



The 3rd Degree Survival Guide 2026

Survival guide for attendees.

This guide contains **VERY IMPORTANT** information you must know to have a great experience, be safe and enjoy The 3rd Degree 2026.

If this is your first Burn, then we extend to you a warm Welcome Home!



The Third Degree is a fully immersive participatory experience which gathers the existing burner community and welcomes new friends. You are all invited to enjoy the lovely views and environment this wonderful site gives to us all.

- ❖ This is not a commercial festival! This is an experience where everyone contributes to make the burn fun. Burns are often described as an anthropological experiment. This year the event is held 10 - 14 September and is an **Official Burning Man Regional Event**.
- ❖ This event is not just a party put on for your entertainment. YOU are the entertainment. It is a co-created event built through the collaboration, cooperation, gifts and talents of all who attend. We want you to feel empowered to actively build the community you want to be a part of in the future. If you want it better or different next year, then volunteer and bring it.
- ❖ **The Third Degree observes all state and territory laws in relation to controlled substances and devices.**



3rd 10 +1 PRINCIPLES

Burning Man co-founder Larry Harvey, who passed away in April 2018, wrote the "Ten Principles" in 2004 as guidelines to help the newly forming Regional Network, as burns started to pop up around the world. These principles provide a framework to create.

- Radical Inclusion
- Gifting
- Decommodification
- Radical Self-reliance
- Radical Self-expression
- Communal Effort
- Civic Responsibility
- Leaving No Trace (moop)
- Participation
- Immediacy

**+1 Our Core Principle:
Consent**



We are an 'Ask First' community!

Before you hug someone, touch someone, or offer someone a drink, get Consent prior to engaging!

After a successful first attempt at the pilot program in 2025, we are running the B.E.D consent program again this year at the Third Degree! With a unified approach to teaching consent, the core concept to take away is that there are processes in place to generate increased safety for everyone.

Consent is the foundation of the 3rd Degree, the bedrock which supports the Burning Man Ten Principles.

Consent must be freely given, reversible, informed, enthusiastic, and specific.

Anyone with a BED button is a Consent Ambassador and can assist you with anything consent related.

The consent training from BED is available for everyone, so we can all participate in fostering a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment.

Register at BEDTalks.org to get BEDucated!

(Or click this link for a 15 minute short course)

