

Your Bushfire Action Checklist

- 1 You need to prepare to “stay and defend your property” or “go early” before the bushfire season.
- 2 Make sure that your decision is flexible enough to deal with changed circumstances – e.g. school holidays, visitors, work commitments, etc.

Pre-season Preparations

- Display a prominent house number or other identifier
- Make sure fire trucks can get onto your property
- Make sure things that can burn are well away from the house (e.g. wood piles, boxes, garden furniture, cans of fuel, rubbish bins, etc)
- Create low fuel areas with driveways, paths, gravelled areas and lawns close to house
- Remove, cut or mow bushes, grass and weeds around sheds, fences and gates
- Clear any overhanging branches from roof
- Clean gutters and buy gutter plugs
- Install screens or shutters on all windows and doors
- Protect under floor paces with non-combustible sheeting or mesh
- Make sure that external house timbers have a good coat of paint
- Point LPG cylinder relief valves away from the house
- If you have a water systems, pumps or generator, make sure they are in working order
- Make sure your water supply will be sufficient if there is a bushfire
- Buy a battery powered radio to listen to bushfire updates

Pre-season Preparations

- Make sure sufficient protective clothing is available
- If you plan to ‘go early’ decide on where you will stay (eg. friends, relatives away from the fire area)
- Have your take-away box ready should evacuation become necessary (To include blankets, water, basic food, first aid kit, medications and insurance details)
- Firefighting Equipment** (To protect your home, you need at least the following equipment)
- Sufficient lengths of hose to reach all buildings that could be threatened.
- External and internal ladders
- Buckets and alternative water supplies
- Shovels, rakes and wet towels, sacks or other heavy material that can be used to put out small fires
- Fire extinguisher (for internal fires only)
- Plugs for downpipes (can be bought from hardware stores, or alternatively, use a supermarket bag filled with sand or soil)
- Torch
- Full length clothing (wool, cotton), including gloves, eye protection, work boots and a broad brimmed hat
- Water bottles or containers to easily carry drinking water with you
- First aid kit

High Fire Danger Days

- Monitor fire information, listen to local ABC Radio
- Drink lots of water
- If on acreage or a farm, move stock to fully grazed areas
- Remove door mats
- Check:
 - >> Generator, petrol pump and sprinklers
 - >> Protective clothing kits
 - >> Fire fighting equipment

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Your Bushfire Action Checklist

Fire in area

Listen to ABC radio for bushfire information

Go early if this is your plan.

Remember your take-away box

Keep family and neighbours aware of your movements

Stay and defend your property.

Put on protective clothing

Drink lots of water

Move any stock to fully grazed paddocks

Move car/s to a safe location

Remove garden furniture, doormats and other items

Close windows and doors and shut blinds

Take down curtains and move furniture away from windows

Seal all gaps under doors and screens

Bring pets inside and restrain them (leash, cage, or secure room), and provide water

Block down-pipes (at the top) and fill gutters with water if possible

Wet down the sides of buildings and close shrubbery in the likely path of the bushfire

Wet down fine fuels close to buildings

Turn on sprinklers in garden for 30 minutes before bushfire arrives

Fire in area cont...

Fill containers with water – bath, sinks, buckets, wheelie bins, etc

Have ladders ready for roof space access (inside) and against roof (outside)

Have generator or petrol pump ready

Check and patrol outside for embers

What to expect during a bushfire

» Heat and Wind

» Lots of smoke and noise (fire, sirens, aircraft)

» Loss of power

» Partial or total loss of water pressure

» Loss of phone line

» Fire trucks on the road

» Aircraft overhead

FIRE FRONT ARRIVES

Disconnect hose and fittings and bring inside

Go inside for shelter

Drink lots of water

Check and patrol for embers inside, particularly in the roof space

Check family and pets

After the fire front passes

Wear protective clothing

Only go outside once it is safe

Continue drinking lots of water

Check for spot fire and embers

» Inside the roof Space;

» Under the floor boards;

» Under house spaces;

» On verandas and wooden decking;

» On timber window ledges and door sills;

» Roof lines and gutters;

» Outdoor furniture;

» Garden beds and mulch;

» Wood heaps;

» Sheds and carports;

» Listen to ABC radio for updates.

**For more information: call 1300 369 003
in business hours (cost of a local call)
www.fire.qld.gov.au or ruralfire.qld.gov.au**

