

**MEDIA RELEASE**

## **PREPARE YOUR PROPERTY FOR BUSHFIRE DANGER SEASON**

Landowners in the Mid Murray district are encouraged to start preparing now for the coming bushfire danger season.

Following a devastating bushfire season last summer when part of the district was damaged by the Cudlee Creek Bushfire, the Mid Murray Council is urging property owners to take steps now to minimise their fire risk.

After good winter and spring rains, the district has a higher vegetation load which, without proper preparation, could create a fire hazard.

Under current legislation, landowners must manage vegetation to limit the outbreak or spread of fire on their land, and to protect their own buildings and infrastructure before the fire danger season begins. **The fire danger season for the Murraylands and Riverland runs from 15 November 2020 until 15 April 2021.**

Mid Murray Mayor Dave Burgess said fire risk management was an important responsibility for all landowners.

“Last summer we saw how devastating a bushfire can be,” Mayor Burgess says.

“Even though it affected a relatively small area of our district, the destruction the Cudlee Creek Bushfire wrought on that area – and its impact on the lives and properties of the people living there – was significant.

“As we approach another fire danger season, we want to ensure that all landowners take the threat of another bushfire seriously. Make sure you’re aware of your obligations and start your plan to maintain your property now.

“We’ll have fire prevention officers working throughout the district over the coming weeks inspecting properties and – after the bushfire disaster last summer – we’ll be expecting everyone to do their bit to keep themselves and their neighbours safe.”

Landowners who don’t clean up their properties may be issued with clean-up orders, and those who don’t act after receiving an order may face fines.

For more information on fire prevention visit [www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au/services/fire-prevention](http://www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au/services/fire-prevention).

– ENDS –

**Media contacts:**

Mid Murray Council Chief Executive Officer Ben Scales  
P: (08) 8569 0100 | E: [postbox@mid-murray.sa.gov.au](mailto:postbox@mid-murray.sa.gov.au)