STEP 1: PREPARE YOUR PROPERTY AND TAKE ACTION

THE TOP FIVE ACTIONS TO MAKE YOUR PROPERTY SAFER
STEP 1: PREPARE YOUR PROPERTY AND TAKE ACTION
THE TOP 5 ACTIONS TO MAKE YOUR PROPERTY SAFER

There are some simple things you can do around your property to prepare it against the risk of fire. You need to prepare well beforehand as leaving it to the last minute is too late.

Here are five simple things you can do now to prevent the threat of fire.

1. CLEAR / SLASH
   Clear flammable materials (e.g. gas cylinders) and slash areas of long, dry grass around structures like the home and shed.

2. BURN
   If you have the required permits, approvals and skills and the conditions are suitable, conduct a controlled burn on your property to reduce fuel.

3. PLOUGH
   Plough firebreaks around each paddock boundary to prevent the spread of fire.

4. ROTATE
   Rotate stock across the property to ensure paddocks are well-grazed.

5. PREPARE
   Prepare and maintain sturdy hoses and water pumps in case you need to defend your property.

If you’ve conducted slashing on your own property recently, you’ve already completed one of the top five ways to make your property safer.
STEP 1: PREPARE YOUR PROPERTY AND TAKE ACTION
CREATING A PROPERTY MAP

As part of preparing your property against fire, it’s important to create a map of your property with the location of important features. This will help you identify and prevent fire risks in and around your property.

MAPPING YOUR PROPERTY

Your map can be a photocopy of the property map, an aerial photograph or a map you draw yourself.

STEP 1: Using a **GREEN** pen, map and label all of the fire management areas of your property.

   *This may include different paddocks on the property, areas of landscaped garden or zones around important assets (e.g. sheds).*

STEP 2: Use a **BLACK** pen to map assets / buildings on your property.

   *This may include houses (both occupied and unoccupied), machinery, storage or shelter sheds, fences, power lines as well as stables.*

STEP 3: Locate and map any water sources using a **BLUE** pen.

   *These could include dams, bore water supplies, rivers / creeks, water tanks, swimming pools, pumps and hydrant points.*

STEP 4: Identify and map any areas of burnt vegetation in **RED** pen.

TIP: If you have internet access, use a satellite view map (such as Google Maps) as a guide to create your property map.

For more information on preparing a property map, contact your local NSW RFS District Office and ask about the Hotsps Fire Project.
**STEP 1: PREPARE YOUR PROPERTY AND TAKE ACTION**

**CREATE YOUR PROPERTY MAP**

**STEP 1:** Using a **BLACK** pen, map and label all of the fire management areas of your property.

**STEP 2:** Use a **RED** pen to map assets / buildings on your property.

**STEP 3:** Locate and map any water sources using a **BLUE** pen.

**STEP 4:** Identify and map any areas of crops, ungrazed paddocks or unmanaged vegetation in **GREEN** pen.
**STEP 1: PREPARE YOUR PROPERTY AND TAKE ACTION**

**DEVELOPING AN ACTION PLAN**

Once you have completed your property map, identify the top five risks on your property and the action needed to reduce those risks. The NSW Rural Fire Service recommends keeping the action plan in a central location where everyone on the property will have access to it. If you need any assistance completing the action plan, contact your local Rural Fire Service brigade.

**FIRE ACTION PLAN FOR PROPERTY:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOP 5 IDENTIFIED RISKS</th>
<th>AREA</th>
<th>ACTION REQUIRED</th>
<th>TO BE COMPLETED BY</th>
<th>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</th>
<th>INITIAL WHEN COMPLETED</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fire breaks not in place</td>
<td>Home Paddock</td>
<td>Plough 3m wide fire breaks around paddock</td>
<td>14/09/18</td>
<td>Dave Smith</td>
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FIRE ACTION PLAN FOR PROPERTY: ____________________________________________  UPDATED __________ / ______ / _______

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PREPARE YOUR PROPERTY AND HOME

Make sure your property is prepared for fire by taking these action. These may also form part of your Fire Plan.

AROUND THE PROPERTY

- Manage vegetation around buildings, assets and infrastructure
- Ensure access gates and tracks are wide enough and have a height clearance to allow a fire truck access to your home and property. Ensure access roads are clear of debris and overhanging tree branches that may hinder the progress of a fire truck.
- Clear fire breaks along paddock boundaries
- Place water pipes from dams underground and install pump to the house
- Make sure all hoses have spray nozzles
- If possible, keep water tanks full and connect them to pumps

AROUND THE HOME

- Keep a well-maintained area around the home and sheds
- Store petrol, diesel and gas away from home
- Block up areas like eaves where embers can enter the house
- Move garden beds away from the home

A cleared area around your home can slow a fire spreading and give firefighters a safe area to work.