



1. Location of the property

1.1 Topography and environment

Question

Is your property located on an incline or exposed to strong southeasterly winds?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Recommended action

Yes: Fires move faster up inclines and are fanned by strong winds. Create a larger fire-resistant zone around your house.

Is your property close to a large, open and natural area?

☐☐

Yes: Create a firebreak on your property right next to the fire risk area. Although this would not necessarily stop the fire, it will give the firefighters better access.

Does your property border a large, open and natural area or veld?

☐☐

Yes: Create and maintain a firebreak or fire-resistant strip right next to the border with the natural area.

Is your house more than 30 m from woody natural vegetation?

☐☐

Yes: Create the largest possible fire-resistant zone by removing or thinning out vegetation close to your house.

Is your property outside of a high veldfire risk area that was identified by the municipality?

☐☐

No: If you live in a high-risk area, take extra fire protection measures and be vigilant during the fire season.

Are bordering open properties maintained well and kept free from overly dry vegetation?

☐☐

No: Report overgrown open properties to the municipality's fire brigade and cooperate with neighbours to reduce the fire risk.

2. Vegetation and fuel management

2.1 Removal of combustible material

Question

Do you regularly remove exotic vegetation, dead wood, dry leaves and other combustible material from your property?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Recommended action

No: Remove such materials regularly, especially before and during the fire season.

Is there a fire-resistant zone of at least 10 m around your house?

☐☐

No: Remove dry grass, shrubs and other combustible material around the house, and prune all trees and shrubs.

Is the lawn around the house regularly mowed during summer?

☐☐

No: Mow the lawn regularly during the veldfire season.

Are tree branches pruned back so that they do not touch the house's roof?

☐☐

No: Prune branches to prevent fire from easily spreading to the house's roof.

3. Buildings and structures

3.1 House

Question

Is your house built from wood, or does it have a thatched roof?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Recommended action

Yes: Keep vegetation within at least 10–20 from the house very short and limit all combustible material.

Are roof beams or wooden structures below roof overhangs exposed?

☐☐

Yes: Treat or cover the wood with approved fire-resisting materials.

Are gutters and roofs regularly cleared of leaves, pine needles and other combustible material?

☐☐

No: Clean gutters and roofs regularly to prevent combustible material from piling up.

Are ventilation openings protected with fine metal gauze screens?

☐☐

No: Install metal gauze screens to prevent embers from entering the roof space.

3.2 Wooden structures

Question

Are wooden decks, fences and trellises treated with a fire-resistant medium?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Recommended action

No: Use an approved fire-resistant treatment for all wooden surfaces.

4. Storing of combustible materials

4.1 Wood, compost and gas

Question

Are firewood, wood or compost heaps kept at least 3–10 m from your house?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Recommended action

No: Move these materials further from the house and keep a clear zone around the house.

Are your LP gas cylinders stored according to safety requirements?

☐☐

No: Store cylinders upright in a well-ventilated area away from heat and vegetation. Obtain advice from an LP gas merchant and change your storage area according to their recommendations.

5. Water and fire-fighting equipment

5.1 Water supply

Question

Is your hosepipe easily reachable and long enough to reach the whole house?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Recommended action

No: Get longer hosepipes and install extra outside taps or a rainwater tank with a pump.

Are fire hydrants easy for firefighters to reach?

☐☐

No: Remove obstacles and inform the fire brigade if necessary.

Do you have an additional source of water apart from municipal water?

☐☐

No: Install a rainwater tank or ensure an alternative water source.

Do you have basic fire-fighting equipment such as a fire extinguisher, fire beaters or buckets?

☐☐

No: Keep sufficient fire-fighting equipment in a place that is easy to reach.

Have you received basic training in fire extinguishing?

☐☐

No: Phone your local AfriForum branch for training.

6. Access for emergency services.

6.1 Access to the property

Question

Would a fire truck be able to enter and move around your property easily?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Recommended action

No: Keep access roads open and ensure a minimum opening of about 4 m wide and 4 m high.

