



King Island Council

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FLARE FIRE

A recent fire at King Island Council's Parenna landfill site has highlighted the need to correctly dispose of expired distress flares. The source of the fire was traced by Council's staff to a discarded marine flare which was deposited in a residential bin. Despite being swiftly brought under control, Council's Director of Infrastructure and Services is concerned about the consequences of a fire breaking out while the landfill site is unsupervised.

All boats operating in coastal waters are required to carry approved distress flares for attracting attention in the event of an emergency. Distress flares have a life span of three years and must be correctly disposed of when they expire. To correctly dispose of expired flares on King Island they must be taken to the Charles Street Waste Transfer Station during advertised opening hours. The Council operator on site is equipped with a water-filled steel container into which the flare will be deposited for correct and safe disposal.

Council would like to remind all boat operators of the severe penalties which can be imposed for misusing flares. If any community members have questions about this procedure or would like clarification on this or any other waste disposal matters, please don't hesitate to contact Council on kicouncil@kingisland.tas.gov.au or 6462 9000.

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