



MAFPA RULES AND REGULATIONS 2023



The following rules are valid for the members of the Mangaung FPA (MAFPA) as from 1 April 2023 as established on 2 March 2023.

All FPA rules are subject to additional laws and regulations and members must accordingly take these into account as and when applicable:

- Protection of Agricultural Resources Act 43 of 1983 (with amendments)
- National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), 107 of 1998 (with amendments)
- Veld and Forest Fire Act 101 of 1998.
- Occupational Health and Safety Act and Regulations (OHASA), Act 85 of 1983 (with amendments)
- Mangaung Metro Municipality Fire and Emergency Services Bylaws of 2013

1. Risk and Resource Mapping (Fire Management Plans)

- a. It is a requirement of the FPA that every member completes a Fire Management Plan (Risk and Resource Mapping) of all land that falls under their control. Where member land falls within a designated peri-urban area the Sector Fire Management Plan is accepted as the member Fire Management Plan.
- b. Veldfire risks and hazards must be indicated in the fire management plan.
- c. Mitigation measures must be clearly indicated on the maps as prescribed.
- d. The risk analysis and mapping (Fire Management Plan) must be completed in the official format as provided for by MAFPA at www.mafpa.co.za.
- e. Fire Management Plans must be uploaded onto the member's applicable Risk & Resource Assessment Profile as soon as possible, but no later than 31 July.

2. Training

Landowners must have trained personnel available to assist with veldfire suppression. Training is available to improve safety on the Fireline, increase ability to manage wildfire risks and become compliant with the provisions of the Veld and Forest Fire Act. Members are strongly advised to attend FPA training at least once every 3 years.

3. Communication

- a. Mass communication gets done via Whats App group/s.
- b. Documentation gets sent via e-mail.
- c. Operational communication during a fire incident with two-way radios using legacy national disaster management midband frequencies Channel 2-8. Working on Fire midband channels 1 (Red) and 4 (Green).

4. Minimum Personal Protective Equipment and Clothing

The following minimum PPE is recommended by the FPA in line with the OHASA Regulations:

- a. 100% cotton overall with 100% t-shirt underneath as a second layer.
- b. Leather gloves
- c. Ankle high leather boots
- d. Dust & smoke proof goggles
- e. Cotton bandanna or face scarf
- f. Sun/bush hat

5 Safety Standards

- a. Members engaged in fire suppression operations must maintain acceptable safety standards on the fire line.
- b. All members and personnel under their control must have minimum PPE when engaging in fire suppression or controlled burning.
- c. Members who respond to calls for assistance with fire suppression operations must report their arrival at and withdrawal from the area of operations to the Incident Coordinator/Commander.
- d. Members must cooperate with the Incident Commander/Coordinator when engaged in fire suppression operations.



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6. Minimum Recommended Fire-fighting Equipment Per Hectare

1-100 Hectare	1 person hand team with sufficient PPE equipped with 2 x fire beaters. The team must have a cell phone available for communication.
101-499 Hectare	1 x 3person hand-team with sufficient PPE equipped with 1x knapsack sprayer and 2 x fire beaters. The team must have a cell phone or hand radio available for communication.
500-1500 Hectares	1 x 500 l Bakkie Unit and crew consisting out of 1x driver and 2x crew with complete PPE.
1500 – 3000 Hectares	Minimum 1 Bakkie Unit and crew with supporting Bulk Water Tanker/Trailer, additional Bakkie Unit or Fire Cart Unit.
Above 3000 Hectares	For every additional 1500 hectares of land under a member’s control an additional Bakkie Unit, Bulk Water Tanker/Trailer or Fire Cart Unit must be available.

7. Minimum Recommended Equipment Per Bakkie Unit:

- a. 500-600l Skid Unit (tied down/secured)
- b. 1x metal rake or drip torch
- c. Matches or a lighter
- d. 5l petrol for skid unit
- e. 1x wire pliers
- f. 2l drinking water per person.
- g. Two-way radio
- h. First aid kit for team/ bakkie unit
- i. 5m Vehicle recovery strap/rope
- j. Spotlight or area work light
- k. Small Dry Chemical Powder (DCP) fire extinguisher (vehicle protection only)

8. Standards for Fire Breaks, Equipment and Personnel Readiness.

The following standards are valid for the making of fire breaks, equipment, and personnel readiness:

- a. Risk based precautionary measures including fire breaks must be implemented by members, Fire Management Sectors, and Fire Management Areas, as per official Fire Management Plans.
- b. Fire breaks as well as other preventative and control measures must be implemented/made in such a way so that identified risks or hazards in a given area are reasonably eliminated, mitigated, or controlled.
 - i. Fire Breaks must be free enough from burnable material to reasonably prevent a fire from burning across the fire break.
 - ii. Fire breaks must improve accessibility for fire fighters, provide anchor points and control lines and have a reasonable chance of preventing the spread of fires under prevailing wind conditions.
 - iii. Fire breaks must be at least 3 times as broad as the height of the flammable material surrounding the fire break. (Fire Break Width = 3x fuel height)
 - iv. The use of existing and natural firebreaks (roads, rock ridges, ploughed fields) must and should where possible form part of the fire break plan.
 - v. Buffer zones around buildings and high value or high-risk areas should be reasonably free from fuels that can carry a fire and be at least 5 – 10m wide.
 - vi. Fire breaks may not cause soil erosion.
- c. Members must ensure that mitigation measures and readiness levels are implemented as soon as conditions permit but before prevailing conditions can sustain the development of high intensity and fast spreading wildfires.
- d. Members must ensure that equipment remains in good working order for the duration of the fire season, personnel is trained and equipped.
- e. Members must obtain burn permits before engaging in controlled burning.
 - i. Applications for burn permits must be made at least 48 hours before planned burning is scheduled.
 - ii. Members must adhere to conditions stipulated in burn permits.