# **BUSH FIRE SAFETY** FOR CAMPERS AND BUSHWALKERS

When planning for your trip remember to prepare for the risk of bush fire.

Know the risk for the area you're travelling to, set up a watch zone in Fires Near Me NSW and stay up to date.

Check the fire conditions each day and know what you'll do if a fire starts.

# **BEFORE YOU GO BUSH WALKING**

- Get the most up-to-date information on local conditions including fires, floods and National Park closures.
- Check the Fire Danger Rating and if conditions are bad, don't risk it
- > Check the local weather so that you have the appropriate clothing and equipment for a safe and comfortable journey
- > Set up a Watch Zone on the Fires Near Me app
- Download the Emergency+ app

# SETTING UP YOUR CAMPFIRE OR BARBEQUE

- > Place fires and barbeques at least 2m from flammable materials, on an existing fire site or cleared area where the wind will blow flames away from tents
- Fires should be attended by a responsible adult
- > Ensure you have a water supply
- > Ensure you extinguish fires, candles and lanterns before bed
- > On Total Fire Ban days no fires can be lit in the open. Gas or electric BBQ are permitted in designated picnic areas

## WHILE CAMPING

- > Use existing fire sites where possible
- > Place fires and stoves in a cleared area where the wind blows away from tents
- > Have enough water to put out a fire properly, or dig a small hole for your fire and bury it when you are finished
- > Don't cook or smoke in tents
- > Extinguish fires before bed.





**NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE** 



# IF YOU'RE 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.

### FOUR WHEEL DRIVING ON FIRE TRAILS

Fire trails are an important part of ensuring firefighters can access fires and safely contain them.

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

- Reporting track damage
- Reporting or removing fallen trees
- Reducing damage to trails by avoiding them after rain. >

## **EMERGENCY BUSH FIRE INFORMATION**

The NSW Rural Fire Service strongly encourages keeping these numbers, links and apps handy:



Fires Near Me NSW App

www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

facebook.com/nswrfs

f twitter.com/nswrfs

Listen to local radio, TV and news,

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 www.myfireplan.com.au



Your nearest NSW RFS Fire Control Centre:

