



Government of Western Australia
Fire & Emergency Services Authority



PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.



YOUR GUIDE TO PREPARING FOR AND SURVIVING THE BUSHFIRE SEASON.



PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

If you live in or near a bushland area, bushfire is a real risk



- Bushfires happen every summer
- Bushfire can start suddenly and without warning
- FESA cannot guarantee protection for **every** property at risk



PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

Prepare. Prepare your property

- Fill the gaps
- Fix the fire traps
- Home & contents insurance
- Access Egress
- Water Supply





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Prepare. A bushfire survival plan

- Involve all family members
- Include your pets & livestock
- Link your plan to the Fire Danger Rating
- Write it down
- Practice your plan before the fire season
- Review your plan if your circumstances change

Leave early or stay and actively defend?

- The **defendability** of your home
 - Fuel load
 - Water supplies
 - Firefighting equipment
 - Potential fire risks in and around your home
- Your physical, mental and emotional preparedness
- Young, elderly, mobility impaired and pets?





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Act. Leaving Early for a Safer Place

- What will be your trigger to leave?
- Where will your family go?
- How will you get there?
- What will you take with you?
- What will you do with your pets/livestock?
- What is your back up plan if you cannot leave?



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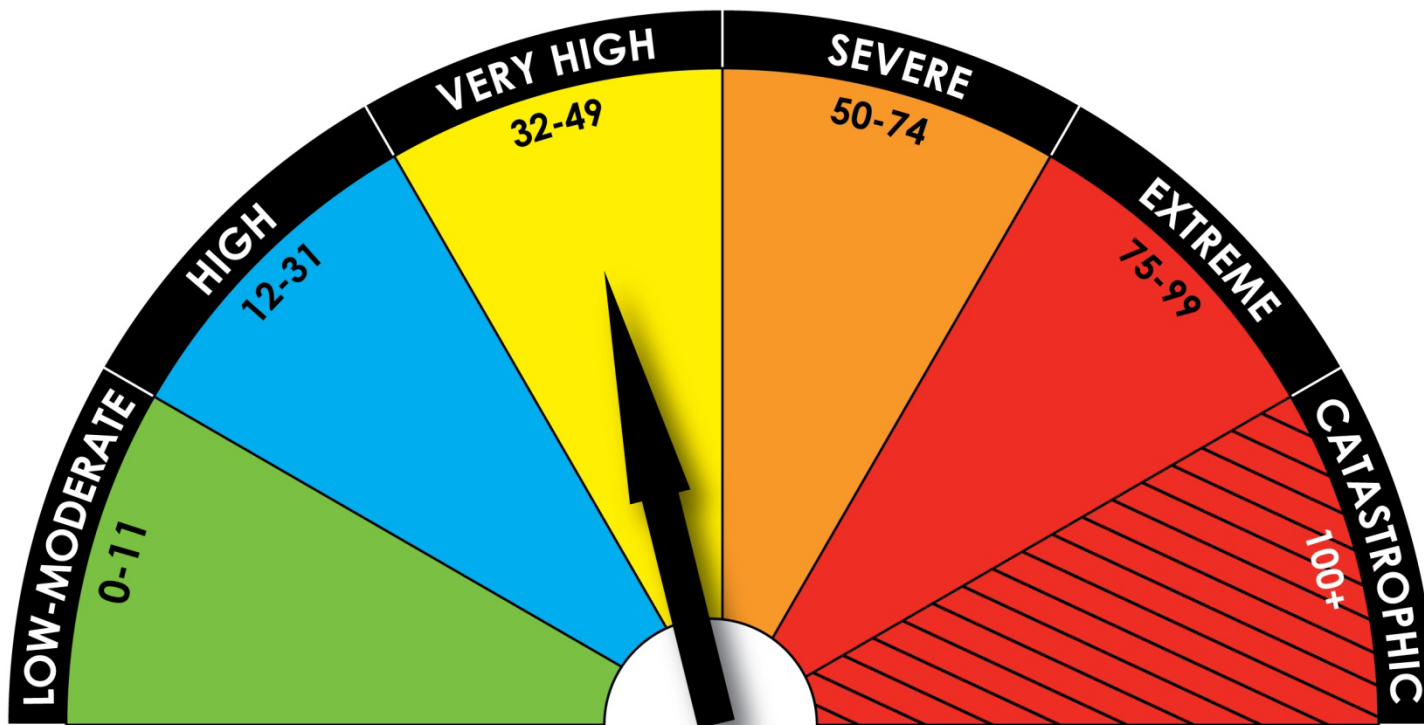
Act. Stay and actively defend

