

10 May 2012

**Public Accounts and Estimates
Committee**

2012-13 Budget Estimates Hearing

Minister Ryan

Minister for Bushfire Response

Portfolio Area

Policy

- Committed to implementing all the Bushfires Royal Commission's recommendations
- Oversaw development of the Government's Implementation Plan
- Continue to monitor and drive implementation of the Plan across Government
- Bushfires Royal Commission Implementation Monitor

Achievements

Fire Services Commissioner

- Reform Action Plan
- Bushfire Safety Policy Framework
- Shelter Options
- Fire management planning
- Single integrated emergency information website



Achievements

2011-12 Summer Fire Campaign

- Challenge perceived complacency
- 2.1 million visits to the CFA's website
- Township Protection Plans
- FireReady Kit
- FireReady mobile phone app



Achievements

Emergency Alert

- First national telephone emergency warning system
- Excess of 7 million messages nationally.
- Emergency Alert used in 2012 floods.
- Location based capability.



YOUR PHONE MAY NOW BE USED
TO DELIVER EMERGENCY WARNINGS.

During times of emergencies such as bushfires and extreme weather events, your landline or mobile phone may now be used to deliver a critical warning. This 'Emergency Alert' phone or text message is another way for authorities to inform you on what you may need to do. If you don't understand the message, ask a family member, friend or neighbour for assistance. For details, visit emergencyalert.gov.au

 **EMERGENCY ALERT. BE WARNED. BE INFORMED.** 

Do not call 000 (TTY 106) unless you are in critical need of emergency services (police, fire or ambulance).

Achievements

Community Preparedness

YOUR BUSHFIRE SURVIVAL

WHAT TO CONSIDER

Your Bushfire Risk

- Are you in a high-risk bushfire area? (near bush, coastal scrub)
- Know the layout of your town, including key roads to leave by
- Know when it is a Total Fire Ban Day and what to do



Your Trigger to Act

- Know the Fire Danger Rating at your location
- The Fire Danger Rating is your 'trigger' to act
- The higher the rating, the more dangerous the situation if a fire starts



WHAT TO DO

Leave Early

- When the Fire Danger Rating is Code Red, leaving early is always the safest option
- Leave early destinations could include homes of families & friends who live outside the risk area, a nearby town or built up area

Always the safest option

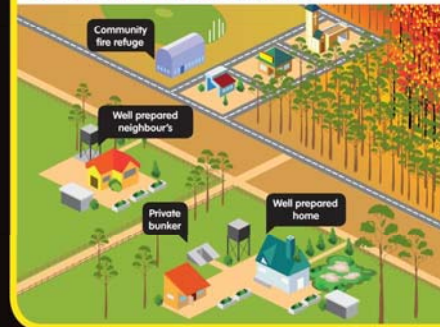


Well Prepared

If leaving the high-risk area is no longer an option, there may be options close to where you are that could protect you. These include:

- A well prepared home (yours or your neighbour's) that you can actively defend on Severe & Extreme Fire Danger Rating days only
- Private Bushfire Shelter (bunker) that meets current regulations
- Designated community fire refuge

Your safety is not guaranteed

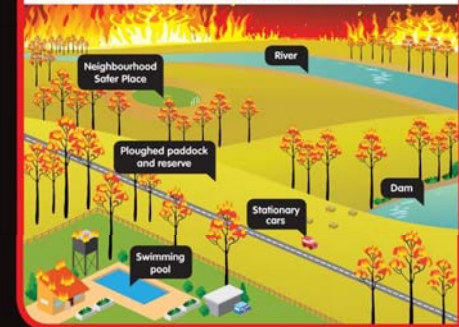


Last Resort

In situations where no other options are available to you, taking shelter in one of the below may protect from radiant heat:

- Neighbourhood Safer Place (place of last resort)
- Stationary car in a clear area
- Ploughed paddock or reserve
- Body of water (i.e. beach, swimming pool, dam, river, etc.)

High risk of trauma, injury or death



For more information on how to prepare your own Bushfire Survival Plan:

www.cfa.vic.gov.au or call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line 1800 240 667

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

FireReady Victoria

Achievements

Shelter

- 233 Neighbourhood Safer Places established
- Focused attention on locations where difficult to identify NSP sites
- Funding to pilot refuges in sites where no NSP can be established



Achievements

Driving Cross Agency Interoperability

- Seamless and interoperable services delivered by VICSES and the fire services in the 2012 floods:
 - resilient incident management structures
 - improved communication with community
 - strategic and tactical planning
 - integrated relief operations
 - implementation of recovery



Achievements

Assistance to Local Government

- Bushfire Safety Policy Framework
- Township Protection Plans
- Municipal Fire and Emergency Management Resourcing Program
- Fire Ready Communities program

Budget Outcomes

2012-13 Budget Initiatives

- Bushfire Buy-back Scheme
\$20.6m (asset & output)
- Community Bushfire Refuges Project \$2.0m
output
- Fire Risk Mapping Data Free of Charge
\$8.8m output
- Expanded Planned Burning Program \$24.4m
output; \$10.7m asset
- Vulnerable People in Emergencies \$10.4m
output
- Safer Electricity Assets Workplan \$62.5m
output

Budget Outcomes

2012-13 Budget Initiatives

- CFA Appliances and Rural Stations \$33.9m asset \$1.2m output
- Emergency Services Communications \$1.4m asset \$20.4m output