



## Outdoor Patio/Space Heaters in Bunbury – 30 November to 10 May

### Applying for a permit to use an outdoor solid fuel patio space heater

Any fire lit outdoors from 30 November until 10 May is subject to conditions specified within the Bush Fires Act (1954)(the Act), with significant penalties for any non-compliance with that legislation.

Under section 25 of that Act, Local Governments may grant permits for the use of outdoor solid fuel patio space heaters, where a regulation has been developed permitting this to occur. The City of Bunbury has recently created such a regulation, in recognition of the increase in the use of such devices.

Under this regulation, on application to the City, a permit may be granted where the device and its location meet **all** of the following criteria:

- The device is manufactured and installed in a fixed location and not movable;
- The device is situated in an area that has no flammable material for at least 3 metres radius;
- It has a flue that is effectively connected, reducing sparks, so that they do not create a hazard to surrounding properties. The flue would need to be vertical, at least two metres in length, preferably with a spark arrester fitted;
- Would only be used in the evening when temperatures are cooler (6PM – 11PM being lower fire danger time);
- Only clean dry wood is to be burnt;
- Any smoke emitted from the device will not affect neighbours.

If your outdoor heater meets all of these criteria, call the City of Bunbury so that an inspection can be arranged. A seasonal Permit may be issued, where it is determined that device meets the abovementioned criteria and presents minimal risk to you and surrounding properties.

If you wish to apply for such a permit, please call Community Law, Safety and Emergency Management on 9792 7106 or visit [www.bunbury.wa.gov.au](http://www.bunbury.wa.gov.au).



#### **Important Notes:**

- Open pit fires, hungis, chimineas and the like, would not be granted these special seasonal Permits, as they would not meet the above criteria. These would be subject to an application for single use permits, where they could be demonstrated to not present unreasonable risk.
- In accordance with the conditions stated on the Permit, any permits would cease to be valid on days where the forecast was for 'Very High', 'Severe', 'Extreme' or 'Catastrophic' fire dangers. Any fires would, therefore, be illegal. Similarly, any fires lit on days of a 'Total Fire Ban', would become illegal and all existing Permits would be considered nullified.