- Under what conditions?
- Some people in your family may need to leave early. Where will they go and how will they get there?



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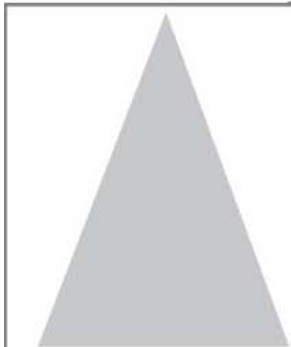
Fire Danger Rating



Know what the FDR is for your area



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Fires can threaten suddenly and without warning.

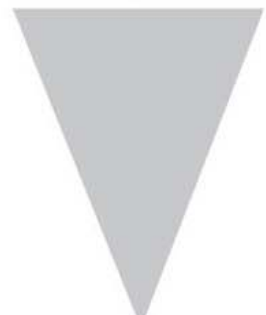
Watch for signs of fire, especially smoke and flames.

Know your Fire Danger Rating and be aware of local conditions.

Have your bushfire survival plan and kit ready.

To seek information listen to local radio, go to www.fesa.wa.gov.au or call the FESA information line on **1300 657 209**.

Call 000 to report a fire.



FIRE DANGER RATING	WHAT DOES IT MEAN?	WHAT SHOULD I DO?
CATASTROPHIC 100+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These are the worst conditions for a bush or grass fire. If a fire starts and takes hold, it will be extremely difficult to control and will take significant firefighting resources and cooler conditions to bring it under control. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spot fires will start well ahead of the main fire and cause rapid spread of the fire. Embers will come from many directions. Homes are not designed or constructed to withstand fires in these conditions. The only safe place to be is away from bushfire risk areas. <p>YOU NEED TO ACT NOW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put your survival first and leave bushfire risk areas the night before or early in the day - this is your best option. Act immediately - do not wait and see: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ leave now ▶ avoid forested areas, thick bush or long, dry grass ▶ take shelter if you cannot leave
EXTREME 75-99	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These are very hot, dry and windy conditions for a bush or grass fire. If a fire starts and takes hold, it will be unpredictable, move very fast and difficult for firefighters to bring under control. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homes that are prepared to the highest level, have been constructed to bushfire protection levels and are actively defended may provide safety. You must be physically and mentally prepared to defend in these conditions. The only safe place to be is away from bushfire risk areas. <p>YOU NEED TO GET READY TO ACT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only stay with your property if you are prepared to the highest level. This means your home needs to have been constructed to bushfire protection levels eg. enclosed eaves, covers over external air conditioners, metal flyscreens etc. You must be well prepared and able to actively defend your home if a fire starts. This means you have the right equipment and resources to put out fires around your home eg. enough water supply, petrol/diesel portable pump, generator, protective clothing etc. If you are not prepared to the highest level, leaving bushfire risk areas early in the day is your safest option.
SEVERE 50-74	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spot fires will start and move quickly. Embers may come from many directions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well prepared homes that are actively defended can provide safety. You must be physically and mentally prepared to defend in these conditions. <p>YOU NEED TO BE AWARE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well prepared homes that are actively defended can provide safety. This means you have the right equipment and resources to put out fires around your home eg. enough water supply, petrol/diesel portable pump, generator, protective clothing etc.
VERY HIGH 32-49	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These are hot, dry and possibly windy conditions for a bush or grass fire. If a fire starts and takes hold, it may be hard for firefighters to control. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Controlled burning may occur in these conditions if it is safe – check to see if permits apply.
HIGH 12-31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a fire starts, it is likely to be controlled in these conditions and homes can provide safety. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check your bushfire survival plan Monitor conditions Action may be needed Leave if necessary
LOW-MODERATE 0-11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be aware of how fires can start and reduce the risk. 	



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Survive. Where to get information

- Fires can threaten suddenly and without warning. You should be prepared to act without receiving any emergency warning
- Where can you get information during a bushfire?
 - FESA Information Line – 1300 657 209
 - FESA Website – www.fesa.wa.gov.au
 - ABC local radio



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ALERT LEVEL	WHEN WILL IT BE ISSUED?	WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?
<p>ADVICE Be aware and keep up to date</p> <p><i>Issued at 11am and 4pm unless the situation changes</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When a fire has started but there is no immediate danger. There is no threat to lives and homes. The fire is likely to be small and may be causing smoke near homes. Firefighters will be able to control the fire. 	<p>YOU NEED TO BE AWARE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay alert and monitor your surroundings by watching for signs of a bushfire, especially smoke and flames. Check the Fire Danger Rating for your area. Close all doors and windows. Turn off evaporative air conditioners but keep water running through the system if possible. Read through your bushfire survival plan. If you do not have one decide what you will do if the situation gets worse.
<p>WATCH AND ACT Put your preparations into action - do not wait and see</p> <p><i>Issued every two hours unless the situation changes</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When a fire is approaching and conditions are changing. There is a possible threat to lives and homes. The fire will be out of control. There may be smoke and embers around your home and roads. Firefighters will be working with machines to put in containment lines to stop the fire spreading. 	<p>YOU NEED TO LEAVE OR GET READY TO DEFEND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put your bushfire survival plan into action. If you have decided to leave for a safer place, leave now and take your survival kit with you. Leave well before roads are closed and full of smoke. On catastrophic or extreme fire danger days your best chance for survival is to leave hours before a fire reaches you. If you are not prepared for a bushfire the safest place is to be away from the fire. If you plan to use your home as shelter, make final preparations now.
<p>EMERGENCY WARNING Take immediate action to survive – you will be impacted by fire</p> <p><i>Issued every hour unless the situation changes</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When there is immediate danger and the fire will impact your home. There is a threat to lives and homes. The fire will be out of control and moving very fast. This is the highest level of warning. Firefighters will find it difficult to control the fire and it will take significant firefighting resources and a change in conditions to bring it under control. A siren sound called the Standard Emergency Warning Signal (SEWS) may be used to get your attention on radio and television. 	<p>YOU NEED TO ACT IMMEDIATELY TO SURVIVE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you have not left yet and the way is clear leave immediately for your safer place and take your survival kit with you. If you have not prepared your home, it is too late to do it now. Your safest option is to leave for a safer place, if the way is clear. Do not relocate at the last minute in a vehicle or on foot as this is deadly. If you plan to use your home as shelter, start patrolling your property to put out spot fires. If you are unable to leave, you need to get ready to take shelter in your home and actively defend it. You must seek shelter before the fire arrives as the very hot radiant heat will kill you well before the flames reach you.
<p>ALL CLEAR Take care to avoid any dangers and keep up to date</p> <p><i>Issued when the threat has passed</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When the danger has passed and the fire is under control. Firefighters will be working to put the last bits of the fire out and make the area safe. It may still not be safe to return home. Emergency services will advise when you can go home. 	<p>YOU NEED TO BE CAREFUL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remain vigilant in case the situation changes. When driving in the fire area you should take extreme caution and drive slowly. Dangers like smoke, fallen trees and downed power lines may be on roads and emergency services will still be working in the area. Be careful of damaged infrastructure including walls, bridges, roads and footpaths. Some services such as power and telephones may not be working. Service providers will be working to restore these as soon as they can.



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Survive. Road Closures

- During a bushfire FESA and local government bushfire personnel have the legal power to restrict and or close roadways affecting or being affected by bushfire
- Protection of life is always the first priority
- Homeowners need to adhere to these closures for their own safety and that of firefighters



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Questions?