



## Checklist – water supplies and firefighting equipment

Prepare your house well in advance for a bushfire by organising sufficient water supplies and fire fighting equipment.

- Check water, taps and hoses. Ensure that hoses with metal fittings are long enough to reach all sides of the house when attached to taps.
- Use heavy-duty hoses with wide-spray nozzles, if possible.
- Reserve water supplies from tank, dam, or swimming pool, if possible, since mains water is in high demand during a bushfire. Try to store water during winter months.
- Have a gate valve fitted to your water tank (a 38mm Storz coupling will assist the Rural Fire Brigade).
- Have gate valve handy to fit portable pump as well.
- Regularly check petrol or diesel portable pump, if you have one, to ensure it starts easily.
- Install a sprinkler system in your garden and on roofing, if feasible.
- Gather buckets (preferably metal), mops, spray backpack units, ladders, rakes and shovels together in one place for ready access during a fire.
- Make sure you have a battery operated radio and torches in case of electricity failure.

Print out this checklist and keep handy at all times. For more information on bushfire safety and home fire safety, visit the Rural Fire Service website at [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au) or call the RFS Education Line on 1 800 654 443 (Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm).