

FirePermits Guide: App Users & Farmers

Welcome to FirePermits (<https://firepermits.co.za>). This guide provides a straightforward overview of how to install the application, register your farms, and request burn permits.

1. Installing the Application

FirePermits is a Progressive Web App (PWA) that installs directly from your web browser.

Android Devices:

1. Open **Google Chrome** and navigate to `firepermits.co.za`.
2. Tap the **Menu** (three dots) in the top-right corner.
3. Tap **Install app** (or "Add to Home screen").
4. Confirm by tapping **Install**. The app will appear on your home screen.

iOS Devices (iPhone/iPad):

1. Open **Safari** and navigate to `firepermits.co.za`.
 2. Tap the **Share** icon at the bottom of the screen.
 3. Scroll down and tap **Add to Home Screen**.
 4. Tap **Add** in the top-right corner. The app will appear on your home screen.
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2. Account Setup & Notifications

1. Open the FirePermits app from your home screen.
 2. Sign in using your Google account or email address.
 3. **Important:** When prompted, you must allow the app to send **Notifications**. This is essential for receiving permit approvals, denial reasons, and emergency burn ban alerts.
 - *If you declined notifications, you can enable them later by navigating to the app's **Settings** menu and selecting **Request Permission**.*
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3. Registering Your Farm

Before requesting a permit, you must define your farm's location.

1. Navigate to the **My Farms** tab and tap **Add Farm**.
 2. Enter your farm name and location details.
 3. **Map Location:** Use the interactive map to place a pin on your property. You can use the **Find My Location** button to automatically set the pin to your current GPS coordinates.
 4. **FPA Selection:** Select your Fire Protection Association (FPA). If your map pin falls within a registered FPA boundary, the system will select it automatically.
 5. Review and accept the liability terms, then tap **Register Farm**.
 - *Repeat this process if you operate multiple farms across different locations.*
 6. **Farm Boundaries:** Optionally, you can manually trace your farm's physical boundary on the map or upload shape files to accurately display your property limits.
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4. Requesting a Burn Permit

1. Navigate to the **My Permits** tab and tap **Request Permit**.
 2. Select the registered farm where the burn will take place.
 3. Select the intended **Burn Type** and the **Date**.
 - *Note: If your FPA enforces same-day permits, future dates will be disabled.*
 4. **Burn Location:** Move the map pin to specify the exact location of the fire on the property.
 - *Geofence Warning:* You will receive an alert if the burn location is placed further than 2km from your registered farm center.
 - *Cross-Border Warning:* If your burn location is within 500 meters of a neighboring FPA that currently has an active burn ban, you will be notified before proceeding.
 5. Tap **Submit Request**.
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5. Permit Statuses & Management

Once submitted, your permit is sent to your FPA Manager.

- **Pending:** Waiting for manager review.
- **Approved:** You are authorized to burn on the designated date.
- **Denied:** The permit was rejected. Tap on the permit to view the specific reason provided by the manager.
- **Cancelled:** The permit was revoked by the FPA or cancelled by you.
- **Active:** The permit is approved and today is the scheduled burn date.

Emergency Notifications: If weather conditions deteriorate, the FPA may suspend specific burn types or activate a global burn ban. If this happens, impacted permits will be automatically cancelled, and you will receive an immediate push notification instructing you to extinguish your fire.

Managing Active Permits:

- **Cancelling:** If you decide not to proceed with a burn, tap your pending or approved permit and select **Cancel Permit**.
 - **Completion:** Once your fire is fully extinguished, tap your active permit and select **Mark Completed** to update the system and notify authorities.
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6. Delegating Farm Access

You can share access to your registered farms with other users (e.g., farm managers or partners) without requiring duplicate registrations.

1. Navigate to the **Settings** tab.
 2. Under the **Delegate Farm Access** section, enter the email address of the user.
 3. Select their role:
 - **Editor:** Can request permits on your behalf and update the farm's shape geometry. They cannot delete the farm or register new farms under your profile.
 - **Viewer:** Can request permits on your behalf and view the farm details, but they cannot edit the farm's shape geometry or make any other changes.
 4. The delegated farm will appear in their dashboard with a "Proxy" label.
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7. Viewing the Collective Farm Map

To visualize all your properties:

1. Navigate to the **My Farms** tab.
 2. Tap **Show Map** to display a consolidated view of all your registered and delegated farms, including their drawn boundaries.
 - Red pins denote farms you own.
 - Blue pins denote delegated (Proxy) farms.
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8. Application Updates

FirePermits uses Progressive Web App caching to seamlessly update. When a new version is released, the app will automatically refresh the next time you open it to ensure you are always running the latest version.