

BUSHFIRE WARNINGS: WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

SURVIVE.

ALERT LEVEL	WHEN WILL IT BE ISSUED?	WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?	
<p>ADVICE Be aware and keep up to date</p> <p><i>Issued at 11am and 4pm unless the situation changes</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When a fire has started but there is no immediate danger. There is no threat to lives and homes. The fire is likely to be small and may be causing smoke near homes. Firefighters will be able to control the fire. 	<p>YOU NEED TO BE AWARE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay alert and monitor your surroundings by watching for signs of a bushfire, especially smoke and flames. Check the Fire Danger Rating for your area. Close all doors and windows. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Turn off evaporative air conditioners but keep water running through the system if possible. Read through your bushfire survival plan. If you do not have one decide what you will do if the situation gets worse.
<p>WATCH AND ACT Put your preparations into action - do not wait and see</p> <p><i>Issued every two hours unless the situation changes</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When a fire is approaching and conditions are changing. There is a possible threat to lives and homes. The fire will be out of control. There may be smoke and embers around your home and roads. Firefighters will be working with machines to put in containment lines to stop the fire spreading. 	<p>YOU NEED TO LEAVE OR GET READY TO DEFEND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put your bushfire survival plan into action. If you have decided to leave for a safer place, leave now and take your survival kit with you. Leave well before roads are closed and full of smoke. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On catastrophic or extreme fire danger days your best chance for survival is to leave hours before a fire reaches you. If you are not prepared for a bushfire the safest place is to be away from the fire. If you plan to use your home as shelter, make final preparations now.
<p>EMERGENCY WARNING Take immediate action to survive - you will be impacted by fire</p> <p><i>Issued every hour unless the situation changes</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When there is immediate danger and the fire will impact your home. There is a threat to lives and homes. The fire will be out of control and moving very fast. This is the highest level of warning. Firefighters will find it difficult to control the fire and it will take significant firefighting resources and a change in conditions to bring it under control. A siren sound called the Standard Emergency Warning Signal (SEWS) may be used to get your attention on radio and television. 	<p>YOU NEED TO ACT IMMEDIATELY TO SURVIVE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you have not left yet and the way is clear leave immediately for your safer place and take your survival kit with you. If you have not prepared your home, it is too late to do it now. Your safest option is to leave for a safer place, if the way is clear. Do not relocate at the last minute in a vehicle or on foot as this is deadly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you plan to use your home as shelter, start patrolling your property to put out spot fires. If you are unable to leave, you need to get ready to take shelter in your home and actively defend it. You must seek shelter before the fire arrives as the very hot radiant heat will kill you well before the flames reach you.
<p>ALL CLEAR Take care to avoid any dangers and keep up to date</p> <p><i>Issued when the threat has passed</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When the danger has passed and the fire is under control. Firefighters will be working to put the last bits of the fire out and make the area safe. It may still not be safe to return home. Emergency services will advise when you can go home. 	<p>YOU NEED TO BE CAREFUL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remain vigilant in case the situation changes. When driving in the fire area you should take extreme caution and drive slowly. Dangers like smoke, fallen trees and downed power lines may be on roads and emergency services will still be working in the area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be careful of damaged infrastructure including walls, bridges, roads and footpaths. Some services such as power and telephones may not be working. Service providers will be working to restore these as soon as they can.