



# INFORMATION FOR TRAVELLERS

## FOUR WHEEL DRIVING BUSH FIRE SAFETY

Bush and grass fires often cross roads and highways. Smoke can reduce visibility and roads may close without warning.

It is your responsibility to ensure you and your family are prepared for a bush fire, even when you are travelling away from home.

### PREPARE TO TRAVEL CHECKLIST

Bush fires can occur quickly and without warning. There are important things you can do to reduce your risk from a bush fire while travelling away from your home.

#### BEFORE YOU GO

- Ensure your home and property is well prepared – a well prepared home is more likely to survive should a bush fire threaten while you are away
- Tell someone where you plan to go and who is with you
- Check the Fire Danger Rating – the higher the Fire Danger Rating the more dangerous the conditions
- Think about the area you are going to and what you would do if a fire started – identify nearby Neighbourhood Safer Places
- Check the Fires Near Me NSW smartphone application or website for any current incidents or hazard reductions in the area – avoid any unnecessary travels to these areas
- Pack an Emergency Survival Kit just in case
- Note down important emergency information sources – download the Emergency+ smartphone application

#### WHILE TRAVELLING

- Monitor weather conditions on the Bureau of Meteorology website
- Stay up to date with any fire activity nearby via the Fires Near Me NSW smartphone application and website
- Avoid travelling through or to areas when Fire Danger Ratings are elevated – your safest place is always to be well away from heavily bushed areas
- Before lighting any fire, check restrictions and whether a Total Fire Ban has been declared

**If travelling in a National Park or State Forest further restrictions may apply.**

# IF YOU ARE CAUGHT IN A FIRE

## In a Car

- Face the front of your car towards the fire and park off the road in a clear area away from trees, scrub and tall grass
- Close windows and air vents
- Turn off the engine and turn on headlights and hazard lights
- Cover yourself with a woollen blanket and stay in the car below the windows to protect yourself from radiant heat
- Drink plenty of water and cover your mouth with a damp cloth
- Stay down until the sound of the fire has passed, carefully leave the car (it will be hot)

## On Foot

- Do not panic or try to outrun the fire – if you see smoke ahead turn back
- Find a cleared area with rocks, hollows, embankments, streams or roads to protect you and avoid hilltops
- Keep low and cover any exposed skin
- Drink water and cover your mouth with a damp cloth

**IF YOUR LIFE IS AT RISK, CONTACT TRIPLE ZERO (000) IMMEDIATELY.**

## EMERGENCY BUSH FIRE INFORMATION

In a bush fire, it is important you stay up-to-date on the situation in your area so you can take action as soon as possible. The NSW Rural Fire Service strongly encourages keeping these numbers, links and apps handy:



In an Emergency dial **Triple Zero (000)** immediately



Fires Near Me NSW App



[facebook.com/nswrfs](https://www.facebook.com/nswrfs)



[www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au)



[twitter.com/nswrfs](https://twitter.com/nswrfs)



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



Listen to local radio, TV and news,

## FOUR WHEEL DRIVING ON FIRE TRAILS

Fire trails are an important part of ensuring firefighters can access fires and safely contain them. They are also used to assist with management of bush fire risk across the landscape. Access to fire trails is subject to permission granted by the relevant land owner.

You can help the NSW Rural Fire Service and land management agencies maintain fire trails by:

- Reporting track damage
- Reporting or removing fallen trees
- Avoid driving on trails after rain when tracks are more likely to be wet and muddy.

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**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)