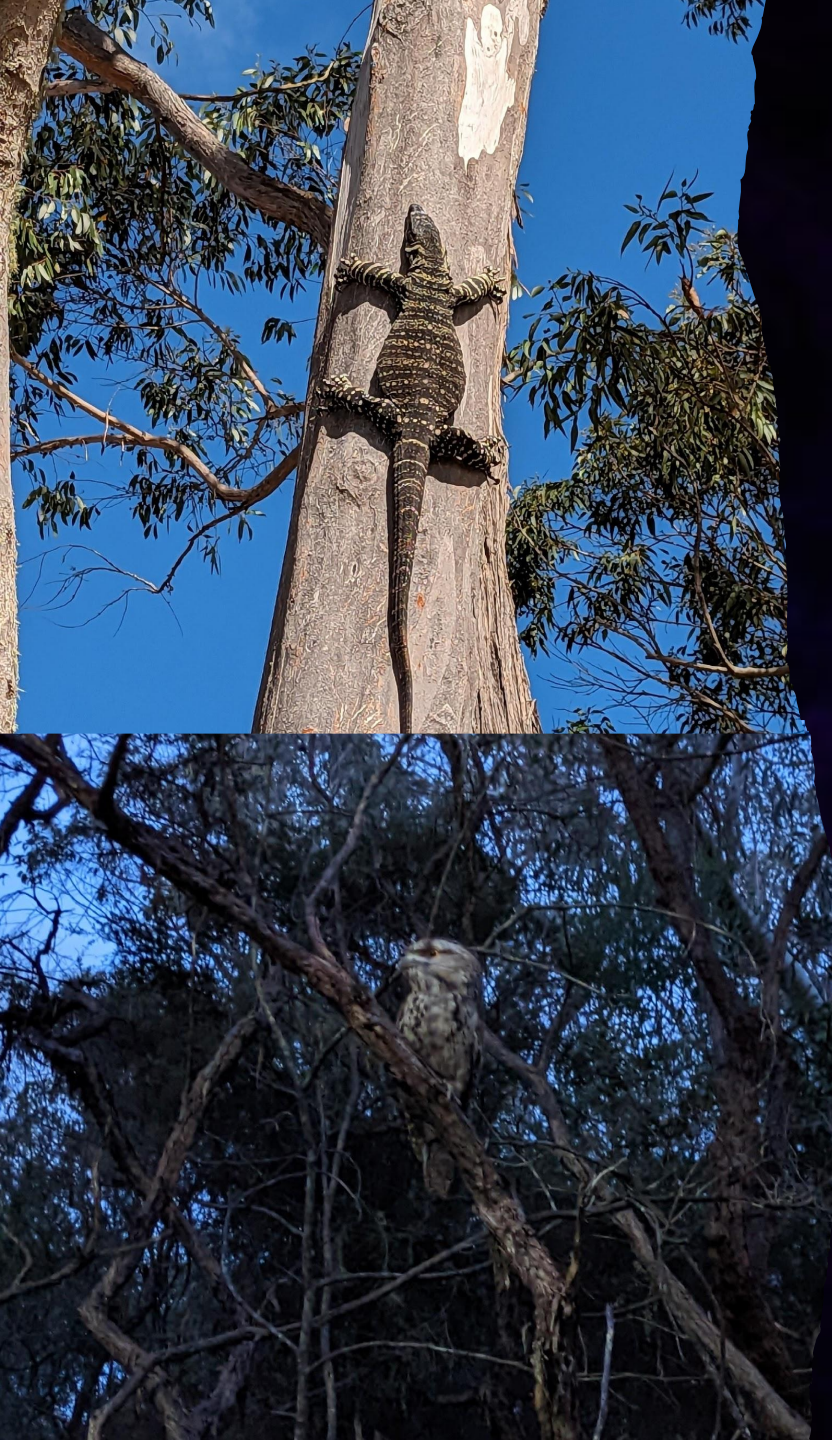
<https://youtu.be/MC6z3a446eY?si=iLR2RUrsaqUmWdSB>

IS YOUR CAMP B.E.D. UCATED



HELL,
YES!

BEDTalks.org



The 3rd Degree Environmental Commitment

The Unique Environment

We are lucky to be surrounded by a stunning national park, but this comes with a responsibility to the environment. Our area is home to a variety of animals, including tawny frogmouths, lace monitors, wallabies, black cockatoos, bush turkeys, and red-bellied black snakes.

To ensure their safety and yours, please keep all food items and food rubbish secure.

We mean it. They will get in to your stuff and take it. They have learned that anything in a soft plastic wrapper is probably edible, and they will grab any such and run off into the forest with it. This includes things like toilet paper and anything in a ziplock bag. To protect the animals and your stuff, use hard side bins with lockable lids and solid lockable food containers. We also strongly recommend keeping your tent closed to prevent any animals from entering. Yes, this has happened.

As this is a national park, we would like to remind you that this is a pet-free event. Only approved assistance animals are permitted, and they must have a PAT accreditation card and be in the presence of their human while on site.

Thank you for helping us protect and preserve our natural environment.

Leave No Trace and MOOP

Leave No Trace is a core Principle of Burner culture. It means whatever you take in, you take out. The area where you camp is left the same or better then when you arrive, with all your camping gear and rubbish removed.

M.O.O.P. = "matter out of place". Not even the smallest item should be left behind. Orange peel, eggshells and other organics are MOOP in the forest. Strain dark greywater to catch any food bits before you dump it.

The nearest rubbish dumps are

Buttonderry Waste Management Facility

Address: 850 Hue Hue Road, Jilliby

Woy Woy Waste Management Facility

Address: Nagari Road, Woy Woy

DO NOT LEAVE YOUR TRASH ON THE ROADSIDE!



