

Cemeteries

Responding to bushfire risk

Safer places



Council has a process for limiting use of some community facilities during elevated fire danger weather. The aim is to minimise the number of people in high risk areas during times of heightened fire danger.

Better awareness



A risk rating has been used to classify facilities based on a number of characteristics including the number of people likely to be using a facility and how easy is it to get away from bush fire prone land in the event of an unexpected fire.

Some Council managed cemeteries are on bushfire prone land and measures to reduce risk are put in place at certain times during dangerous conditions. This new process focuses on large groups of people, but it is still good practice for individuals to avoid these higher risk places during high fire danger periods.

Better communication



Berrima, Bundanoon, Penrose, Robertson and Welby cemeteries

Changes to the way people visit cemeteries would occur when fire danger ratings reach *high*, *extreme* or *catastrophic*. **See the table over the page for information on each cemetery.**

Under the highest fire danger rating of *catastrophic*, burials at Berrima, Bundanoon, Penrose, Robertson and Welby cemeteries would be held over to another day.

Better prepared for emergencies



At *extreme* ratings measures to reduce the number of people attending high risk areas are used. Mitigation measures include limiting graveside services and the number of people able to attend burials.

How will I know if a cemetery is restricted?

Council works with funeral directors to respond to changing fire danger ratings.

In addition, each cemetery has a web page which will have the information about when a facility will be closed. The website also provides a link to the fire danger rating. Fire danger ratings are updated by the Rural Fire Services generally by 4pm each afternoon.

For information on what fire danger ratings mean as well as information on fire behaviour under different conditions visit rfs.nsw.gov.au

How can I find out more?

Visit Council's website, email or call Council's Cemeteries – Business Services Officer for more information.

Risk measures for cemeteries on bush fire prone land

Cemetery	Fire Danger Rating for the Illawarra Shoalhaven district			
	Moderate	High	Extreme	Catastrophic
Penrose Cemetery Robertson Cemetery Welby Cemetery Berrima Cemetery Bundanoon Cemetery	Open	Caution	Mitigation actions are required: 1. Hold over the burial where possible. 2. Relocate graveside services to alternative venues. 3. Limit the number of people at a burial. 4. Undertake activities in the early morning.	Closed. Hold over burials

Connecting with Council

✉ mail@wsc.nsw.gov.au

☎ 02 4868 0888 (24hr Contact Centre)

📍 PO Box 141, Moss Vale NSW 2577

📍 Civic Centre, 68 Elizabeth Street, Moss Vale