

How to get ready for **BUSHFIRE**

A visual guide

Based on the Tasmania Fire Service Bushfire Safety Guide
available at fire.tas.gov.au



BUSHFIRE
WHY RISK IT?



Tasmania Fire Service



Tasmanian
Government

Keeping safe during bushfire season



Leaving early
is always the
safest option



Have a
bushfire
plan ready



Have an
emergency
kit ready

If you have an emergency,
phone **000**

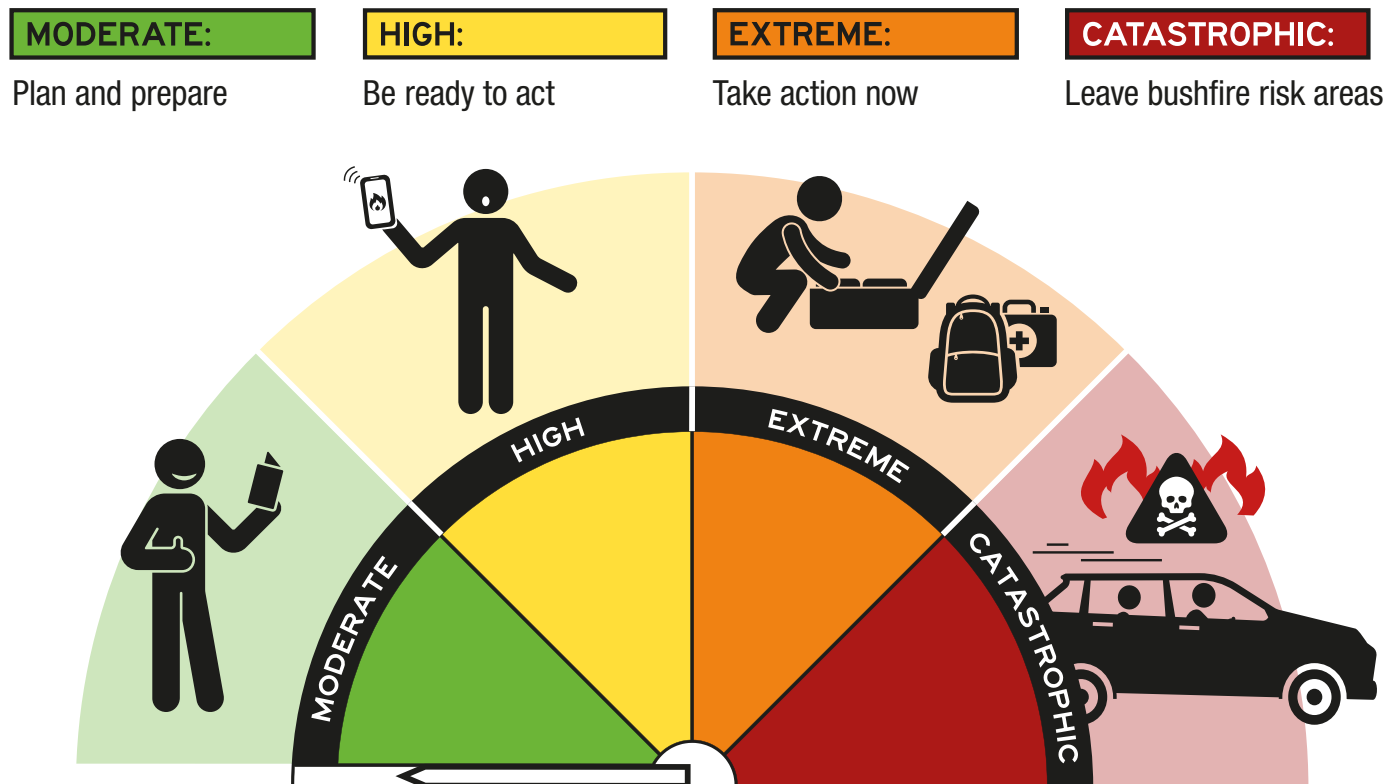


If you are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech impairment, there are a number of ways to contact emergency services through the National Relay Service.
www.accesshub.gov.au



Fire Danger Ratings (FDR)

The Fire Danger Ratings tell you how dangerous a fire will be if one starts.