Your Wellbeing is Important!

We are proud to uphold an "Ask First" culture. This relates to everything, from high fives and hugs, to food and photography, all the way to paddock incident management.

A Burn is different from a festival, it can be weirdly stressful, fun, overwhelming, stimulating and tempting all at once. This is one of the reasons we attend, it pushes us in ways that help us to learn deeply about ourselves. Looking after your own emotional, mental, and physical health is your most important job. Please do not make someone else sacrifice their Burn experience because you've failed to take care of yourself.

If you find yourself needing support, make your way to Sanctuary at HQ

1. The 3rd degree has EEMO (Emotional Emergency + Medical Ops) volunteers, trained and able to hold space for anyone having a difficult time emotionally.
2. If you are unwell or injured first aid volunteers can be found at HQ, ready to help.
3. If you're keen to read more, this emotional survival guide was written for participants at Burning Man and has tips that are equally applicable for The 3rd degree:
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/chip-conley/burning-man-survival-guide_b_3769346.html
4. **Lost Minors Policy:** If a young person (under age 18) is reported lost or missing, there will be no vehicle exits until the young person is found.

Dangerous, abusive, violent, unlawful and non-consensual behaviour will not be tolerated at The 3rd Degree.

These behaviours may result in a participant being evicted and if extreme, may also result in law enforcement intervention and a ban to future events.

3rd Degree Volunteers

We love our volunteers! Out on the paddock we have amazing people volunteering to assist the burn in crucial roles to make a safe event. Everyone at our burn deserves respect, and any abuse of volunteers will not be tolerated. All complaints are taken very seriously. You can identify our volunteers on duty by the following:

- ❖ SASS Rangers – Our eyes and ears on the ground. Look for the bright orange shirts pictured on this page. You can go to them if you need help on the paddock or require information.
- ❖ SASS EEMO (Emotional Emergency Medical Ops) - These are volunteers who manage Sanctuary space for mental health emergencies.
- ❖ First Aid – These are the wonderful people who will help you if you have physical injuries or issues. They can be found at HQ.
- ❖ Crew Volunteers - anyone who is currently on shift will be wearing a neon yellow vest with VOLUNTEER clearly printed on it. These cover, Gate, Traffic control, Sanitation Squad, HQ and many other roles.



Montana McStay,

a Kurnai, Pitjatjantjara, Yuin woman and artist behind Inala Art & Design is responsible for the amazing art called “Watch over me” on our SASS Ranger Shirts

Failure to adhere to reasonable directions of volunteers on duty may be grounds for eviction from the event



Gate Info

Local Roads

As always when we are driving on the road, we expect people to follow the road rules and avoid speeding.

▪ Woy Woy Road has blind bends and is prone to accidents, so drive carefully and follow speed signs posted (wet weather is 60 km not 80).

On Site Roads

- The road into the event is mostly a one-way road, with a few passing bays.
- Drive carefully and slowly, as there are MANY potholes, and wallabies can jump onto the road!
- **Turn on your hazard lights (even in the daytime)**
- The speed Limit is 20 km, once you pass the gate it is 10 km.

It is extremely likely vehicles will be exiting at the same time you are entering

- In the event you encounter an oncoming vehicle, the vehicle/driver with the best ability to reverse must reverse back to a spot to allow for the oncoming driver to pass
- If you are unable to resolve which vehicle must give way, then both drivers should call the Gate/Greeters station, and we will help you reach a resolution.

