



Lions River Fire Protection Association
By Landowners - For Landowners

DAFF Reg. No. 838/01

Glossary of key rules & regulations:

1. Every owner on whose land a veldfire may start or burn or from whose land it may spread must prepare and maintain a firebreak on his or her side of the boundary between his or her land and any adjoining land.
2. If a landowner / land user (owner) intends to prepare and maintain a firebreak by burning, he or she must determine a mutually agreeable date or dates with the owners of adjoining land for doing so, and inform the LRFPA.
3. An owner may not burn a firebreak, if—
 - a. the fire protection association objects to the proposed burning; or
 - b. a warning has been published in terms of subsection 10(1)(b) because the fire danger is high in the region; or
 - c. the conditions are not conducive to the burning of firebreaks.
4. Owners of adjoining land may agree to position a common firebreak away from the boundary.
5. Should an owner intend to be absent for a period longer than 14 days (even for a weekend) during the period or part of any period in which burning normally takes place, he or she must give all owners of adjoining land and the LRFPA an address and telephone number, if any, at which he or she may be contacted.
6. Joint boundary fire breaks - width - it is **recommended that a 10 -15 meter firebreak** on each side of the boundary is burnt (however, depending on fire risk, fuel loads, terrain, gradients, type of vegetation, size of property etc.)
7. Fire breaks for controlled grass burn areas - should controlled block burning for grass management or any other purpose be undertaken, internal firebreaks, 10 meters minimum in width should be prepared around the controlled burn area. Please consult your FPA should you be uncertain.
8. **Strategic fire breaks** – review your own farm as well as look at collective farms and implement strategic fire breaks which may be wider than normal and help prevent large spread of fire

LIONS RIVER FPA: IMPORTANT CONTACT NUMBERS

RADIO CONTROL ROOM – CALL SIGN	CONTROL 911
FPO – MOBILE NUMBER & CALL SIGN	082 901 8795 / Charlie 121
OPS ROOM	082 901 8795
LRFPA BURNING PERMITS	073 704 5862 / 078 392 1435
KZNFPA (AVIATION) – MEMBERSHIP ONLY	033-330 8421 or 082 654 4943
WORKING ON FIRE - DISPATCH	076 403 4871 or 079 901 7005
UMNGENI MUNICIPALITY – CONTROL ROOM	Ph. 033-239 9244
MSUNDUZI FIRE CONTROL ROOM – UMDM DISPATCH	033-845 5911

Steps to be taken by members and / or landowners when they intend to burn fire breaks or undertake any form of controlled burns:

1. The *LRFPA is to be notified* by the landowner, landuser and / or agent (in terms of the Act), and *a permit number will be issued* prior to any burning – call the numbers for LRFPA fire permits
2. A landowner / member may be requested to supply a permit number should the Fire Protection Officer request such, failure to do so could result in non-compliance.
3. The LRFPA ops room and / or the FPO is to be *notified of any uncontrolled spread at the site of the fire break or controlled burning* (in terms of the Act).
4. The LRFPA ops room is to be *notified on completion of the burning operation*.
5. Fire break burning and any block burning must *not be undertaken prior to sunrise and must be completed prior to sunset*. Members may apply for special permission to burn after sunset, however, permission is not guaranteed.
6. Mopping up: The *entire fire line must be adequately contained and all smoldering material must be fully extinguished* with water.
7. No burning operations, other than controlled conservation / grass management block burns will be allowed between the 1st July and 31st October and without a permit issued by the FPA.
8. *No burning of any nature will be permitted on Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays* except under a written burning permit which is signed by all neighbouring land owners and the LRFPA.
9. Members and / or Landowners must consider the availability of trained fire fighters over weekends and public holidays and must try to avoid any burning immediately prior to a pay weekend.
10. Due care must be taken and basic precautionary methods practiced when burning alongside any public road
11. *Should a member and / or landowner not follow the rules in respect of notification and any advice given in respect of burning conditions, the member and / or landowner could be faced with potential negligence claims as well as being charged with an offence in terms of the Act.*

Member's duties in respect of fire fighting & equipment readiness:

1. A member and / or landowner who has reason to believe that a fire on his or her land or the land of an adjoining owner may endanger life, property or the environment, must immediately—
 - a. take all reasonable steps to **notify**—
 - b. *the fire protection officer* or, failing him or her, any member of the executive committee of the fire protection association, and
 - c. *the owners of adjoining land*; and
 - d. *do everything in his or her power to stop the spread of the fire.*
1. A member and / or landowner on whose land a veldfire may start or burn or from whose land it may spread **must**—*have such equipment, protective clothing and trained personnel for extinguishing fires*
 - a. ensure that in *his or her absence responsible persons are present* on or near his or her land who, in the event *of fire, will*—
 - (i) *extinguish* the fire or assist in doing so; and
 - (ii) *take all reasonable steps to alert the owners of adjoining land and the relevant fire protection association*, if any.