Bushfire warnings and alerts

When there are fires, these warnings help you know what's happening. You might see them on social media, the news, ABC radio, or **TasALERT.com**



Bushfire Plans

Having a Bushfire Plan that your family knows and understands could save your life.

A Bushfire Plan covers:



What you will do



What you will do
with your animals



Who you will tell



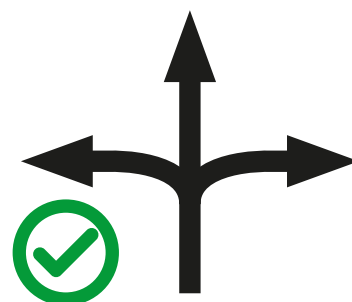
Where you will go



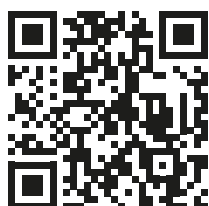
What you will pack



How you will get
your property ready

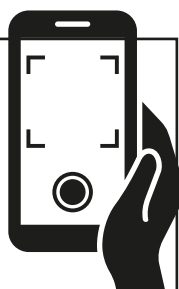


Your backup plans



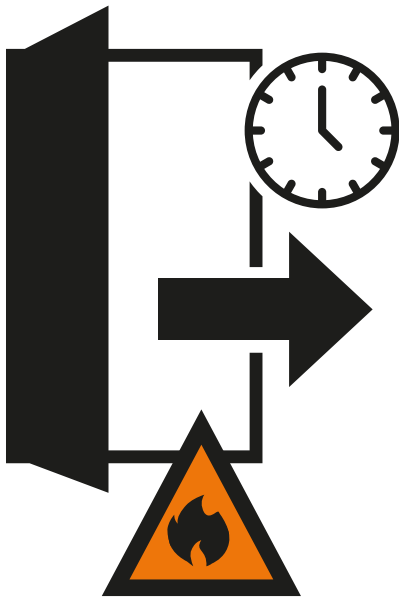
SCAN TO PLAN

Scan the code with your
phone and start your
Bushfire Plan now!

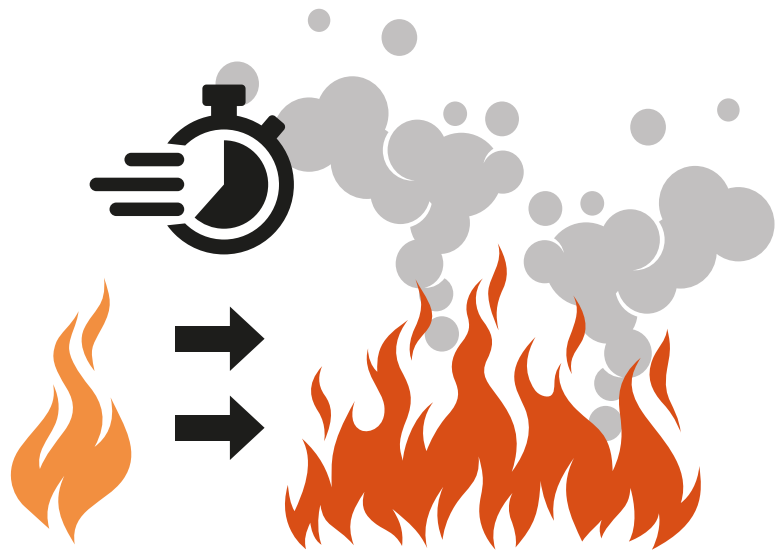


Can't scan?

