

# Child Safety – Fires

Working children will often assist in the preparation of bonfires, scrub burns and post-harvest paddock burns.

Excessive use of accelerants (petrol, kerosene) to light fires also creates a serious risk which can result in life long disfiguring injuries.

Children have also been seriously injured by flying debris and explosions caused by placement of inappropriate materials (e.g. aerosol cans/household items) into bonfires.

## Administrative controls

- Always ensure that working children are supervised when preparing farm burns.
- Never allow working children to light fires without direct adult supervision.
- Ensure that household/workshop items such as chemical drums and aerosol sprays are not dropped into materials to be burnt.
- Ensure that appropriate first aid facilities, including a burns kit, is always available for all farm burns.
- Ensure that fire extinguishers are immediately accessible.

## GET HELP

- VFF Email: [mofs@vff.org.au](mailto:mofs@vff.org.au)
- VFF Phone: 1300 822 833