

LIONS RIVER FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

GOLDEN RULES TO PREVENT FOREST FIRES

As the danger of the **FIRE SEASON** is fast approaching please ensure that your fire fighting equipment is in good order and ready to use at short notice.

Please inform the Association office promptly of any newcomers in your area. They need to be furnished with the Fire Regulations and Area Fire Wardens A.S.A.P.

DO Burn adequate fire breaks on your boundaries to protect your own property

DO Discuss proposals for a break system with your neighbours when you are planning it, and obtain their agreement to the system

DO Insist that your neighbours are present when boundary breaks are burned

DO Choose safe weather when burning and ensure that you have adequate water, labour and reliable equipment

DO Burn your breaks early and remember it is illegal to burn fire breaks from **1st AUGUST up to and including 31st OCTOBER**

DO Insure that you have **adequate public liability insurance against fire**

DO NOT Start any fire in the open air that you cannot control and that could become dangerous to life or property

DO NOT Fail to take every possible step to prevent fire from spreading to adjacent properties

DO NOT Leave any fire, that has not been thoroughly extinguished, unattended

DO NOT Light **ANY** fires between **18H00 on Fridays & 06H00 on Mondays from 1st May to 1st November**

DO NOT Forget that negligence may result in costly court cases

FIRE BREAKS:

1. Notify the **Fire Warden** in your area
2. Preferably burn in the afternoons
3. All landowners are by law required to burn firebreaks and comply with specific rules

FIRE EMERGENCIES:

1. Notify the **Fire Warden** in your area
2. Leave a responsible person at the telephone to pass on messages effectively
3. Do not leave your farm to fight a fire in another ward without first consulting your Fire Warden

4. To avoid confusion at the fire everyone taking labour to a fire **MUST** remain in charge of his labourers and obey the **Fire Wardens** instructions

IMPORTANT FACTS TO REMEMBER:

1. What to protect when planning fire breaks: **Homesteads: Farm Buildings: Hay Barns and Bales: Staff Accommodation**
2. You are to **take the burning of fire breaks seriously** and also note that the Fire Association is a legally constituted body and landowners / managers are to obey orders from the Fire Wardens
3. Any person who has reasonable grounds for believing that a fire occurring on any land may endanger life or property, may either alone or with any other person under his control, enter upon that land, or land to which the fire has spread, in order to prevent the spreading of that fire or to extinguish it.
4. Should any farmer be away for a day or more during the fire season, he must please notify his radio section leader and Area Fire Warden.
5. Do not give any news to the SABC or newspaper without the authority of the Lions River Fire Protection Association
6. Unless you are a **member of the Lions River Fire Protection Association** negligence in respect of runaway veld fires shall be presumed, unless the contrary is proven.

MAIZE RESIDUE: May **ONLY** be burnt between **15H00 and 24H00**

BLOCKS OF VELD: May **ONLY** be burnt between **14H00 and 24H00**

BURNING OF FOREST SLASH, RUBBISH & GARDEN REFUSE is **PROHIBITED** between **1st June and 31st October**

BURNING OF BREAKS: The **FINAL DATE** for the completion of Break burning is **15th JULY** - the Fire Wardens may grant an extension in exceptional circumstances. *You are obliged to obtain written permission in each circumstance.*