Gate Times

10th of September: Gates open 12pm / Close 10pm

11th of September: Gates open 10am / Midnight

12th of September : Gates open 10am / 4pm

Sunday – Closed

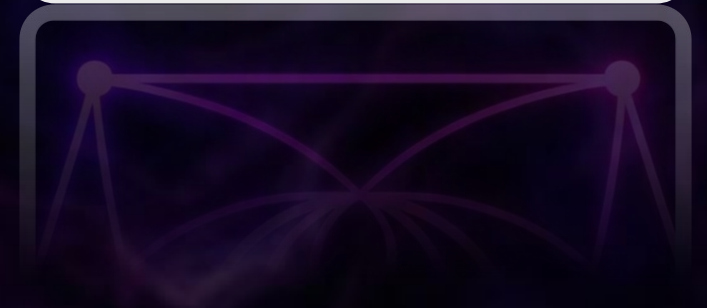
Monday – Closed

No pass outs, we encourage everyone to fully immerse themselves in the space for the duration of the event.

If you must leave site earlier to head home no issue at all.

Medical and emergency matter exemptions apply.

Please note that arriving outside of these times you will not be admitted entry.





A Burner Welcome

Prepare for Gate

- Each passenger must have a ticket to enter. If you are being dropped off, you will need to exit at the gate and there is a fair walk to the grounds.
- Each person should have ID matching the ticket holder name.
- You must have evidence that you have sufficient food and shelter.
- Suitable bag(s) for taking your trash home.
- There may be queues and delays at times during entry.
- The Gate crew will direct you to traffic crew, and they will direct you depending on your camping type: Walk-in, Caravan / RV, or Car camping

Prepare for Greeting

- Arriving at a Burn is a unique experience, so we give care when we say hello and welcome you to our community. As well as the usual ticket checks we have a Greeters Crew who will encourage you to enter our world with open eyes and an open heart.
- Please be patient. The entry process is an important part of the event.
- Please do not attempt to rush the Gate and Greeter's experience.
- Remember everything here is consensual you will be even asked for a hug.
- A reminder of our 10 + 1 Principles and encouragement to share how you feel you will embody at least one of those principles during the event

Toilets and Hygiene

Loos

There are 2 types of toilets at Third Degree, flushing toilets (available at specified hours) and portaloos. There is also a disabled loo available 24/7. Please DO NOT pee or poop in the bush.

Menstruating Humans - (*periods, moontime, bleeding, Aunty Flo*) If it didn't come out of your body, don't put it in the potty! The waste system can manage organics and loo paper only. All other items (pads, tampons, baby wipes) must not go into the toilets.

Please make sure you have something to carry your used items. Ziplock bags work well for this purpose, then dispose of them safely with the rest of your trash.

Handwashing

Clean, safe hands are necessary at Burns! Each toilet zone will have handwashing facilities, or hand sanitiser.

Greywater

All soaps need to be greywater safe. Look for the specially marked packs at the supermarket. It is ok to pour water out on the edges of the forest provided it has been strained free of food, being mindful of where the water will flow. This water meets up with the Hawkesbury river so please be mindful.



Hot Showers? Fancy!

There are hot shower facilities on site, but water is very limited. Please keep your showers as quick as possible, preferably not more than 5 minutes per human. These spaces are intended for everyone to clean up in a safe and respectful environment.

Please be mindful of others—hazing, pranks, and any sexually inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated.

Shower Time & Types:

The blocks will be open for 2 hours in the morning and 2 hours in the afternoon. These time blocks are divided into one-hour segments for different shower setups.

A sign will indicate which type of shower is currently available during that hour.

Morning: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Evening: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Gender-Inclusive Hour - In this hour the entire shower block will be accessible to all genders. This is to provide a safe space for anyone who acknowledges that human bodies exist along a gender spectrum and recognizes that binary gender is a social construct.

Traditional Gender Hour: For people more comfortable with male and female division, the block will be open for one hour with clearly marked signs for each.

Need to know:

Disabled-Access Showers: The single disabled access/wheelchair friendly shower and loo is next to HQ. If you require access to this facility, please make yourself known.

Why are the showers locked at other times? Great question! The facilities can't handle constant use. Overuse can cause the old seepage system to backflow, meaning sewage can flow up through the shower drainage. To avoid this, we keep the blocks locked except during designated times. Thanks for your understanding!



HQ, First Aid & Onsite Questions

It is our hope that many problems can be resolved collectively without Crew involvement however, when needed, HQ is there to help.

