

PREPARE YOUR PROPERTY

BUSH FIRE SAFETY

BUSH FIRE AND YOUR HOME

BUSH FIRE SAFETY



Regardless of your decision to Leave Early or Stay and Defend, you still need to prepare your property against the threat of a bush fire and ember attack.

A well prepared home:

- Is more likely to survive a bush fire. Even if your plan is to Leave Early, the more you prepare your home, the more likely it will survive bush fire and/or ember attack.
- Can be easier for you and firefighters to defend.
- Is less likely to put your neighbours' properties at risk.
- Will give you more protection if a fire threatens suddenly and you cannot leave and have to take shelter.

Property preparation checklist:

- Complete a Bush Fire Survival Plan.
- Keep lawns short and gardens well maintained, removing things like mulch away from your property.
- Trim any trees or shrubs that are close to your property.
- Remove dead leaves from the roof, gutters and downpipes.
- Clean up fallen leaves, twigs and debris around the property.
- Install metal gutter guards.
- Check the condition of your roof and replace any damaged or missing tiles.
- Install fine metal mesh screens on windows and doors.
- Fit seals around doors and windows to eliminate gaps.
- If you have a water tank, dam or swimming pool contact your local brigade to have a **Static Water Supply (SWS)** sign installed.
- Install a fire sprinkler system to your roof and gutters.
- Check your home and contents insurance is adequate and up-to-date.



It is your responsibility to prepare your property for bush fires.

For further property preparation tips refer to the **Australian Bush Fire Standard AS3959**.

Download and complete your **BUSH FIRE SURVIVAL PLAN** today at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au or 'MyFirePlan' app for smartphones and tablets.



BUSH FIRE INFORMATION LINE
1800 NSW RFS
1800 679 737
www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

Are you prepared to keep your family safe?



A well prepared home is more likely to survive a bush fire even if you leave early.

Prepare your property

- 1 Cut back any overhanging trees or shrubs and dispose of cuttings appropriately.
- 2 Check the condition of your roof and replace any damaged or missing tiles.
- 3 Non-combustible fences are the most effective at withstanding the intense heat generated by a bush fire.
- 4 Clean leaves from the roof, gutters and downpipes and fit quality metal leaf guards.
- 5 Plant trees and shrubs that are less likely to ignite due to their low oil content.
- 6 If you have a water tank, dam or swimming pool, consider installing a Static Water Supply sign (SWS).
- 7 Have a non-combustible doormat.
- 8 Install metal flywire or solid screens to the outside windows and doors.
- 9 Check the condition of external walls, cladding and seal any gaps.
- 10 Remove and store any flammable items away from the house.
- 11 Ensure you have a hose which is long enough to reach every part of the home.
- 12 Make sure the pressure relief valves on LPG cylinders face outwards (so flame is not directed towards the house).
- 13 Keep garden mulch away from the house and keep grass short.
- 14 Store wood piles well away from the house and keep covered.
- 15 Enclose underfloor areas.



BUSH FIRE INFORMATION LINE
1800 NSW RFS
1800 679 737
www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.