



MOWERS & SLASHERS BUSHFIRE PREVENTION

Mowing and slashing vegetation can quickly start a bushfire. Help keep everyone safe by following these simple rules:

Before the activity:

- Check weather conditions and choose cooler and damper times to mow and slash - avoid dry and hot conditions. Mow or slash when the vegetation is still green to reduce the risk of bushfires.
- Inspect the area to ensure that all rocks and other solid objects that could cause sparks if struck by the mower or slasher blades are removed.
- Check all equipment is in good working order including fire-fighting equipment, exhaust systems and bearings on all wheels and pulleys.
- Ensure equipment is clean and free from flammable materials (including grass and oil build up).

During the activity you must ensure:

- The space around the activity is clear of all flammable vegetation or materials to a distance of at least FOUR metres.
- A shovel or rake and a portable water spray in good working order, are at hand.
- The mower or slasher's internal combustion engine is fitted with an exhaust system that complies with legislation.
- A person who can control the mower or slasher is present at all times during operation.

After the activity:

- Park the equipment in a clear area away from flammable materials.
- Maintain observation for a minimum of 30 minutes to ensure trapped combustible or smoldering material and engine or exhausts do not ignite.
- Wash down the machine (with a pressure hose if available) to remove any build-up of cut grass from all areas of the machine.

Deliberately, recklessly or negligently starting a bushfire is a serious offence and will result in criminal proceedings.

Before mowing or slashing it is important to check the Mowing and Slashing Code of Practice on the CFS website: cfs.sa.gov.au.

Visit the South Australia Police website: police.sa.gov.au for more bushfire prevention fact sheets and information.



If there is a fire or imminent risk of a fire call **Emergency Triple Zero (000)**. If you see anything suspicious immediately call the **Police Assistance Line on 131 444**. If you have any information about who is deliberately lighting fires or engaging in reckless or negligent fire behaviour call **Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000**.

 Download the free **Emergency+ app** which contains useful contact numbers for emergency services.

The **Emergency+ app** is developed by Australia's emergency services and their Government and industry partners, and uses **GPS functionality** built into smart phones to help a Triple Zero (000) caller provide critical location details to assist **emergency services**.