Headquarters - Is Located behind the main hall, the doorway is adjacent to the back wall of the hall.

HQ Supports the functions usually found in separate departments at larger Burns. We do ask that you do not enter the back area of HQ unless authorized.

Due to our small population, all this will be in one place. If you have any questions, default to HQ, or someone wearing a crew vest or ranger shirt.

- **Sanctuary** - *(a safe space to go if you're overwhelmed)*
- **Site Facilitation** - *(safety issues, general site problems)*
- **Theme Camps** - *(placements and questions)*
- **Art and Artists** - *(placements and questions)*
- **Toilet issues** - *(tell us what is up with the shit)*
- **Lost and Found** - *(a month after the event all unclaimed items will go to an op shop)*





Fire Safety @ The 3rd Degree

To protect the forest and each other there are strict fire rules at The Third Degree. Fire-ing squad volunteers have final say regarding all fire safety decisions.

Fire Flow & Performance

- All fire performers must be inducted on Saturday afternoon before the Effigy burn to perform that night. The time for induction can be found in the WWW.
- All fire performance activity must occur within the designated area only. Talk to HQ for more information.

The Effigy & Temple Burn

- The Effigy Burn is in the fire pit by the Scout Hall, Temple Burn is adjacent
- There is a Burn Perimeter raised before each burn which may not be crossed until advised.
- *On Effigy Burn Night:* The Burn is scheduled for Saturday night, at 8pm.
- *During The Burn:* All participants must be outside of the perimeter until it is dropped, once you are safely able to be near the fire. Anyone breaking the perimeter early may be asked to leave the event.
- *On Temple Burn Night:* The Burn is scheduled for Sunday night, at 8pm.
- *During the Burn:* tradition dictates that attendees are silent until the perimeter is dropped. This is a time for personal reflection and emotional release.

Burn Barrels & BBQ Areas

- The 3rd Degree has limited communal BBQ areas throughout the site. BYO gas bottle and something to throw on the grill. These are to be shared with the community, no one person “owns” the BBQ areas.
- This year we have no burn barrels on site
- No other solid fuel fires are permitted at 3rd Degree.

Accessibility & Site Terrain

What to Expect:

- **All areas are accessible on foot**
- **Not all areas are accessible by mobility devices**
- The terrain of The Third Degree has sloping areas, grass, gravel, clay & sandy walkway across the different areas. Much of the area is sandy with a sandstone base, thus it drains water away very quickly.
- It is steep in some areas especially up into the backwoods. There is uneven ground, potholes, and tricky spots. Everyone needs to watch their footing.
- RV & walk-in camping areas are mostly level with some tree litter and roots.

People with limited mobility are welcome at this event.

If you need more information regarding your specific needs, please reach out before you attend.



Waterhole & Creek

There is a small waterhole that we have been informed is currently not safe for swimming.

Please do not swim anywhere in the water onsite this year, as we cannot be sure the quality of the water is safe.



**No Swimming
here please**



Waterfall Zone

The site includes a lovely waterfall with a stunning view. We encourage you to enjoy the safe zone as marked. It is a stepped waterfall, the safe zone is level with the road crossing and not lower.

PLEASE DO NOT cross the barriers

Multiple cordons have been set up for your safety.

It is about a 20-meter drop to a rocky bottom.

If you see anyone going past the barriers, please intervene! If all else fails, let us know and we'll attend to it.

PACKING LIST

The next slides should help
you know what to bring



Pack Your Bags, it's time for 3rd Degree!

(we recommend you bring everything you need for radical self reliance at our immersive experience)

- ☐ Your Ticket!
- ☐ Gumboots / Wellies (the area can get wet)
- ☐ Photo ID with Proof of Age that matches the name on your ticket.
- ☐ A well-thumbed copy of this Survival Guide.
- ☐ Ice. There will be some Ice available onsite, but it is very limited.
- ☐ A large container for water for your camp!
- ☐ A water bottle. Drink more water you beautiful, hydrated wonder beast!
- ☐ Greywater-safe soaps. It is ok to tip cool, food strained, and dark greywater on the base of trees. Bring a strainer!
- ☐ Hand sanitiser.
- ☐ All your own food in a wildlife-secure container as well as any alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks you wish to consume. There is no food for sale.
- ☐ Personal lighting and torches/headlamps. Consider lighting up your tent so it's easier to find. Remember spare, preferably reusable, batteries too.
- ☐ Camping gear, a tent, or van to sleep in, a stove, esky, etc. (THERE IS LIMITED CAR CAMPING LOCATED SEPARATELY FROM WALK-IN CAMPING)
- ☐ Tennis balls to cover pegs and/or brightly coloured ribbon, or string lights to mark guy ropes.

Pack Your Bags continued...

- ☐ Warm clothes and bedding.
- ☐ Slip Slop Slap Seek and Slide. The Aussie sun is harsh even when cloudy so bring sunscreen, a hat, sunnies, and clothing to cover up and try to stay in the shade when you need to.
- ☐ Bug spray / Insect repellent.
- ☐ First aid kit. Be self-reliant and only seek medical attention if the injury is beyond your ability to manage.
- ☐ Prescriptions, medicines, antihistamines, epi-pens, contact lenses, etc that you may need during this time. FRIENDS DON'T LET FRIENDS FORGET THEIR MEDS.
- ☐ A raincoat or umbrella.
- ☐ Enclosed shoes, the site has stones, bindis, mud, and water areas.
- ☐ Rubbish Bags - there are no rubbish bins onsite. What you bring in you take out – including food waste.. Also please take your empties away from the Theme Camps,. do not make them clean up your crap.
- ☐ A bag or container to collect cans and recyclable items.
- ☐ A hard sided bin with lockable lid to collect food scraps and food rubbish.
- ☐ If you smoke: a portable ashtray such as a film canister or airtight metal tin to collect your cigarette butts.
- ☐ Potentially useful things, eg wet wipes, sewing kit, extra rope, duct tape, cable ties. Even if you don't use it yourself, someone else might need it!

Pack Your Bags – Optional Extras

Optional Items

- ☐ Costumes and funky clothes to express yourself. Please avoid logos and obvious branding where possible in the name of decommodification.
- ☐ A bathing suit for the swimming hole. Nude is ok.
- ☐ Earplugs and sleeping devices. The music goes late, especially on Saturday night.

Any other type of art! (That will not leave MOOP)

- ☐ Musical instruments, fun things to play with, games.
- ☐ Decorative lights, signs, banners, and other objects to give your camp personality.
- ☐ Gifts! We are a gifting culture, so bring things to share e.g. food, drinks, an interactive game to play with others, a workshop or event as well as anything useful, interesting, or downright weird – it's all welcome! What are you good at? What are your passions and how can you share them or teach them? How can you be of service to others in a way that lights you up? Volunteering is a great way to contribute and costs nothing.
- ☐ Grit and determination. Burns are not festivals; they are more like endurance tests. Pace yourself, and hold on! Talk to someone! Get a hug! We all help each other through the hard times.

Pack Your Bags

Please Do Not Bring

Do not bring...

- Covid-19 or respiratory infections - You, or anyone else who is currently diagnosed with Covid 19, or is experiencing symptoms that could be related to Covid 19
- Fireworks, explosives, aerial flares, and all types of firearms including air rifles, BB guns, paintball guns and spud guns
- Glitter / feathers, Balloons, Chinese lanterns - this includes bio-glitter, loose glitter, and clothing or other items with glitter, sequins or feathers which may come off easily. Balloons pop and lanterns can cause fires. (remember Leave No Trace)
- Single-use glow sticks (aim for items with replaceable or rechargeable batteries)
- Pets of any kind. This is a solid rule as we are surrounded by national parks.
- Drones are not permitted in a national park, and they violate our “ask first” photography policy.

Definitely do bring your sense of fun and adventure, and we look forward to seeing you on the Paddock!

