Planning a burn off? What you must consider first

The guidance in this chart applies to the Adelaide Hills Council area

A. Consider

Managing your vegetation is important to reduce fuel load (especially fine fuels such as twigs and leaves). However, the smoke from burning impacts your neighbours and the wider community. So consider burning as a last-resort option.

Do you really need to burn?

Yes / No

Alternatives to burning include:

- Utilise Council's free green organic drop off days
- Use your green organics kerbside bin
- Compost your green organics and use compost in your garden
- Cut up branches for use as firewood for you & your neighbours

B. Plan.

Do you live within a township?

Yes / No

To find out whether your property lies within a designated township area, see the detailed maps on the Adelaide Hills Council website, using the QR code on the right.

You need to apply for a permit from Adelaide Hills Council. See the form via the QR code on the right. Allow for at least seven business days to receive a permit.

You do not need to apply for a permit from Adelaide Hills Council.

Did you receive a permit?

Yes / No

Utilise alternatives to burning (see above).

You can burn off, considering all regulatory stipulations.
All burning must be in accordance with the CFS Code of Practice for Broad Acre Burning 2015 and CFS Code of Practice for Vegetation Pile Burning 2015.

In particular, note that:

- Only dry seasoned material can be burnt.
- Noxious material such as tyres, plastics, oils and painted or treated timber must not be burnt.
- Burning can only to be conducted between 10am and 3pm Monday to Saturday. Any fire lit must be completely extinguished within this timeframe.

C. Check.

Check the CFS website for fire danger season dates and Total Fire Bans, using the QR code.

Does the planned day of the burn fall into the Fire Danger Season?

Yes / No

Is the planned day of the burn a Total Fire Ban Day?

Yes / No

Reschedule. You cannot burn, unless you have a schedule 9 permit from Adelaide Hills Council.

Reschedule. You cannot burn, unless you have a schedule 10 permit from Adelaide Hills Council.

D. Monitor.

You must be guarding the burn-off at all times and have a water source in place. Also consider:

- Don't burn under or near trees and other flammables. Have a clear area around the burn pile of at least four metres. Keep this area wet.
- Check wind conditions and forecast for the duration of the planned burn-off. Consider re-scheduling if needed.
- Be mindful of the full regulations, available via the QR code.

Be safe. Be careful. Follow regulations.
Play your part at playing it safe.
Note that violations will incur signifiant fines and put the community at risk.