

# GET READY FOR BUSH FIRE

## PREPARE YOUR HOME

A well prepared home is more likely to survive a bush fire.

Even if your plan is to leave early, the more you prepare your home, the more likely it will survive a bush fire or ember attack.

A well prepared home can also:

- Be easier for you or firefighters to defend
- Be less likely to put your neighbours' homes at risk
- Give you more protection if a fire threatens suddenly and you cannot leave

### **TOP 5 ACTIONS TO MAKE YOUR HOME SAFER**

There are simple things you can do around your home to prepare it for a bush fire. Some are regular actions, like mowing the lawn, others are one-off, but all could help save you, your family and your home.

PREPARATION ACTION	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE	COMPLETE
<b>[ ]</b> Trim overhanging trees and shrubs. This can stop the fire spreading to your home.		___ / ___ / ___
<b>[ ]</b> Mow grass and remove the cuttings. Having a cleared area around your home will give firefighters a safe area to work.		___ / ___ / ___
<b>[ ]</b> Remove material that can burn around your home. This includes things such as door mats, wood piles, mulch, leaves, outdoor furniture.		___ / ___ / ___
<b>[ ]</b> Clear and remove all the debris and leaves from the gutters surrounding you home. Burning embers can set your home on fire.		___ / ___ / ___
<b>[ ]</b> Prepare a sturdy hose/s that will reach all around your home. Make sure you have a reliable source of water (pool, tank, dam) and a diesel/petrol pump available.		___ / ___ / ___

## THE AIDER PROGRAM

If you have limited ability to prepare and cannot access support from family, friends or other services to prepare your property on bush fire prone land, then the NSW RFS may be able to provide assistance via the Assist Infirm, Disabled and Elderly Residents (AIDER) Program.

For more information, contact the AIDER Team:

**P:** 02 8741 4955

**E:** [aider@rfs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:aider@rfs.nsw.gov.au)

**W:** [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare/aider](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare/aider)

## ✔ MORE PERMANENT PROTECTION FOR YOUR HOME

PROTECTION ITEMS	
<input type="checkbox"/> Block areas where embers can enter the house (external walls, windows, doors, under house)	<input type="checkbox"/> Replace wood fences with metal fences
<input type="checkbox"/> Install metal fly screens on all windows and vents	<input type="checkbox"/> Use stones instead of mulch
<input type="checkbox"/> Install metal gutter guards	<input type="checkbox"/> Repair damaged or missing tiles on roof
<input type="checkbox"/> Position gas cylinders on side of house and away from trees and gardens, direct any pressure valves away from house	<input type="checkbox"/> If you have a pool, tank or dam, put a Static Water Supply (SWS) sign on your property entrance, so firefighters know where they can get water
<input type="checkbox"/> Install a fire sprinkler system to gutters	<input type="checkbox"/> Check and maintain adequate levels of home and contents insurance. Ensure it is up to date.
<input type="checkbox"/> Move garden beds away from house	

For more information on what you can do to prepare for bush fire this season:



**NSW Rural Fire Service Website**  
[www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au)  
[www.myfireplan.com.au](http://www.myfireplan.com.au)



**Your nearest NSW RFS  
Fire Control Centre:**



**Bush Fire Information Line**  
1800 NSW RFS (1800 679 737)