Is your house number clearly visible from the street?

☐☐

No: Put up a clear, reflective house number so that emergency services can easily find your house.

Can access gates be opened easily, and are they free from obstacles?

☐☐

No: Keep all gates in a working condition and remove any obstacles.

Are there electrical cables hanging across trees or woody areas?

☐☐

Yes: Have the cables moved or properly protected to decrease the fire danger.

7. Safe use of fire

7.1 Braais and open fires

Question

Do you or your neighbours burn rubbish or garden refuse?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Recommended action

Yes: Please note that the burning of any rubbish or garden refuse is illegal without the necessary permits.

Is a hosepipe or fire extinguisher always at hand when you braai?

☐☐

No: Always have a working hosepipe or fire extinguisher at hand when you light the braai fire.

8. Preparation and emergency planning

8.1 Family preparedness

Question

Does your household have a veldfire emergency plan?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Recommended action

No: Compose a written emergency and evacuation plan and drill it in regularly. Talk to your household about the veldfire plan.

Do you have a grab bag with necessities ready in case you have to evacuate?

☐☐

No: Pack necessities such as documents, medicines, water, food, clothes and cell phone chargers beforehand.

Do you follow veldfire warnings during the fire season?

☐☐

No: Follow warnings from the South African Weather Service, your municipality or local disaster management or fire protection society.

9. Community safety

9.1 Responsible action

Question

Do you talk to people when they act unsafely and can create veldfires?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Recommended action

No: Encourage safer behaviour. If dangerous behaviours continue, inform your fire protection society or local fire brigade.

Do you have the fire brigade's emergency number at hand to be able to report a fire as soon as possible?

☐☐

No: Obtain the local emergency number from the fire brigade to be able to report veld or any other fire as soon as possible.

Results of the self-assessment

Count the number of answers that indicate an increased risk.

Risk level

- Low risk
- Medium risk
- High risk
- Very high risk

Number of risk answers

- 0–5
- 6–10
- 11–17
- 18 or more

Meaning

Your property is well prepared. Continue regular maintenance. There are a number of improvements that will make your property safe. Address these before the next fire season. Your property has significant shortcomings. Compose a plan to address the identified risks as soon as possible. Your property is seriously exposed to veldfire risks. Take immediate steps to decrease these risks and contact your local fire brigade or fire protection society for further advice.



1. Ligging van die eiendom

1.1 Topografie en omgewing

Vraag Is jou eiendom op ’n helling geleë of aan sterk suidoostewinde blootgestel?	Ja Nee ☐ ☐
Is jou eiendom naby ’n groot, oop en natuurlike gebied?	☐ ☐
Grens jou eiendom aan ’n groot, oop natuurlike gebied of veld?	☐ ☐
Is jou huis meer as 30 m van beboste natuurlike plantegroei?	☐ ☐
Is jou eiendom buite ’n hoë veldbrandrisikogebied wat deur jou munisipaliteit geïdentifiseer is?	☐ ☐
Word aangrensende oop erwe goed onderhou en vry van oormatige droë plantegroei gehou?	☐ ☐

Aanbevole optrede
Ja: Brande beweeg vinniger teen hellings op en word deur sterk wind aangeblaas. Skep ’n groter brandweerstandsones rondom jou huis.

Ja: Maak ’n voorbrandbaan op jou eiendom reg langs die brandrisikogebied. Dit sal nie die brand noodwendig stop nie, maar dit sal brandbestryders beter toegang gee.

Ja: Skep en onderhou ’n voorbrandbaan of brandweerstandstrook langs die grens van die natuurlike gebied.

Ja: Skep die grootste moontlike brandweerstandsones deur plantegroei naby die huis te verwyder of uit te dun.

Nee: Indien jy in ’n hoërisikogebied woon, tref ekstra brandbeskermingsmaatreëls en bly waaksaam tydens die brandseisoen.

Nee: Meld toegegroeide erwe by die plaaslike munisipaliteit se brandweer aan of werk saam met bure om die brandgevaar te verminder.

