

Emergency checklist

Emergencies can arise at any time, so it is important to take these simple steps to protect yourself, your family, pets and property before, during and after a bushfire or local emergency.

BEFORE AN EMERGENCY



Recognise warnings and alerts

- Know and monitor the Bush Fire Alert Levels and the Fire Danger Ratings.



Know your evacuation routes

- Learn your evacuation routes, identify where you will go and practise with your household.



Get your property ready

- Keep the grass low and clear an area around your home.
- Clean your gutters of leaves.
- Have hoses long enough to reach around your house.
- Fit wire mesh screens to windows and doors.



Make an emergency plan

- Make sure everyone in your household understands what to do if you need to quickly evacuate.
- Make sure your insurance policies and personal document are up to date and make copies of them.
- Pack an emergency kit.

DURING AN EMERGENCY



Pay attention to emergency alerts and notifications for information and instructions.



Evacuate immediately if RFS and/or Police tell you to do so. Check with local authorities for the latest information about evacuation routes.



Use an N95 mask to protect yourself from smoke inhalation.



For life threatening emergencies, call 000.

AFTER AN EMERGENCY

Do not return home until authorities say it is safe to do so.



Send text messages or use social media to reach out to family and friends. Phone systems are often busy following a disaster.



Document property damage with photographs. Conduct an inventory and contact your insurance company.



Avoid charred trees, smoldering debris and live embers.



When cleaning, wear protective clothing – including a long-sleeved shirt, long pants, work gloves and sturdy shoes.

PREPARING AN EMERGENCY KIT

An emergency kit can help save time in an emergency situation. It provides items you might need if you lose power or need to leave your home with little notice.

Getting started

- Get together with everyone in your household to make a list of what you will need.
- Choose a sturdy, easy to carry waterproof storage box for your emergency kit.
- You can also make up a smaller bag to keep in your car or office.

Family members with special needs

Don't forget to include provisions for anyone in your family with special needs such as elderly, people with a disability, infants or pets.



Babies, infants and young children

- Formula and bottles
- Nappies
- Medication.



Dogs, cats and other pets

- ID and leash
- Food and water
- Cage/basket.



Elderly and people with a disability

- Medication
- Contact lenses and supplies
- Glasses.

The NSW RFS **Assist Infirm Disabled and Elderly Residents (AIDER) Program** is a free service, supporting vulnerable residents to live safely and confidently in their home on bushfire prone land.



Scan the QR code to find out more about bushfire management.

wsc.nsw.gov.au/environment/Bushfire-Management

Items to include

- ✓ Portable battery-operated AM/FM radio
- ✓ Waterproof torch (head torches are a great option)
- ✓ Spare batteries
- ✓ First aid kit with manual
- ✓ Woollen blankets
- ✓ Emergency contact numbers (make copies to take with you)
- ✓ Copies of home and medical insurance policies
- ✓ Drinking water.

Before you leave

- ✓ Cash, ATM cards, credit cards
- ✓ Medications, toiletries and sanitary supplies
- ✓ Mobile phone and charger
- ✓ Change of clothes for everyone
- ✓ Hand sanitiser and N95 mask
- ✓ In car phone charger and cable
- ✓ Items for family members with special needs
- ✓ Laptop/iPad and charger
- ✓ Passport, identification documents, recent bank statements
- ✓ Playing cards or favourite small/portable game
- ✓ Family mementos, photos, documents.

Disclaimer

This information is not intended to supersede any formal advice given to you by an appropriate authority such as Police or RFS. Current as of August 2023.



wsc.nsw.gov.au



Civic Centre,
68 Elizabeth Street,
Moss Vale, NSW 2577



mail@wsc.nsw.gov.au



02 4868 0888