



# RFS

## Media release

### Escaped Burns Spark Warning on Safe Burning Practices

**22 April 2025**

The RFS is reminding landholders to follow safe burning practices and ensure they notify their local fire authority and neighbours, after 30 escaped burns were reported across NSW in April - including a dozen over the Easter long weekend.

Although the Bush Fire Danger Period has ended, landholders are still required to notify their intent to burn and ensure they check local weather conditions before undertaking any burning activity. The RFS provides an online notification portal, enabling residents to easily inform fire authorities of planned hazard reduction or pile burns at any time, via mobile device or desktop computer.

Commissioner of the RFS Rob Rogers said using the notification tool at [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/notify](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/notify) plays a key role in preventing unnecessary emergency responses.

“Over the coming months, many landholders will take the opportunity to reduce fuel loads through burning. It’s critical they burn safely and notify both the RFS and their neighbours,” Commissioner Rogers said.

“Even when the official Bush Fire Danger Period has ended, landholders must ensure they’ve obtained any required permits and permissions and provide at least 24 hours’ notice before lighting up.”

“If fire authorities are aware of your burn, it helps prevent unnecessary emergency calls and the deployment of firefighting resources.”

The online notification tool also provides notifications about any Total Fire Bans, helping landholders make informed decisions about whether to proceed with their planned burn.

Commissioner of the RFS Rob Rogers stressed that while reducing fuel on private properties is encouraged, it must always be done safely and legally.

“Before lighting any fire, landholders should check local conditions and ensure they have cleared adequate fire breaks and have firefighting equipment on hand to prevent the fire from escaping,” Commissioner Rogers said.

“Every landholder has a responsibility to prevent fire spreading from their property. There are serious consequences for those who light fires and fail to manage them properly.”

To notify your intent to burn, visit [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/notify](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/notify) or contact your local Fire Control Centre.