2. Plantegroei en brandstofbestuur

2.1 Verwydering van brandbare materiaal

Vraag Verwyder jy gereeld uitheemse plantegroei, dooie hout, droë blare en ander brandbare materiaal van jou eiendom?	Ja Nee ☐ ☐
Is daar ’n brandweerstandsones van minstens 10 m rondom jou huis?	☐ ☐
Word die gras rondom jou huis in die somer gereeld gesny?	☐ ☐
Is boomtakke teruggesnoei sodat dit nie aan die huis se dak raak nie?	☐ ☐

Aanbevole optrede
Nee: Verwyder hierdie materiaal gereeld, veral voor en tydens die brandseisoen.

Nee: Verwyder droë gras, struik en ander brandbare materiaal rondom die huis, en snoei bome en struik.

Nee: Sny die gras gereeld tydens die veldbrandseisoen.

Nee: Snoei takke om te voorkom dat die brand maklik na die huis se dak versprei.

3. Geboue en strukture

3.1 Huis

Vraag Is jou huis van hout gebou of het dit ’n grasdak?	Ja Nee ☐ ☐
Is dakbalke of houtstrukture onder dakoorhange blootgestel?	☐ ☐
Word geute en dakke gereeld skoongemaak van blare, dennenaalde en ander brandbare materiaal?	☐ ☐
Is ventilasie-openinge met fyn metaalgaas beskerm?	☐ ☐

Aanbevole optrede
Ja: Hou plantegroei binne minstens 10–20 m van die huis baie kort en beperk alle brandbare materiaal.

Ja: Behandel of bedek die hout met goedgekeurde brandwerende materiale.

Nee: Maak geute en dakke gereeld skoon om die ophoping van brandbare materiaal te voorkom.

Nee: Installeer metaalgaas om te voorkom dat gloeiende kooltjies die dakruimte binnedring.

3.2 Houtstrukture

Vraag Is houtdekke, houtheinings en priële met ’n brandwerende middel behandel?	Ja Nee ☐ ☐
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Aanbevole optrede
Nee: Gebruik ’n goedgekeurde brandwerende behandeling vir houtoppervlaktes.

4. Berging van brandbare materiale

4.1 Hout, kompos en gas

Vraag Word vuurmaakhout, hout- of komposhope minstens 3–10 m van jou huis af gehou?	Ja Nee ☐ ☐
Word jou LP-gassilinders volgens veiligheidsvoorskrifte gestoor?	☐ ☐

Aanbevole optrede
Nee: Skuif hierdie materiaal verder van die huis af en hou ’n skoon sone rondom die huis.

Nee: Berg silinders regop in ’n goed geventileerde area weg van hitte en plantegroei. Kry raad by ’n LP-gashandelaar en pas jou stoorgebied volgens hul aanbevelings aan.

5. Water en brandbestrydingstoerusting

5.1 Watertoevoer

Vraag Is jou tuinslang maklik bereikbaar en lank genoeg om die hele huis te bereik?	Ja Nee ☐ ☐
Is brandkrane maklik bereikbaar vir brandbestryders?	☐ ☐
Het jy ’n addisionele bron van water buiten munisipale water?	☐ ☐
Het jy basiese brandbestrydingstoerusting soos ’n brandblusser, brandplakke of emmers beskikbaar?	☐ ☐
Het jy basiese opleiding ontvang om veldbrande te kan blus?	☐ ☐

Aanbevole optrede
Nee: Kry langer tuinslange, en installeer ekstra buitekranes of ’n reënwatertenk met pomp.

Nee: Verwyder hindernisse en stel die brandweer in kennis indien nodig.

Nee: Installeer ’n reënwatertenk of verseker toegang tot ’n alternatiewe waterbron.

Nee: Hou voldoende brandbestrydingstoerusting op ’n maklik bereikbare plek.

Nee: Skakel jou plaaslike AfriForum-tak vir die opleiding.

