STEP 2: DISCUSS

WHAT WILL YOU DO IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE?

Get your family and any staff on the property together and take 5 minutes to answer these three simple questions.
STEP 2: DISCUSS
HAVE A 5 MINUTE FIRE CHAT

In the event that a fire becomes uncontrollable, you may only have minutes to react. In order to protect your family, your workers, and your livelihood it’s important you know what you will do:

1. **WHEN** WILL YOU LEAVE?
2. **WHERE** WILL YOU GO?
3. **WHAT** WILL YOU TAKE?

For a more detailed plan, use the following page which will guide you through the important questions you need to consider for your property. For more information, visit www.myfireplan.com.au
Defending structures on your property can be physically and mentally demanding. It’s important that everyone knows exactly what to do if a fire happens. You may need to make a decision early as to what structures on the property (e.g. homestead, machinery shed etc.) you want to defend.

**DECIDE TO STAY, BUT BE PREPARED**

**ACTION CHECKLIST**

Defending structures on your property can be physically and mentally demanding. It’s important that everyone knows exactly what to do if a fire happens. You may need to make a decision early as to what structures on the property (e.g. homestead, machinery shed etc.) you want to defend.

**BEFORE (well before the fire has arrived)**

- Move flammable items away from all buildings
  (e.g. home, shed, stable etc.)
- Move stock to a well-grazed or ploughed area away from the house and wind
- Check all equipment is working and easily accessible
  (this includes testing all pumps, hoses and vehicles)
- Block downpipes and fill gutters with water
- Patrol any structures well before the fire arrives to put out embers and spot fires
- If possible, wet the side of the structure that faces the fire
- If in a house, close any doors, windows and vents
- Soak towels and rugs and lay them across external doorways
- Move your firefighting equipment to a place where it won’t burn inside

**DURING (as the fire is upon you)**

- Don’t get caught in the open as a fire approaches
- As the fire approaches take shelter to protect yourself from the heat of the fire
- If possible, shelter on the opposite side from the approaching fire, or behind a solid object to protect yourself from the heat
- Make sure that there is always more than one exit in case you need to escape
- Drink lots of water to stay hydrated

**AFTER (immediately after the fire has passed)**

- If possible, and safe to do so, check everyone on your property are OK
- Contact relatives or friends to tell them you are safe
- Patrol your home for several hours, looking for small fires and burning embers

Any safe place of shelter should have two or more exits.
DECIDE TO STAY, BUT BE PREPARED
EQUIPMENT CHECKLIST

Defending your property from a fire can be challenging and you will need the right equipment.

Initial against all of the equipment you will need in a fire emergency.

Remember, while firefighters and emergency services will do everything they can to help you, there’s no guarantee that there will be a fire truck available when you need it. Anyone who plans to stay and defend in a fire has a responsibility to know how to use firefighting equipment.

✔ FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT WE WILL NEED:
  - A certified road-worthy vehicle capable of carrying a fire-fighting slip-on unit
  - A slip-on unit with working pump and hoses
  - Multiple water sources with 10,000 litres or more (eg. dams, ets)
  - Water tanks fitted with 65mm Stortz outlets and metal valves
  - A first aid kit
  - UHF radio transmitter

Remember, it’s essential to ensure that all fire fighting equipment and vehicles are tested, and in working order every year.

✔ PROTECTIVE CLOTHING
  - Wide-brimmed hat
  - Eye protection goggles
  - Moistened facemask or cloth
  - Loose, long sleeved cotton shirt
  - Gloves
  - Long cotton pants/jeans
  - Sturdy leather shoes or boots

We commit to testing equipment on: ______________________

Equipment is stored in: ______________________

For every 40 properties in NSW, there is only one NSW RFS fire truck.
There is no guarantee that a fire truck will arrive at your property in the event of a fire.