

Open Air Burning Urban Areas



October 2025

yarraranges.vic.gov.au

Burning off in Urban Areas is prohibited

The following burning off regulations apply to residents living in Urban Areas:

- A person must not, without a permit, light a fire in a public place
- A person must not, without a permit, engage in open air burning or use an incinerator at any time.
- Permits will not be issued for CFA Declared Total Fire Ban Days or during the CFA Declared Fire Danger Period
- Barbecues or manufactured fireplaces for the purposes of heat, comfort or cooking are permitted for use in Urban Areas, except where a total fire ban or other restrictions apply. This exemption ceases immediately if offensive material is burnt or offensive smoke or smoke hazard is caused.

Permits will only be issued in exceptional circumstances and contain strict conditions.

Before applying for a permit, Yarra Ranges encourages residents to use safer, more environmentally and community friendly methods of fuel reduction. These alternatives help reduce fire risk while minimizing the health, environmental, and community impacts associated with traditional burning off.

Recommended Methods:

- **Mulching**
Converts garden waste into useful material for soil improvement and moisture retention.
- **Weekly Food Organic and Garden Organic (FOGO) Collection**
Convenient curb side service for disposing of organic waste responsibly.
- **Bundled Branch Collection (November–December)**
Seasonal service allowing residents to prepare and dispose of branches in a safe, scheduled manner.
- **Hiring a Skip for Green Waste Removal**
Ideal for larger clean-ups, ensuring green waste is removed efficiently and sustainably.

Yarra Ranges residents need to be aware of the Open Air Burning Local Law.

The new local law came into effect in 2020 and was developed to achieve a greater balance between managing fire risk and addressing environmental and health concerns.

Yarra Ranges Council is committed to ensuring a safe and clean environment for all visitors and residents.

As part of that commitment, Council's Open Air Burning Local Law aims to:

- Minimise nuisance and hazards caused by smoke
- Manage fuel loads and protect biosecurity
- Minimise bushfire risk
- Protect the amenity of the Yarra Ranges



A full description of the Yarra Ranges Council
Open Air Burning Local Law can be found on
Council's website: **yarraranges.vic.gov.au**
or by calling: **1300 368 333**

Which area do you live in?

To look up your area, visit
yarraranges.vic.gov.au/myneighbourhood and
enter your address. Ensure that suffixes such as
“road” and “street” are spelled out in full.

**For more information, visit cfa.vic.gov.au or call
Yarra Ranges Council on: 1300 368 333**