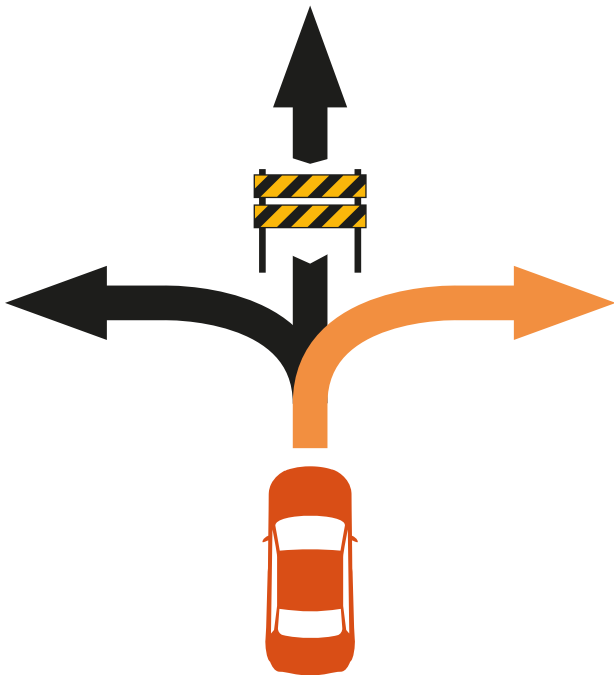
Call 1800 000 699 to get help
or request a blank bushfire
plan form.



Leaving early is always the **safest** option.



Things can change fast, so you might need to move quickly.



Know more than one way to get away. Some roads may be blocked.



Tell family, friends and neighbours where you are going when you leave.

What may happen in a bushfire



You may lose power, internet, phone signal, water or other services.



There may be thick smoke and you may have trouble breathing.

You might feel:



Scared



Confused



Thirsty



Tired



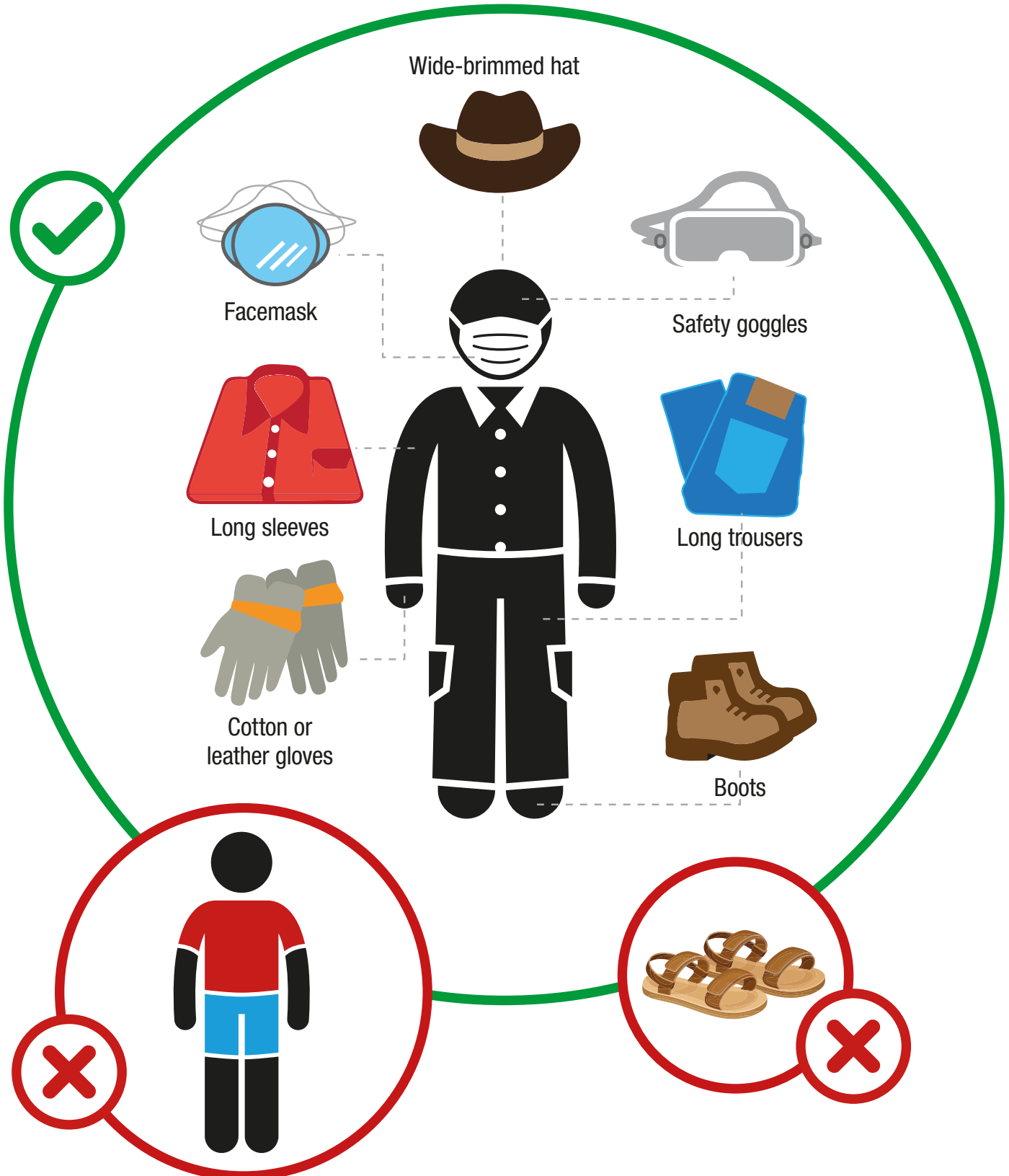
The heat from a fire can be very dangerous. To stay safe, stay far away from the fire. Hide behind buildings away from windows, and try to keep yourself covered.



