

Be

BUSHFIRE

READY



Summer Safe



Be Bushfire Ready

The potential for severe bush fires exists in WA every year.

You can reduce the dangers posed by a bush fire through careful planning and making your home Bushfire Ready.

Be Informed...

About bush fire safety for you, your family and home. Information is available from your local brigade, local government or the Fire and Emergency Services Authority (FESA).

Have a Plan...

- Decide whether you will stay with your property, or go to a safer location.
- If you decide not to stay, leave early. Know where you will go and whether you can get there safely.
- Prepare a list of things to do when a bush fire approaches.
- Prepare a list of emergency phone numbers and numbers of neighbours' homes.
- Check that all family members are aware of their role in your family bush fire emergency plan.

Helpful Tips

to make your home
Bushfire Ready this Summer...

- Maintain a circle of safety, at least 20 metres wide, around your home by clearing away trees, dead leaves, twigs and branches. Also cut long grass and undergrowth in this area.
- Don't store flammable liquids, firewood or other flammable material close to, or underneath the house.
- Close in eaves and the space under your house.
- Fit bronze flywire screens or shutters to your windows and doors.
- Maintain gutters and the roof clear of leaves.
- Ensure that hoses reach all corners of the home.
- Consider buying a petrol or diesel powered pump and arrange to have an alternative firefighting water supply (eg. tank, pool, dam).
- Comply with the local government fire break notices.
- Don't burn off or light a barbecue on Very High or Extreme Fire Danger days, and check with your local council to find out about fire restrictions.



Prepare a Bush Fire Kit

Make sure you have...

- Woollen blankets.
- Buckets, mop, knapsack, ladder, rake.
- Torch, battery-powered radio.
- A safe storage box for valuables and important documents.

Make sure all family members have...

- Protective clothing—cotton or woollen trousers, long-sleeved shirt or jumper, sturdy shoes/boots, hard hat or wide-brimmed hat, goggles and gloves.



Fire facts

- ▲ Burning embers can enter your house through open vents, broken windows or roof spaces. These small sparks can ignite a fire in your house.
- ▲ The majority of houses destroyed by bush fires burn down after the fire front has passed.
- ▲ During a major bush fire there may not be enough fire appliances available to protect every home, so a great deal of responsibility rests with the home owner to protect his or her house and family.



Relocation...

Should I stay or should I go?

Don't leave the decision to relocate until the fire is so close that you cannot get out safely!

If there is a bush fire in your area, you must make an early decision on whether you will stay with the house or relocate.

Staying with your own or a neighbour's home could also be safer than trying to get away on roads blocked by fire and smoke.

You may prefer to stay...

- If you are confident your home is well prepared.
- If you have sufficient emergency water supplies.
- If you think you and your family can deal with the stress and tension of battling the fire.

(In extreme conditions police officers or firefighters may direct you to leave.)

You may prefer to go if you...

- Aren't confident about the fire safety of your house.
- Are worried about young children, elderly people or someone who is sick.
- Think you could not cope with the stress of fighting the fire.
- Know it is safe to leave, have a safe destination in mind and know it is safe to get there.

If a bush fire approaches...

- Dress in protective clothing and close all windows and doors.
- Block downpipes and fill gutters with water, also fill buckets, basins, baths and sinks as a back-up supply.
- Extinguish small spot fires around your house and check for spot fires under and in the roof space of the house.
- When it becomes too dangerous outside, shelter inside and take hoses and fittings with you.

In case of fire emergency Call 000

For further fire safety information
contact your local government
or the Fire and Emergency
Services Authority.



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