



# Council Policy Manual

## WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

<b>COUNCIL POLICY</b>	
<b>DOMESTIC FIREWOOD COLLECTION POLICY</b>	Policy No:
	Adopted by Council: 19 June 2024
	Next review date: June 2028
Executive Director:	Director Infrastructure, Development and Works
Responsible Officer:	Planning and Environment Manager
Functional Area:	Customer Service and Local Laws
Introduction & Background	The West Wimmera Shire will allow the safe collection of firewood from roads sides under its control (local Roads) for private (heating and cooking purposes) use only.
Purpose & Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Through the allocation of permits, allow residents access to fallen timber on local roadsides for personal heating and cooking uses.</li> <li>2. To reduce the fire hazard fuel loading on local roadsides.</li> <li>3. Ensure that trees (live or dead) are not unnecessarily cut down for firewood.</li> <li>4. Provide safe but effective controls of firewood collection which does not impede on the use of the roadway by road users.</li> <li>5. To maintain sustainable control over the quantity of wood collected from local roadsides.</li> <li>6. Ensure that the collector meets their Occupational Health &amp; Safety obligations and that of the travelling public.</li> </ol>
Response to the Overarching Governance Principles of the Local Government Act 2020	<p>Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 states that a Council must in the performance of its role give effect to the overarching governance principles.</p> <p>This policy is in response to the following overarching governance principle/s of the Local Government Act 2020:</p> <p>(b) The public transparency principles section 58</p>
Definitions	Resident: Person or Persons with proof of residency within West Wimmera Shire Council



# Council Policy Manual

## WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

Policy Details	
1.	<p><b>Responsibilities of Applicant</b></p> <p>It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that they comply with all permit conditions.</p>
2.	<p><b>Permit Conditions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) No firewood is to be collected for 'commercial purposes' from 'Local Roads' within West Wimmera Shire municipal district.</li> <li>2) No standing trees (dead or alive) are cut down and removed.</li> <li>3) That Shire residents be limited to three cubic metres per permit and a maximum of three permits per calendar year per household.</li> <li>4) That <b>non-residents</b> are not eligible.</li> <li>5) The permit is applicable to local council roads only under West Wimmera Shire Council control and shall name the roads that the timber is to be collected from.</li> <li>6) Firewood collection is prohibited during the fire danger period as declared by the Country Fire Authority (CFA)</li> <li>7) No firewood is to be collected on days of Total Fire Ban.</li> <li>8) The collection vehicle/trailer or combination thereof shall be parked in such a way as not to impede the flow of traffic.</li> <li>9) All loads are to be made secure prior to leaving the collection area.</li> <li>10) This permit is not valid on any road under the control of VicRoads and includes any 'A', 'B' &amp; 'C' class road.</li> <li>11) This permit is not valid on any road under the control of Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) or Parks Victoria who control bush land reserves and National/State Parks.</li> <li>12) That no collection occur on the part of the Dergholm – Edenhope Rd (also known as Dergholm – Powers Creek Rd) where signs indicate "Vegetation Offset Area"</li> </ol>
3.	<p><b>Victorian Police</b></p> <p>Council may refer any permit holder suspected of breaking permit conditions to the Police.</p> <p>Council will refuse a permit to any resident at VicPol's request.</p>



# Council Policy Manual

## WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

<b>Policy Adopted:</b>	Ordinary Meeting 17/03/11		RecFind 11/003035
<b>Policy Reviewed:</b>	Ordinary Meeting 16/07/15	Minute Book Page 31431	RecFind 15/002904
	Ordinary Meeting 19/07/17	Minute Book Page 35797	RecFind 17/002784
	Ordinary Meeting 19/06/24	Minute Book Page	SRV- Governance Policies and Procedures