During bushfires, many houses catch fire because of embers. These are burning twigs, grass and leaves blown ahead of the fire by the wind.

Bushfire protective clothing

You need to protect your skin, eyes and lungs during a bushfire. Use loose-fitting clothes that cover as much skin as possible. Everyone should have protective clothing. Have them ready on bushfire danger days, even when your plan is to leave early.

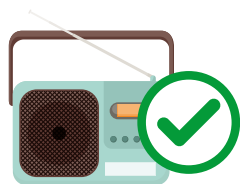


Emergency kit

Have an emergency kit ready to go with you if you need to leave your home. You may be away from your home for 1-2 days or longer.



Drinking water



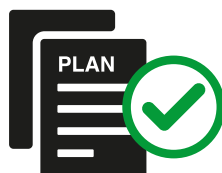
Portable radio



Batteries



Torch



Bushfire plan



Facemasks



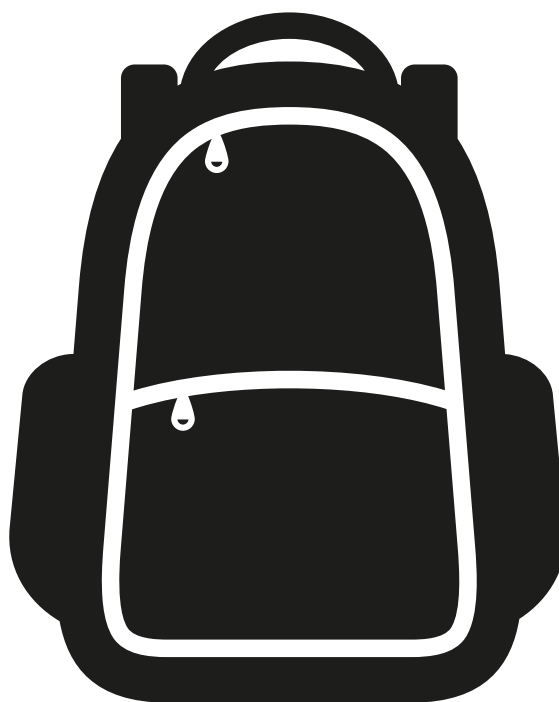
First aid kit



Candles and matches



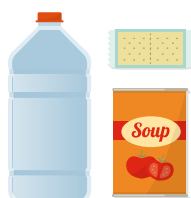
Blankets



When leaving early, make sure you also take:



