



MOOI RIVER

FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION



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WHY BE A MEMBER OF THE MRFPA?

RUNAWAY FIRES CAN MAKE YOU LIABLE. PROTECT YOURSELF AND BECOME A MEMBER.

Fire management is not just a precaution — it is a responsibility.

Membership of the Mooi River Fire Protection Association (MRFPA) provides landowners, farmers, businesses, and residents with important legal protection, access to coordinated fire management systems, and the support of a wider network during fire season.

The MRFPA is a registered Fire Protection Association with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) and is also a member of the KwaZulu-Natal Fire Protection Association. This ensures that the Association operates within the framework of the National Veld and Forest Fire Act and follows recognised provincial standards and best practices.

One of the most important benefits of membership is the legal presumption relating to negligence. In terms of the National Veld and Forest Fire Act, where a landowner is a registered member of a Fire Protection Association and complies with the requirements of the Association — including maintaining firebreaks, following approved fire management practices, and holding a valid burn permit where applicable — that landowner will generally be presumed not to have been negligent unless proven otherwise.

This legal protection can be extremely important in the event of a veld fire spreading onto neighbouring properties or causing damage. In contrast, landowners who are not members of a Fire Protection Association may be presumed to have been negligent if a fire originates on their property.

AS A MEMBER OF THE MRFPA, YOU BENEFIT FROM:

- Burn permits issued through a dedicated fire app, allowing you to burn legally and responsibly
- Daily weather updates and daily Fire Danger Index (FDI) readings
- Free access to the fire permit app and fire WhatsApp group
- Access to a 24-hour operations centre in the event of an emergency
- Free use of the MRFPA water cart for burning firebreaks or other approved fire management activities, subject to availability and prior arrangement
- Communication networks and emergency support during fire season
- Training opportunities and equipment coordination

- Guidance through emails, WhatsApp's and updates explaining fire regulations, member responsibilities, and the risks associated with veld fires.
- Improved cooperation between neighbouring landowners, emergency services, and the wider farming community.
- Reduced legal risk through compliance with recognised fire control measures

Membership demonstrates that you have taken the necessary steps to prevent and manage fire risk — something that can make a critical difference in the event of a runaway fire.

In terms of the National Veld and Forest Fire Act, offences are classified into two categories, and landowners have clear responsibilities when it comes to preventing and managing veld fires. Membership of the MRFPA helps landowners understand these responsibilities, remain compliant, and reduce their risk.

Ultimately, being a member of the MRFPA is not only about meeting legal requirements — it is about protecting your property, your neighbours, your livestock, your infrastructure, and the wider community.

Protect your property. Protect your neighbours.

Do the responsible thing.
