



CAMPING DURING THE BUSHFIRE DANGER PERIOD

If you are planning to go camping in National Parks and State Forests during the Bushfire Danger Period, you should make sure you're aware of potential bushfire danger and take extra precautions.

When camping:

- Follow the regulations for campfires and barbecues during the Bush Fire Danger Period and on days of Total Fire Ban. You may not use a portable barbecue outside a caravan during a Total Fire Ban, however you may use the stove inside the caravan provided due care is taken.
- Take care with gas cylinders. Be sure they are vented away from the caravan.
- When staying in a caravan park, find out if a safe refuge has been designated in case of bush fire and use it when fire threatens. If no refuge area has been designated, decide ahead of time where you will shelter from fire. Brick toilet blocks, stone picnic shelters, or behind concrete walls are safer than inside your caravan.
- Do not drop or discard lighted cigarettes or matches during the Bush Fire Danger Period.

Bushfire Danger Period

Be aware that when lighting cooking fires during the Bush Fire Danger Period you must never leave the fire unattended and ensure it is extinguished entirely before leaving.

You may light a cooking fire during the Bush Fire Danger Period provided:

- It is in a permanently constructed fireplace surrounded by ground that is clear of all combustible matter for a distance of at least 2 metres, **or**
- It is at a site surrounded by ground clear of all combustible matter for a distance of at least 3 metres, **and**
- You ensure that the fire is completely extinguished before leaving the area.

For more information on bushfire safety and home fire safety, visit the Rural Fire Service website at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au or call the RFS Education Line on 1 800 654 443 (Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm).



Total fire bans

Total Fire Bans are declared on days when small fires are likely to get out of control and develop into running fires and major bushfires.

During a Total Fire Ban, no fires of any kind may be lit in the open, even if you have a fire permit. This includes incinerators and barbecues, which burn solid fuel, e.g. wood or charcoal.

The conditions are generally dry, hot and windy. Northwest and west winds are common, which bring low relative humidity and high temperatures. Fires are difficult to control in these conditions.

Be aware of Total Fire Bans in the area where you are camping and on these days:

- Do not light a campfire, or use portable barbecues or gas fire stoves.
- You may use permanent fixed gas or electric barbecues in parks and council nature reserves if:
 - council has given approval
 - the area is cleared for 2 metres around and above the barbecue
 - an adult is in attendance at all times
 - there is a continuous water supply.
- Do not light fires or barbecues that burn solid fuel (e.g. wood, charcoal and heat beads).

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