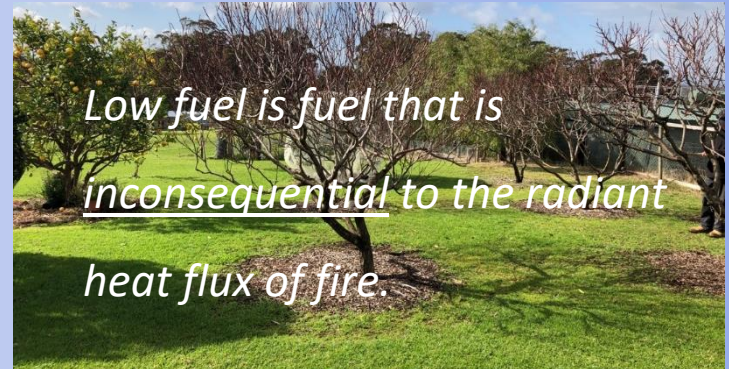




**ARE YOU  
BUSHFIRE  
READY?**



**The bushfire season is upon us.. prepare your property and family**



*The one thing we humans can control is **fuel structure and arrangement!**  
And therefore reduce the intensity and minimise the likelihood of flame contact with buildings*

### **Low fuel and Asset Protection Zones**

An APZ area provides:

- A circle of safety for fire fighters to defend the asset.
- A buffer zone between the bushfire hazard/fuels and the asset.
- An area where back burning may be applied.
- Reduce damage to the asset from radiant heat impact and ember attack.

When choosing plants for removal:

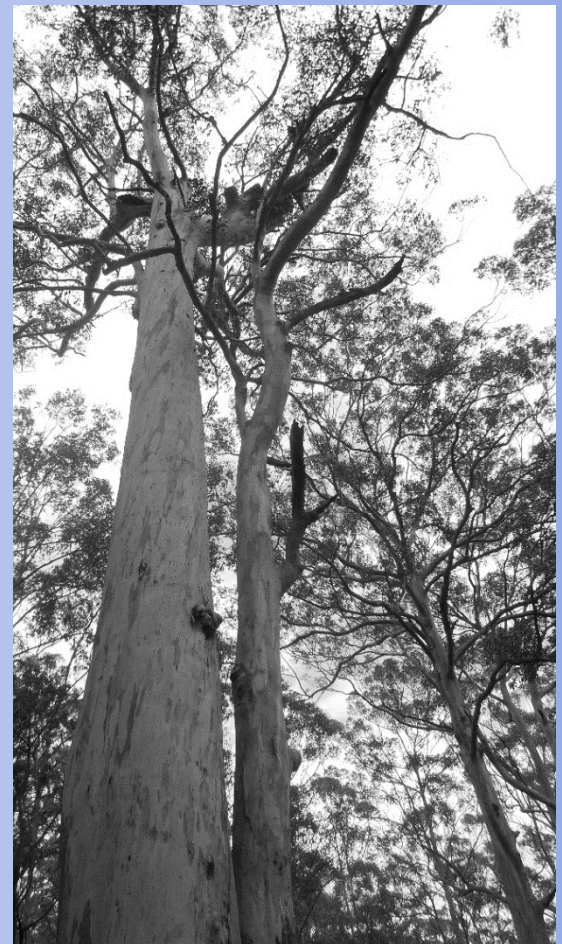
- Remove noxious weeds and environmental weeds first.
- Remove more flammable species such as those with rough, flaky or stringy bark.
- Remove or thin understorey plants, trees and shrubs less than 3m in height.
- Remove trees within 6m of your building.
- Remove limbs overhanging the building.
- Look at growth form of the tree, does it have potential habitat for birds (hollows, multiple forks in crown).

Determine what hazard reduction method is required to reduce bushfire fuel in your APZ area:

- Raking or manual removal of fine fuels.
- Mowing or grazing of grasses.
- Removal and pruning of trees, shrubs and understorey.



**Please don't clear  
fell any site! Use good practise!  
Share your APZ area with the  
local animals!**





## **Asset Protection Zones**

### **Shrubs and scrubs**

*Not near windows doors or penetrations of the building*

*No greater than 5m<sup>2</sup> for garden or native beds*

*Separated from trees*

### **Trees**

*Crowns separated*

*Remove dead limbs*

*Rake around the base removing leaves and dead material*

*Not "connected" to scrubs or remnant vegetation*

*Away from buildings by 6m*

*Not overhanging the building*

*Lower branches trimmed to 2m from the ground level*

*Fine mulching <100mm*

### **Grasses and ground covers**

*Grasses mowed to <100mm in height at all times*

*Ground covers can be planted under trees if <0.5m in height and maintained (no dead material)*

*Ground covers not within 2m of any structures*

*Beds >3m from windows and doors*

### ***If in doubt engage a specialist!***

- Ecologist
- Arborist (tree doctor)
- Bushfire practitioner
- Or contact your local shire