6. Toegang vir nooddienste

6.1 Toegang tot die eiendom

Vraag Kan ’n brandweerwa maklik by jou eiendom inkom en rondom die eiendom beweeg?	Ja Nee ☐ ☐
Is jou huisnommer duidelik vanaf die straat sigbaar?	☐ ☐
Kan toegangshekke maklik oopgemaak word en is dit vry van hindernisse?	☐ ☐
Is daar elektriese kables wat deur of oor bome en bosse loop?	☐ ☐

Aanbevole optrede
Nee: Hou toegangspaaie oop en verseker ’n minimum opening van sowat 4 m breed en 4 m hoog.

Nee: Bring ’n duidelike, weerkaatsende huisnommer aan sodat nooddienste jou vinnig kan opspoor.

Nee: Hou alle hekke in goeie werkende toestand en verwyder enige versperrings.

Ja: Laat die kables verskuif of behoorlik beskerm om brandgevaar te verminder.

7. Veilige gebruik van vuur

7.1 Braaie en oop vure

Vraag Brand jy of jou bure rommel of tuinvullis?	Ja Nee ☐ ☐
Is daar altyd ’n tuinslang of brandblusser gereed wanneer daar gebraai word?	☐ ☐

Aanbevole optrede
Ja: Let op dat die verbranding van enige rommel of tuinvullis onwettig is as jy nie ’n permit het nie.

Nee: Hou altyd ’n werkende tuinslang of brandblusser byderhand wanneer jy die braaivleisvuur aansteek.

8. Voorbereiding en noodbeplanning

8.1 Gesinsgereedheid

Vraag Het jou huishouding ’n veldbrandnoodplan?	Ja Nee ☐ ☐
Het jy ’n grypsak met noodsaaklikhede gereed, in geval dat jy moet ontruim?	☐ ☐
Volg jy veldbrandwaarskuwings tydens die brandseisoen?	☐ ☐

Aanbevole optrede
Nee: Stel ’n skriftelike nood- en ontruimingsplan op en oefen dit gereeld in. Praat met jou gesin oor die veldbrandplan.

Nee: Pak noodsaaklikhede soos dokumente, medisyne, water, kos, klere en selfoon-laaiers vooraf.

Nee: Volg waarskuwings van die Suid-Afrikaanse Weerdiens, jou munisipaliteit en plaaslike rampbestuur- of brandbeskermingsvereniging.

9. Gemeenskapsveiligheid

9.1 Verantwoordelike optrede

Vraag Spreek jy mense aan wanneer hulle onveilig optree en ’n veldbrand kan veroorsaak?	Ja Nee ☐ ☐
Het jy die brandweer se noodnommer byderhand om ’n brand so gou moontlik aan te meld?	☐ ☐

Aanbevole optrede
Nee: Moedig veilige gedrag aan. Indien gevaarlike praktyke voortduur, stel jou brand-beskermingsvereniging of plaaslike brandweer in kennis.

Nee: Kry die plaaslike noodnommer van die brandweer om veldbrande of enige ander brand so gou moontlik aan te meld.

Uitslag van die selfassessering

Tel die aantal antwoorde wat op ’n verhoogde risiko dui.

Risikovlak

- Lae risiko
- Matige risiko
- Hoë risiko
- Baie hoë risiko

Aantal risiko-antwoorde

- 0–5
- 6–10
- 11–17
- 18 of meer

Betekenis

Jou eiendom is goed voorberei. Gaan voort met gereelde instandhouding. Daar is verskeie verbeterings wat jou eiendom veiliger sal maak. Pak dit voor die volgende brandseisoen aan. Jou eiendom het beduidende tekortkominge. Stel ’n plan op om die geïdentifiseerde risiko’s so gou moontlik uit die weg te ruim. Jou eiendom is ernstig aan veldbrandgevaar blootgestel. Doen onmiddellike stappe om dié risiko’s te verminder en kontak jou plaaslike brandweerdienste of brandbeskermingsvereniging vir verdere raad.