

MEDIA RELEASE



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

NSW RFS supports Earth Hour

24 March 2011

NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) brigades and offices across the state are being encouraged to take part in Earth Hour this weekend.

NSW RFS Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons said non-essential lighting and equipment at Service buildings across the state would be switched off from 8.30pm on Saturday night.

“This is the fifth year of Earth Hour and the NSW RFS is proud to be participating in this initiative again this year,” Commissioner Fitzsimmons said.

“I’m encouraging members at brigade stations, district and regional offices and at our State Operations Centre to participate in this world-wide event.”

Commissioner Fitzsimmons said people participating in Earth Hour should take safety precautions if using candles during the event.

“Candles, if they’re not used safely, can be a fire hazard and there are some simple steps people can take to reduce the risk,” Commissioner Fitzsimmons said.

“Ensure candles are in a safe and secure location – and never leave them unattended.

“Keep candles out of reach of children, ensure candles are fully extinguished before leaving the house or going to bed.

“Also, every home should have a working smoke alarm – and if there is a fire, call Triple Zero immediately,” Commissioner Fitzsimmons said.

For interviews or further information, please contact the NSW RFS State Duty Media Officer on (02) 9898 1855 or email media@rfs.nsw.gov.au