

FIRE SEASON PREPAREDNESS FACT SHEET

2016

Be as ready as you can this fire season

Every organisation or community group who operate out of premises that are near dense forest, bush, grass land or the coast need to prepare for the threat of fire and decide on fire plans now.

A shared responsibility

The responsibility for surviving the fire season is shared between emergency services and the community. We all – including you and your community group – share responsibility for our community's safety.



Tips to get you started

A well prepared building is more likely to survive a bushfire, a few simple things to do are:

- Create at least a 20 metre circle of safety around your buildings by clearing rubbish, long grass and other materials that may catch fire.
- Keep gutters clean and install metal gutter guards.
- Store flammable fuels and chemicals away from the building and store in an enclosed shed away from the building.
- Install sarking behind weatherboards and beneath existing roofing.
- Replace glass over time with toughened or laminated safety glass.
- Install shutters or metal flyscreens to doors and windows.

In considering how you will respond if a fire event occurs whilst people are at your premises, consider some of the questions below:

- Which Fire Danger Rating is your trigger to close your facility or cancel an event?
- What will you do if there is a fire in the area and people at your premises cannot leave?
- Have you communicated your plan to your stakeholders?
- Have you practised your plan?

Please find a list of overleaf resources to help you prepare and plan for the fire season.

Resources to help you prepare and plan

There are many great resources available through your local fire agency to assist you in preparing and planning for a fire.

Click on the links below for more information:

ACT	ACT Government ACT Emergency Services Agency – Bushfires
NSW	NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) – Plan and Prepare
	RFS Major fires update page
	Fire & Rescue NSW
NT	Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Service - Bushfire Safety Management
	North Australian Fire Information (NAFI)
QLD	Queensland Government - Bushfire survival plan - Prepare, Act, Survive
	QFES - Community Safety
	QFES - Emergency Planning
SA	South Australian Country Fire Services (CFS) – Bushfire Survival Plan
TAS	Tasmania Fire Service – Bushfire Survival Plan
	YouTube “Prepare to Survive”
VIC	Human Services – Victoria State Government - Bushfire Preparedness
	Emergency preparedness in residential aged care - bushfires
	Country Fire Authority (CFA) – Plan & Prepare
WA	Department of Fire & Emergency Services (DFES) - Bushfire
	Business and Industry Fire

This material is for information purposes only. It is not intended to give specific legal or risk management advice nor are any suggestions, checklists or action plans intended to include or address all possible risk management exposures or solutions.