

PREPARE.**ACT.****SURVIVE.**

STAY AND DEFEND

SURVIVAL PLAN

Staying to defend a well prepared property during a bushfire always carries the risk of injury or death. However, defending your home is a reasonable choice if:

- **Your property is well-prepared.**
- **You are physically fit and emotionally prepared.**
- **The Fire Danger Rating is less than 'extreme'.**

Most people who die in bushfires are caught in the open, either in their car or on foot, because they've left their property too late when the fire is approaching.

If you are unsure about defending your property, you should prepare a Leave Early Survival Plan as well.

Prepare your firefighting equipment

- A firefighting pump, hose and nozzle.
- Firefighting water supply.
- Ladder for access to roof gutters and into the roof space.
- Garden hose and fittings.
- Rake and a strong bucket.
- A wet mop for putting out embers and small fires.
- Generator to operate the bore.

Prepare for your safety

- Prepare personal protective equipment such as:
 - long sleeved woollen or cotton clothing
 - broad brimmed hat
 - sturdy leather boots
 - leather gloves
 - protective eye wear
 - face mask
 - torch
 - battery powered radio
 - spare batteries
 - first aid kit
 - drinking water
- If you have children at school, plan for contingencies if bus services are disrupted.

As the bushfire approaches

- Ensure gates are unlocked and open for firefighters.
- Secure animals and locate in a safe area.
- Clear leaves from roof gutters, decks and lawns.
- Remove flammable outdoor furniture, doormats and hanging baskets.
- Fill bath, buckets and containers with water.
- Close all windows and doors to prevent embers from starting fires inside.
- Patrol property for spot fires to extinguish.
- Stay close to house, drink water and check the welfare of others and animals.

As the bushfire arrives

- Take shelter inside the safest building on your property, protect yourself from radiant heat ensuring fire-fighting equipment is safe.
- Connect a hose to laundry tap.
- Continually check for outbreak of fires inside buildings, including in the roof space.
- Soak towels and place under external doors.
- Ensure you can exit the home should it catch fire.

Once the bushfire has passed

- Extinguish any part of your buildings that are alight.
- Patrol the property (including roof space) to extinguish fires.
- Keep checking for several hours.
- Drink water frequently to avoid dehydration.

Keep your Stay and Defend Survival Plan in a safe and easily accessible place.

Contact information

Bushfires NT - 08 8922 0844

NT Fire and Rescue - 08 8999 3473



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Before the start of the bushfire season, I will:

Even though I'm well prepared, I will leave if the Fire Danger Rating is _____
or a bushfire has broken out nearby (fill out the Leave Early Survival Plan as well).

As the bushfire approaches, I will:

As the bushfire arrives, I will:

After the bushfire has passed, I will:

Everyone must have a contingency plan - even the best plans can fail. Remember, leaving late can lead to death or serious injury. You must identify a number of nearby safer places that you can relocate to at very short notice if all else fails e.g. well prepared neighbour's house, sports ground or beach.

Nearby safer place 1 _____

Nearby safer place 2 _____

Nearby safer place 3 _____

Important phone numbers

Fire: 000

Police: 000

Ambulance: 000

School: _____ No: _____ Work: _____ No: _____

Family: _____ No: _____ Friend: _____ No: _____

Other: _____ No: _____ Other: _____ No: _____

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LEAVE EARLY

SURVIVAL PLAN

When to leave?

Determine well prior to a bushfire occurring what your triggers are to implement your Leave Early Survival Plan. It is recommended that you leave early if:

- **There is a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating.**
- **There is an Extreme Fire Danger Rating and your home has not been specially designed and constructed for bushfires.**
- **Your property has not been well maintained, you don't have the right firefighting equipment, or you do not have a practised plan to Stay and Defend.**

Where to go?

Consider several low risk areas that are not at risk to bushfires. Also consider several different routes to get to these locations as bushfires could cut off your primary planned route.

Most people who die in bushfires are caught in the open, either in their car or on foot, because they've left their property too late, when the bushfire is approaching.

What to do to prepare your property for a bushfire while no one is home?

A bushfire may pass through your property after you have left. In addition to the preparations you have made prior to leaving early, there are things you can do to minimise damage to your property while away. These could include the following:

- **Leave gates unlocked and open for firefighters to access your property.**
- **Leave any sprinklers on.**
- **Ensure all doors and windows are closed.**
- **Preparations for animals left behind (food, water, etc).**

What will you take?

Develop a list of items you and your family will need to take if you decide to leave. This could include the following:

- **emergency kit**
- **spare clothing**
- **money, key cards, and credit cards**
- **special requirements for infants, elderly, injured or disabled**
- **important documents**
- **drinking water**
- **mobile phone and charger**
- **food and water for animals**
- **First Aid kit**
- **medications**
- **blankets**
- **children's toys**

What will I do with animals if they leave with me or stay on the property?

Ensure your planning includes consideration for your animals. If you are bringing your animals with you, ensure you have planned and prepared well ahead-especially if you have larger stock. If you plan to leave your animals on your property, ensure you consider their welfare while you are away.

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