

Burning Off



It is now coming to the time of year when people may choose to clean up and maintain their property. Much of this activity will produce green waste such as cuttings, lawn clippings, etc. The most appropriate options for the removal of such waste include composting, mulching or disposal at a refuse disposal site. Free tip tickets are issued with the rates notice to assist with this disposal. Please ensure that loads are covered.

Please note that State legislation has banned backyard burning on all properties less than 2,000 square metres in area. Most residential blocks are less than 2,000 m² and therefore burning off is not an option. One of the main reasons for this is due to the sensitivity of the Tamar Valley airshed to impacts on air quality. There is already considerable smoke being emitted into the airshed from sources such as woodheaters and bush fires. Any additional contribution to this has significant adverse effect on the air shed, air quality and other people's enjoyment of the environment.

For blocks larger than 2,000m² with NO OTHER option than burning the waste, there

are important factors that must be taken into account, such as the type of materials and the weather conditions. It is essential to ensure all wood & vegetation is clean and dry prior to burning. Please note it is prohibited to burn waste such as household rubbish, plastics, tyres, painted or treated wood, etc.

Where burning off is absolutely necessary on permitted block sizes, it is important to note that this activity should only be undertaken when it will not interfere unreasonably with another person's enjoyment of the environment. This can be achieved by only burning dry material when desirable weather conditions are present. This ensures that smoke or ash will be less likely to spread to neighbouring properties, therefore avoiding any unreasonable interference.

For further information, please access council's website: www.wtc.tas.gov.au, where an information brochure on the regulations for backyard burning is available to view and download.