



A fire can be terrifying, with strong winds, intense heat and flames, and thick smoke.

IF YOU'RE CAUGHT IN A FIRE:

- Call Triple Zero **000**
- Don't panic, don't try to outrun the fire
- If you see smoke, turn back or find an alternate route
- Find a cleared area. Look for rocks, hollows, embankments, streams or roads to protect you. Head to lower ground, avoid going uphill and do not shelter in water tanks
- Keep low and cover your skin
- Drink water and cover your mouth with a damp cloth
- Move to burnt ground when the fire has passed
- Let someone know what is happening.

As a **LAST RESORT**:

Choose a place with fairly clear ground and flames less than one metre deep and high. Take a deep breath, cover your face and run through the flames to already burnt ground.



PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

PREPARE. You must make important decisions before the fire season starts.

ACT. The higher the Fire Danger Rating, the more dangerous the conditions.

SURVIVE. Fires may threaten without warning so you need to know what you will do to survive.

BUSH FIRE SAFETY FOR BUSHWALKERS

BE PREPARED.
IF CAUGHT IN A BUSH FIRE YOU MAY DIE.



BUSH FIRE INFORMATION LINE

1800 NSW RFS
1 8 0 0 6 7 9 7 3 7





BEFORE BUSHWALKING YOU SHOULD CHECK:

- ☐ Fire Danger Ratings and Bush Fire Alerts at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au or on the Fires Near Me Smartphone application
- ☐ Weather conditions at www.bom.gov.au
- ☐ Whether a Total Fire Ban or a National Park Fire Ban is in place
- ☐ If it's a Total Fire Ban day you will not be able to light a fire or use a stove, and many National Parks may be closed.

What is a Park Fire Ban?

The National Parks and Wildlife Service put a Park Fire Ban in place when there are active fires or the potential for a fire to start. The area may have limited access, or very dry or overgrown areas that could cause a bush fire to move quickly.

If the conditions aren't good, don't go!



SO YOU'RE GOING BUSHWALKING?

- ☐ Tell someone where you plan to go and who is with you. Tell them when you return safely home.
- ☐ Consider carrying an Emergency Beacon. This will help emergency services locate you if necessary. Many local Police Stations and National Parks offices will offer these on either a fee or free basis.
- ☐ Save the Rural Fire Service information line number and Emergency 000 to your phone. Emergency 112 for mobile phones is for use when a phone is locked, has insufficient credit or your provider is unavailable.
- ☐ Note features on your map that may be a safe place to shelter from a fire and maintain your navigation so you always know where you are.
- ☐ Have someone in your group that knows how to treat burns, shock, asphyxiation, smoke inhalation, foreign matter in the eyes, and heat induced illness.
- ☐ Try to wear clothing that will protect you from radiant heat. Synthetic clothing can melt and burn skin severely.

Fires should always be attended by a responsible adult



Camp fires and stoves

- Camp fires can be dangerous and the wood used can destroy habitat for many insects and animals. Take a fuel stove or food that can be eaten cold. Some areas prohibit the use of fires year round.
- If you do light a fire, use existing fire sites and don't surround the fire with rocks as some types may explode. Don't light fires on peat soil, as they may burn after you leave.
- Always place your fire or stove in a cleared area where the wind will blow flames away from tents.
- Make sure you have enough water to put out a fire properly. If you don't have enough water, dig a small hole before you build your fire, and reserve the dirt to bury the fire when you are finished. Not only will you have a hotter, more efficient fire, but the ground will return to the level it was when you arrived.
- Don't cook or smoke in tents.
- Extinguish fires, candles and lanterns before bed.

