daily basis and are reminded that certain conditions are endorsed on the permit. One important condition is that burning cannot be carried out on the day if a Very High or Extreme Fire Danger has been issued.

Please check BOM website for further information or contact your nearest Bush Fire Control Officer.

Permit holders are also reminded to read the "Obligations of the permit holder" prior to burning.

FIREBREAKS

Landowners are also reminded that Firebreaks are to be constructed by Friday 1 October 2021. Firebreak inspections will be carried out by Shire staff and our contract Ranger.

Townsite residents are reminded that this also applies to them as they are required to keep their properties free of flammable materials during this period. Notices will be issued to landowners if their firebreaks do not comply.

BURNING OF GARDEN REFUSE AND RUBBISH

Garden refuse and rubbish may be burnt at any time, day or night, in a properly constructed incinerator designed to prevent the escape of sparks or burning material. Garden refuse and rubbish burnt on the ground may be burnt only between the hours of 6 o'clock in the evening and 11 o'clock of the same day and must be completely extinguished no later than midnight on that day.

If you are considering burning garden refuse please ensure that you do not leave the fire unattended and have running water available.

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HARVEST BAN INFORMATION

The Shire of Mt Marshall has received no notification from the ABC that they will be broadcasting harvest bans, but we can assume they will be the same as last year. There will be three tune-in times 10.05am, 12.35pm and 3.05pm. As yet there is no information regarding different times over the weekend or if they will interrupt the sport.

The deadline to get the harvest bans broadcast are 9.45am, 11.45am and 2.45pm. If we miss the deadline they will not be included until the next update.

There will be just one simple announcement saying: **"Due to the risk of fire the following local governments have imposed a ban on harvesting and the use of any equipment that could potentially start a fire"** and then the names of the local authorities. Although it will not include **"movement of machinery in paddocks ban"** please note that all bans in the Shire of Mt Marshall will be **"Harvest and Movement of Machinery in Paddocks Bans"**.

No radio station will broadcast the lifting of a harvest ban, it will be up to individual Shires to use their own methods.

Radiowest will provide a similar service.

The Shire will have besides radio, three other avenues to announce harvest bans:

SMS - if you are not registered for this service please contact the Shire office on 9685 1202 or email ro@mtmarshall.wa.gov.au. If you have had new staff commence work for harvest please have them register also.

Harvest Ban Hotline – please note that the message bank phone number is **9487 0671.**

Facebook posts

Harvest Ban Advice

Please note that the SMS will be the first point of contact with farmers and contractors advising of a ban, followed by the radio and then the message bank hotline. Please give staff time to set up the necessary services before seeking further information.

Timing of Harvest Bans

To avoid any unnecessary phone calls the Shire has implemented the following procedure regarding the lifting of Harvest Bans — if the ban has been in place before 11.00am it will be reviewed, not lifted, at 3.00pm. If the ban has been in place after 11.00am it will be lifted at 6.00pm unless conditions deteriorate.

Although local authorities are responsible for the placing of harvest bans, due to the vast area of the Shire, farmers must also take some responsibility to ensure they carry out their harvesting operations in a safe and timely manner.

Activities that are Exempt during a Harvest Ban

An activity that is carried out for the purpose of preventing an immediate and serious risk to the health or safety of a person or livestock, so long as a reasonable precautions have been taken to prevent the activity from creating a bush fire danger. This does not include general checking of livestock.

TOTAL FIRE BANS

Total Fire Bans are declared by DFES when there is the potential of extreme fire weather or when widespread fires are seriously stretching resources. When a Total Fire Ban is declared it prohibits the lighting of any fires in the open air and any activity that may start a fire – including the use of equipment and tools such as welders, grinders, torches or gas cutters.



You can continue farming activities during a Total Fire Ban as long as your local authority has not imposed a Harvest and Movement of Machinery in Paddocks Ban. Total Fire Bans are usually in place for twenty four (24) hours.

FIRE SUPPRESSION EQUIPMENT

Farmers and harvesting contractors are required to comply with the Bush Fire Regulations of 1954 and in particular the key points below relating to harvesting activities:

- Section38 – A person shall not operate any harvesting machine or header in any crop during the prohibited burning times or the restricted burning times unless a fire extinguisher is carried on the machine.
- Section 38A(4) – A person shall when required by a local government, provide a plough or other specified machine, appliance or firefighting equipment in or in the vicinity of any land or paddock where harvesting operations are being conducted.

As a minimum requirement the Shire requests that you have on site the following firefighting equipment serviced and readily available at all times during harvest:

- A mobile operational farm firefighting unit comprising of a tank with a minimum capacity of 400 litres, a powered pump, reel hose and nozzle. Keep this unit parked on bare ground, in or near the harvesting area for quick access.

Other Equipment

PPE – if you have not been issued with proban treated overalls through your brigade, the minimum acceptable dress on the fire ground is long sleeved shirt, long trousers, sturdy boots, gloves and a hat. (No singlets, shorts and thongs).

ATTENDANCE AT FIRES

If you attend a fire please report (by CB, Channel 5) or in person to the officer in charge and wear the appropriate PPE. If you do not have the appropriate PPE you will be asked to leave the fire ground by the officer in charge or given an alternative job.

If you do not report your attendance to the officer in charge of the fire and you are injured you are not covered by the Shire's insurance.

The officer in charge of the fire is responsible for everyone's safety as soon as they step on the fire ground but you as an individual must also take some responsibility for your own safety. If someone gets injured or even worse, fatally injured, it is the officer in charge that is answerable to all questions asked in subsequent investigations.

FIREBREAKS

A Firebreak Order was included with your rate notice this year. To ensure everyone is doing the right thing Shire staff and our ranger service will be carrying out inspections.

Firebreaks are required to be completed by 1st October 2021.

Agricultural land – clear a firebreak consisting of mineral earth, to a width of no less than 3 metres, as close as practical, inside the external boundaries of the property, they must also provide a vertical clearance of 3.5 meters



Town sites – all town site lots within the Shire of Mt Marshall shall be cleared of all debris of an inflammable nature and be maintained free of such material. Owners of property that require Shire staff to clear debris from private yards will be charged $100 per hour for this service.

Bush Fire Brigade Membership
If you are not a member of your local volunteer bush fire brigade please give this matter some consideration and contact the brigade direct or the Shire office for further details regarding membership.

The Shire provides members with the appropriate personal protective equipment and training to assist with fire suppression.

Further Information
If you require any further information please contact the Shire office on 9685 1202, your local Bush Fire Control Officer or visit the DFES website.

Meg Wyatt
Regulatory Officer