

Greater Cederberg

Fire Protection Association



BACKGROUND

The Fynbos Biome has been here for millennia, and it has been burning for just as long and will continue to do so in the future. Indigenous plant and animal species have adapted over time to survive these fires. Fire is the most important driving force to maintain biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Factors such as climate change and alien invasive plants species influence and change the intensity, frequency, season and size of fires. It has an ongoing negative impact on the social, economic and ecological values and well-being of the region and its people.

Active participation and involvement in fire protection associations can reduce and minimise these negative impacts when the community participates in the development and implementation of integrated fire management measures.

YOUR PARTNER IN INTEGRATED FIRE MANAGEMENT

**WORKING TODAY TO PREVENT
UNWANTED WILDFIRE TOMORROW**



SERVICES

The objective of the Greater Cederberg Fire Protection Association is to reduce the damage that is caused by unwanted fires. This is accomplished through fuel load reduction and the promotion of fire readiness, awareness and education.

We strive to protect lives, assets, properties and the environment from the impacts of unwanted fires.

The Greater Cederberg Fire Protection Association is not a firefighting organisation. Fire suppression remains the responsibility of the District Municipality.



NATIONAL VELD AND FOREST FIRE ACT (Act 101 of 1998)

Every landowner, where a fire can start and spread from his property, has the obligation to comply with this Act. This includes the establishment of firebreaks on property boundaries and the availability of trained staff with protective clothing. Landowners must also have adequate equipment available and be ready to combat fires.

The Act makes provision for the establishment of Fire Protection Associations. The Greater Cederberg Fire Protection Association was registered in 2005 and currently provides a service to 900 members stretching over an area of approximately 1.1 million hectares in size. Agri Western Cape, accreditation institutions and insurance companies strongly support and promote membership to fire protection associations.

ADVANTAGES

- In court, FPA members are not presumed negligent and the plaintiff has to prove negligence by the FPA member.
- A Fire Management Plan is compiled by experts and provides practical guidelines to reduce the risk of fire on a regional basis.
- We submit an application to the Minister for exemption to establish firebreaks on property boundaries.
- Our extension services identify landowners' fire risks and provide guidelines on risk mitigation strategies.
- Working on Fire teams are available at a minimum rate to members to assist in carrying out integrated fire management activities.
- Members are organised and coordinated during fire suppression operations.
- Fire awareness and education levels are improved.
- We facilitate training and capacity building among members and their staff.
- We represent members at provincial and national forums.

FUNDING & MEMBERSHIP

The GCFPA is a non-profit organisation and relies on income that is generated from membership fees and contributions by partners, in order to be effective and efficient.

When new members join, a once-off administration fee is levied and an annual membership fee is determined by the size of the property.

Our current rates are available on the Membership Application form, which is obtainable from our website.



022 931 2083
079 172 4340



admin@cederbergfpa.co.za



cederbergfpa.co.za