Passports and important items



Food and water



Glasses, medications and prescriptions



Phone chargers



Keys and wallet



Items for children and pets

Surviving a bushfire

Remember: leaving early is always the safest option



LOW RISK: Your first and safest option on high fire risk days

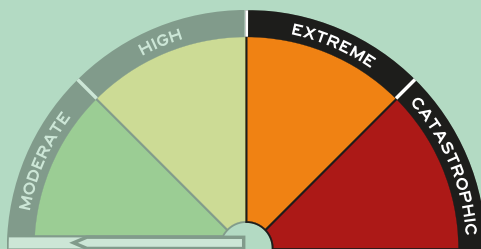


HIGH RISK: If leaving the area is no longer an option

Leaving early

When should I leave early?

When the Fire Danger Rating for your area is Extreme or Catastrophic.



Where to go?

A place far from the bushfire danger. It could be a home of family or friends, a town or other built-up area.

Well-prepared properties

There may be places close by that could protect you, such as:

- A well-prepared property (a neighbour's)
- The closest town
- Evacuation centres

Your safety cannot be guaranteed



EXTREME RISK: If NO other options are available

Places of last resort

As a last resort when caught with no clear way out, some places are safer, these are called bushfire places of last resort (Nearby Safer Places). These are safer because they have:

- lots of buildings and roads
- short grass
- ploughed paddock, cleared reserve or sports ground
- only a few trees

Find out:

- your nearest place of last resort
- how you will get there
- who will help you leave early

Warning: risk of trauma, injury or death

What if I get stuck?

You may be stuck in a house or car and unable to leave.

Tell someone where you are and call 000. When the fire passes, get away quickly if safe to do so.



If caught in a house:

- Stay inside the house, low to the ground away from windows
- You need two ways to get out of a room
- Check for small fires in the house



If caught in a car:

- Park in a clear space, away from trees and bushes
- Close all windows and doors tightly
- Get low in the car and cover yourself with blankets or clothes

Preparing your property



Mow long grass around your house.



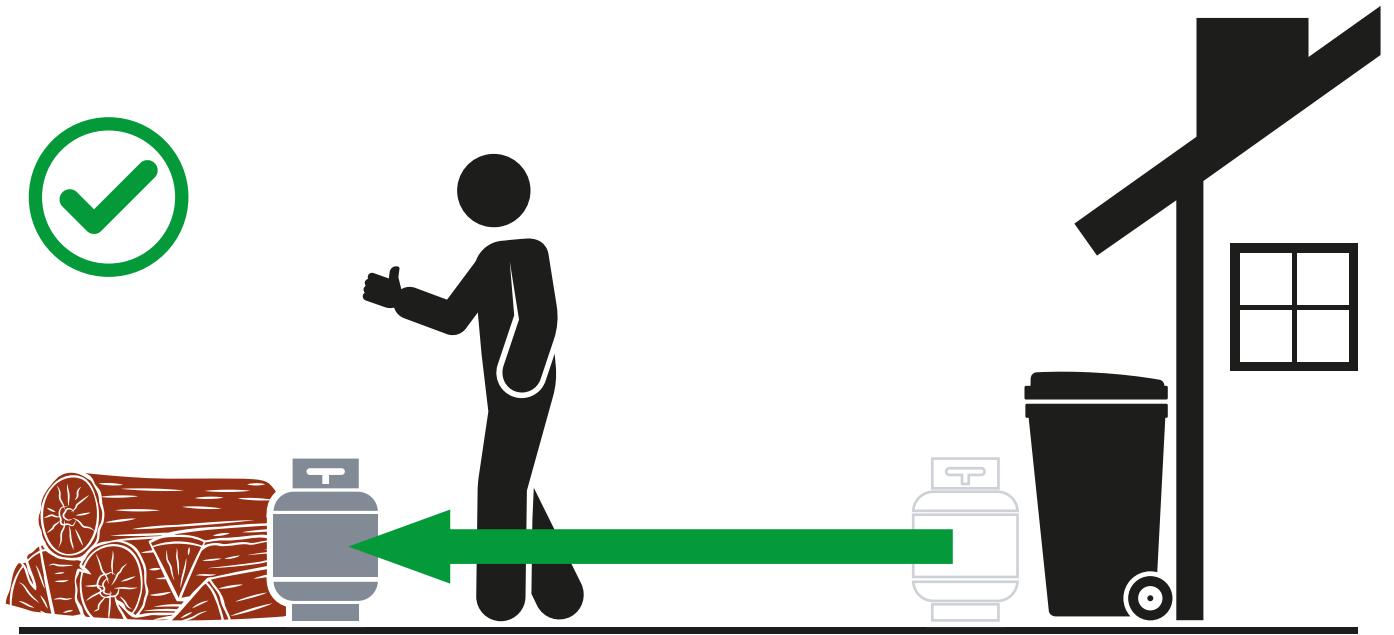
Trim overgrown bushes and trees.



