

## LIVING IN THE 'BUSHLAND SHIRE' MEANS LIVING BUSH FIRE READY

### DO THESE NOW

- ✓ Prepare a Bush Fire Survival Plan at [myfireplan.com.au](http://myfireplan.com.au) (5 minutes). It could save your life and the life of those you love. 
- ✓ Download the Hazards near me app on your phone.
- ✓ Prepare your home. A well-prepared home:
  - Can be easier for you or fire fighters to defend.
  - Is more likely to survive, even if you're not there.
  - Is less likely to put your neighbours' homes at risk.
  - Will give you more protection if a fire threatens suddenly, you cannot leave and need to take shelter.
- ✓ Pack an Emergency Survival Kit that contains essential items and important documents regardless of whether you plan to stay and defend or leave early. Visit [rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://rfs.nsw.gov.au) to learn what to pack. 
- ✓ Set aside protective, non-synthetic clothing for each member of your family (long sleeved shirt, long pants, sturdy footwear, goggles and P2 mask).
- ✓ Purchase a battery-operated radio, powerful torch and extra batteries.
- ✓ Plan for your animals and livestock to prevent undue stress.
- ✓ Check that your home and contents insurance is up-to-date.

If you are infirm, disabled or elderly you may be eligible for the AIDER Program to assist you with your property preparation. Visit the AIDER page at [rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://rfs.nsw.gov.au)



# Bush Fire Aware

### STAY INFORMED

**Don't assume you will receive a warning as a fire approaches**



It's up to you to monitor conditions, know what the Fire Danger Rating is each day, look out for warning messages and stay connected to local media, radio stations and websites like:

#### NSW Rural Fire Service

[rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://rfs.nsw.gov.au)  
Bush Fire Information Line 1800 679 737  
NSW RFS Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai District 9883 2000



#### Hazards Near Me App

Current information about local bush fires, floods and tsunamis, fire danger ratings and hazard reductions.



#### Traffic and Travel Information

[livetraffic.com](http://livetraffic.com)  
Traffic Enquiries - 132 701



#### Bureau of Meteorology

[bom.gov.au](http://bom.gov.au)



#### ABC Radio

AM radio 702



#### Department of Primary Industries

[dpi.nsw.gov.au/emergencies/emergency](http://dpi.nsw.gov.au/emergencies/emergency)



#### Hornsby Shire Council

[hornsby.nsw.gov.au](http://hornsby.nsw.gov.au)  
9847 6666

### IN AN EMERGENCY

Call Triple Zero (000) and ask for Police, Fire or Ambulance. If you are hearing or speech impaired call 106.

# Our bushland has adapted to live with bush fire

## Let's do the same





# PREPARE YOUR PROPERTY

## IT'S NOT JUST FLAMES – HEAT AND EMBERS CAN ALSO DESTROY HOMES.

Flames, heat and embers can all cause timbers and other combustible elements to ignite and windows to break. There are ways to prevent the transfer of flame and heat from your yard to your home and seal gaps to stop embers from entering.

## ALL YEAR ROUND



1. Avoid planting next to or under windows. Design and locate pathways directly adjacent to your home.
2. Enclose under floor areas with metal mesh (2mm aperture).
3. Clean up fallen leaves, twigs and debris from around your property.
4. Cut back overhanging branches from rooflines.
5. Minimise use of combustible mulch by choosing alternatives (such as pebbles or scoria).
6. Keep lawns mown to less than 10cm.
7. Store woodpiles and flammable liquids away from your home.
8. Non-combustible fences are the most effective at withstanding radiant heat from a bush fire and prevent transfer of fire from the bush to the streets behind.
9. Strategically located mature trees and dense plantings can provide a wind break and shield against radiant heat and embers.
10. As water pressure may be compromised consider having a static water supply tank with Storz fitting and shut off valve.
11. Keep and maintain a firefighting pump with suction hose to use with your SWS.
12. Have a fire hose long enough to reach around all elevations of your home.
13. If you have a pool, tank or dam, place a Static Water Supply (SWS) sign at the front of your property so firefighters know where they can get water.
14. Direct gas cylinder valves away from your home.
15. Install metal mesh fly screens on external doors, windows, vents and weepholes.
16. Clean gutters of leaves and twigs and repair damaged or missing tiles on the roof.
17. Install a draught excluder on external doors. Consider replacing doors with solid timber or non-combustible materials.
18. Install a sprinkler/drencher system to gutter and eaves and connect it to your SWS.
19. Provide access to the rear of your property for fire management operations.

### IF A FIRE IS IMMINENT

Before and after the fire front passes:

20. Remove flammable items from decks and verandahs such as timber furniture.
21. Remove coconut fibre door mats and hanging baskets from directly around your home.
22. Wet down surrounding vegetation manually or activate sprinkler systems to put out spot fires.