

Is Your Home Fire Safe?

Fire Safety Tips For Inside Your Home

Simple home fire safety tips you should follow are:

- Test smoke alarms regularly and change the battery at least once every 12 months.
- Have a licensed electrician check your wiring and install a safety switch.
- Don't overload power points and switch off household appliances when hot in use.
- Never smoke in bed.
- Never leave open fires unattended and always screen with a proper fireguard.
- Heaters should be kept at least one metre from curtains, furniture and other flammable items.
- Never place clothing over heaters.
- Keep matches and lighters out of the reach of children.

Bush Fire And Your Home

Prepare Your Home & Property For Bush Fires

These maintenance tips may help prevent burning embers destroying your house:

- Install metal gutter guards
- Repair damaged or missing tiles on roof
- Install fine metal mesh screens on windows and doors
- Fit seals around doors and windows to eliminate gaps
- Enclose the areas under the house
- Repair or cover gaps in external walls
- Attach a fire sprinkler system to gutters.

Things to do around your house and garden:

- Keep lawns short and gardens well maintained
- Cut back trees and shrubs overhanging buildings
- Clean up fallen leaves, twigs and debris around the property
- Have hoses long enough to reach around your house
- If you have a pool, tank or dam, put a Static Water Supply (SWS) sign on your property entrance
- Check that your insurance is adequate and up to date
- Complete your bush fire survival plan available at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au.

Bush Fire Alerts

Keep Informed, Stay Safe

Where there is a risk from bush fire, the NSW Rural Fire Service uses Bush Fire Alerts to provide information to affected communities. These alerts will give you information about the severity of the fire, its location and what you should do. Some fires start and spread so quickly that there is no time for any warning at all. You should be prepared to put your Bush Fire Survival Plan into action with little or no warning. There are three Bush Fire Alert levels to help you make the right choices for your safety.

ADVICE

Whilst a fire has started, there is no immediate danger. Stay up to date in case the situation changes.

WATCH AND ACT

There is a heightened level of threat. Conditions are changing and you need to start taking action now to protect you and your family.

EMERGENCY WARNING

An emergency warning is the highest level of Bush Fire Alert. You may be in danger and need to take action immediately, any delay puts your life at immediate risk.