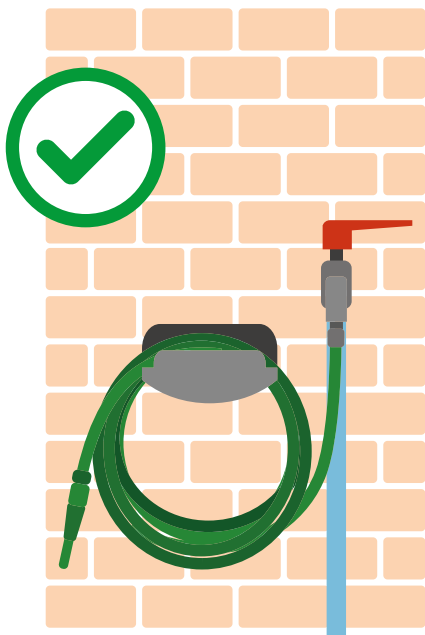
If you can, clean the gutters on your house.



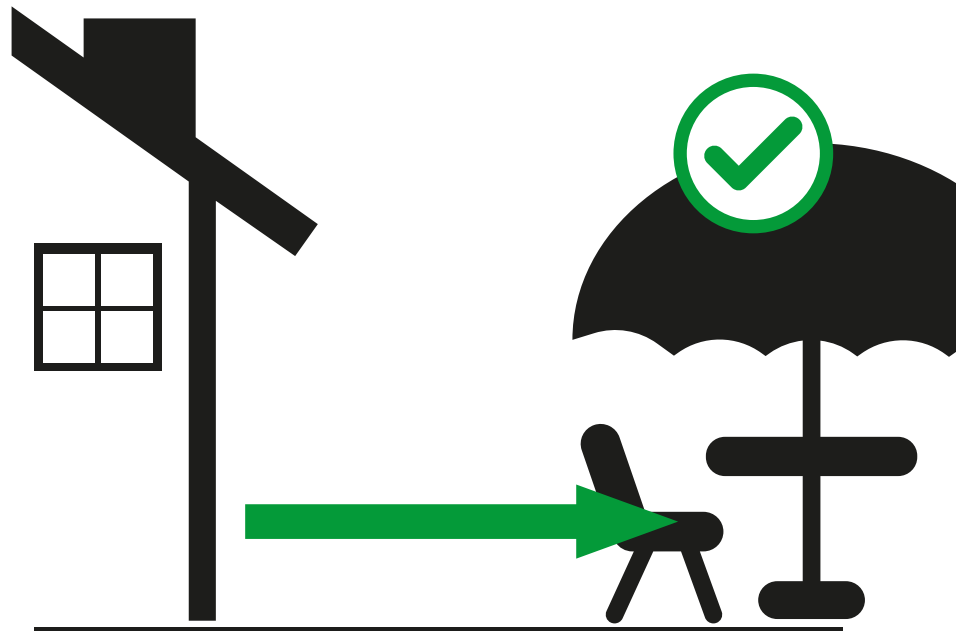
Remove dry grass and leaves.



