



FIRE SERVICE BUSH FIRE MITIGATION

**TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO FIRE SERVICE
BUSHFIRE SEASON: DEC 1, 2025 - JUN
30, 2026**

INTRODUCTION

- Each year the advent of the dry season brings with it changes and conditions rife for bushfires.
- Bushfire risks are intensified by drought conditions.
- Through proper planning and precautions, damages can be minimized and safety ensured.

TTFS Bushfire Mitigation Plans

- **Seasonal preparedness and monitoring**
- **Public advisories and safety awareness programs.**

TTFS Bushfire Mitigation Plans

- **Coordination with communities and other agencies.**
- **Deployment of Fire Guardians during the fire season.**

Public & Organizational Preparedness

- Practice good housekeeping: clear scrub, trim grass, clean gutters.
- Clear perimeter boundaries of land.
- Community collaboration to reduce risk.
- Understand responsibilities of living near bushfire-prone areas.

Additional Preventative Measures

- Clear at least 5ft of vegetation around property boundaries.
- Maintain trimmed and watered grass.
- Create firebreaks in rural areas.
- Store flammable materials safely.
- Prepare critical contact numbers.
- Ensure access to water supplies for firefighting purposes.

Statutory Law: Fire Permit Requirement

- A fire permit is required from Dec 1 to Jun 30 for setting fires on land.
- Application includes:
 - Land location and boundaries
 - Nature of operation
 - Number of persons
 - Camp location (if any)
 - Duration of operation
- Penalties: \$20,000 TT fine + 6 months imprisonment.

How to Apply for a Fire Permit

- 1. Visit nearest fire station and complete application.
- 2. Fire Guardian schedules and performs site visit.
- 3. Report submitted; permit granted for 5 days (5pm–8pm daily).
- 4. Applicant pays \$10 TT fee and collects signed permit.

Role of a Fire Guardian

- Appointed annually (Dec 1 – Jun 30).
- Conducts site visits and prescribes safe burning methods.
- Monitors geographical divisions for unsafe or unauthorized fires.
- Reports to Divisional Fire Officer.
- Authorized to halt unsafe activity.
- Can prosecute breaches of the Agricultural Fires Act.
- Penalties for assaulting a Fire Guardian: \$1,500 TT + 6 months imprisonment.

Conclusion

- Preparedness saves lives and property.
- Follow TTFS guidelines.
- Work with your community.
- Ensure legal compliance during the bushfire season.