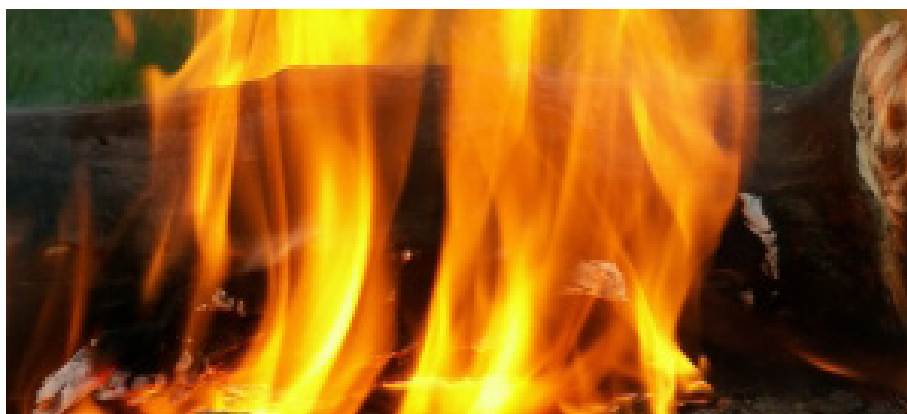


## Backyard Burning

Ballina Council's Backyard Burning Policy has been implemented to better control backyard burning especially in closely settled area. The Protection of the Environment Operations (Clean Air) Regulation 2010 forms the basis of this policy which aims to prevent air pollution and eliminate nuisance caused by smoke and odour generated by inefficient backyard burning.



### Be a Good Neighbour

Any person when burning has a general obligation to prevent or minimise air pollution. This includes taking into account the potential impacts on any person.

### Prohibited Items

The burning of certain items such as tyres, coated wire, paint and solvent containers and residues and timber treated with copper chromium arsenate (CCA) or pentachlorophenol (PCB) are prohibited except where exempt under the abovementioned Regulation.

The burning of domestic waste is prohibited throughout the Shire except where no domestic waste collection service is available.

During the Bush Fire Danger Period you will need to obtain a fire permit for most fires carried out in the open. There are also general requirements at other times of the year. For more details regarding these requirements please contact the Rural Fire Service or the Town Brigades.

### Burning Vegetation

The Backyard Burning Policy applies restrictions to the burning of vegetation in areas within the towns and villages and known urban zonings. Maps which clearly delineate where the restrictions on burning vegetation apply form part of the Policy and

are available on Council's website. Burning of vegetation in these areas is restricted except when exempt.

### Exemptions

Such exemptions include but are not limited to:

- bush fire hazard reduction work under the Rural Fires Act 1997
- to cook or barbeque in the open, or to light, maintain or use a fire for recreational purposes such as camping, scouting or other similar activities
- to burn vegetation, in the course of carrying out agricultural operations, on premises on which the vegetation grew
- to burn anything for the purposes of the giving of instructions in methods of fire fighting by an officer or member of a fire fighting authority.

### Fines

Even though an activity may be exempt, any person is still obligated to prevent or minimise pollution and take into account the potential impacts.

Breaches may lead to a penalty infringement notice of up to \$1000.

### Further Information

Public and Environmental Health  
Ph: 02 6686 1210  
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