Store wood, gas bottles and other flammable material away from your house.



Have garden hoses ready.



Have outdoor furniture ready to move.

Total Fire Ban days

When it is hot and windy, fires can start and spread very fast. On these days, the Tasmania Fire Service will announce a Total Fire Ban day.

This means you can't light any fires outside, even if you have a permit.

You can find information about these days on fire.tas.gov.au, social media and in some newspapers.



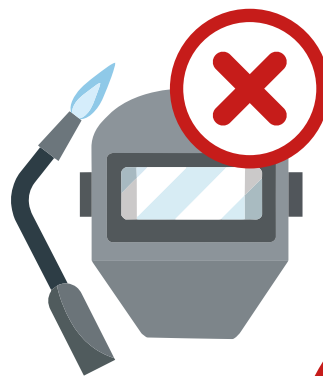
On Total Fire Ban days:



Don't light fires outside, including campfires.



Don't use any outdoor cooker that requires fire.



Don't use equipment that creates sparks.



You may use gas or electric cookers (barbecues) in areas clear of flammable materials.

Using fire outdoors



If you are planning on lighting a fire outside, you should register your fire with Tasmania Fire Service on 1800 000 699. You may require a permit.



Use water to put out campfires and make sure they are out completely before leaving. Do not use dirt or sand to smother a fire.

Stay informed

Listen to your local ABC Radio station.

Southern

Hobart 936 AM DAB ABC Radio Hobart

Maydena 936 AM / 89.7 FM

East Coast

Bicheno 89.7 FM

Fingal 1161 AM

Orford 90.5 FM

St Helens 1584 AM

Swansea 106.1 FM

St Marys 102.7 FM

North/North East

Flinders Island 91.7 FM

Launceston 91.7 FM

NE Tasmania 91.7 FM

Weldborough 97.3 FM

North West

Burnie 102.5 FM

Devonport 100.5 FM

King Island 88.5 FM

Lileah 91.3 FM

West Coast

Queenstown / Zeehan 90.5 FM

Rosebery 106.3 FM

Savage River / Waratah 104.1 FM

Strahan 107.5 FM

Waratah 103.3 FM

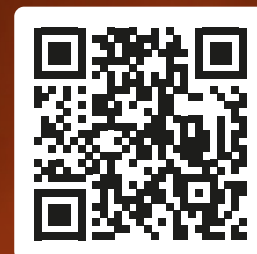


You can also tune in to your local radio station anywhere on the free **ABC listen** app.

SCAN
TO
PLAN

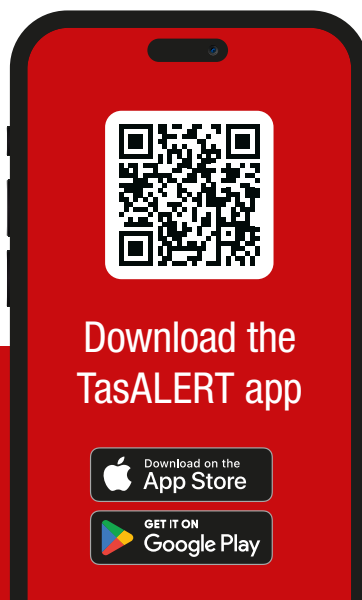


Start your bushfire plan online today!



TASALERT.COM

For all emergency services alerts.



fire.tas.gov.au



1800 000 699



Interpreter
13 14 50

While the State Fire Commission has made every effort to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the information contained in this booklet, the State Fire Commission does not accept any responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or relevance to the reader's purpose, of the information contained in this booklet and those reading it for whatever purpose are advised to verify its accuracy and to obtain appropriate professional advice. The State Fire Commission, its officers, employees and agents do not accept any liability, however arising, including liability for negligence, for any loss or damage resulting from the use of, or reliance upon, the information contained in this booklet.

© Copyright Tasmania Fire Service 2025



Tasmania Fire Service



Tasmanian
Government