



**Troy Grant**  
Minister for Emergency Services

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **COMMUNITY URGED TO ‘GET READY’ FOR THE UPCOMING BUSH FIRE SEASON**

Get ready for bush fire season – that’s the reminder from the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) today as hundreds of brigades prepare to open their doors to the community this weekend.

Minister for Emergency Services Troy Grant said more than 600 brigades would be hosting events to help the community be aware and prepare for bush fire risks this summer.

“With the entire state in drought and ongoing warm conditions expected over the coming months, it’s more important than ever for residents to be vigilant around their properties,” Mr Grant said.

“We’re fortunate to have some of the most skilled and experienced firefighters in the world here in NSW; however, they’re facing a potentially long and protracted bush fire season so we all need to do our part in the community to be as prepared as possible.

“I would urge everyone in the community to get involved in your local events, learn the risks, talk to your families and make a plan – it might just save your life.”

The top four tips to getting ready for bush fire season are:

- Discuss what to do if a bush fire threatens your home;
- Prepare your home and get it ready for bush fire season;
- Know the bush fire alert levels; and
- Keep all the bush fire information numbers, websites and smartphone app handy.

NSW RFS Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons said Get Ready Weekend is a great opportunity for families to get to know their local firefighters and find out about the fire risk in their area.

“We’ve already seen during August how quickly fires can develop and threaten homes and lives, so it’s a timely reminder to get ready,” Commissioner Fitzsimmons said.

“The first step in getting ready is knowing your risk, and local brigades can help you understand those issues this Get Ready Weekend.

“They can also provide valuable advice on preparing your home and family, and making your bush fire survival plan.”

A range of displays, demonstrations and activities for families will be available this Get Ready Weekend. Find out more about local events via [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/getready](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/getready)

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