

# YOUR BUSH FIRE SURVIVAL PLAN LEAVE EARLY, YOUR SAFEST CHOICE

One of the most important things you can do before a bush fire is decide what you will do if one should start. Even if you plan to **STAY**, there will be some extreme or catastrophic days when staying isn't an option.

## EVERYONE NEEDS A LEAVE EARLY PLAN

If your household's plan is to **LEAVE EARLY**, you must be able to answer the following questions in detail to ensure you and your family are as fully prepared as possible.

### DOES EVERYONE AGREE?

- Have you discussed these decisions with everyone in the household?
- The NSW RFS recommends that you discuss your current plan with your household at regular intervals to ensure it is still suitable for your circumstances.

### WHEN WILL WE LEAVE?

We have decided what our sign will be to leave. For example Severe Fire Danger Rating, fire within 5km.

Do not wait for an official warning before deciding to leave.

### WHAT WILL WE TAKE?

We know what we will take and have prepared our Emergency Survival Kit. For suggestions on what to take visit [myfireplan.com.au](http://myfireplan.com.au)

### WHERE WILL WE GO?

We have decided where we will go, how we will get there and who we will tell. Be sure to identify more than one route to your safer location as bush fires can close roads at short notice.



## IT CAN BE DANGEROUS TO LEAVE AT THE LAST MINUTE

If you cannot leave or you receive an Emergency Alert warning that it is too late to leave, you should take shelter in a room on the opposite side of your house away from the approaching fire. Ensure you have clear access to an exit from this room.

# LEAVE EARLY ACTIONS CHECKLIST

Before you leave, ensure all members of your household, including pets, are accounted for.

## OUTSIDE

- Turn off gas mains and/or bottle
- Move flammable items away from the house
- Block drainpipes with socks full of sand and fill gutters with water.  
Do not get on the roof to hose it down.

## INSIDE

- Close doors, windows and vents
- Fill baths, sinks, buckets and bins with water
- Soak towels and rugs and lay them across external doorways
- Move furniture away from windows

## BEFORE YOU LEAVE

- Pack the items you wish to take with you, as identified in your Bush Fire Survival Plan, such as medication and important documents.
- Secure your home by locking all doors and windows.  
If you live on a rural property, ensure you leave access gates unlocked to aid firefighters who may be required to access your property while you are not there.
- Confirm the location you are heading is still safe and away from the fire.
- Confirm your planned route is clear. Check Live Traffic NSW or your Local Council website for road closures.
- Contact a relative or friend and tell them you are leaving and for where. Be sure to contact them again once you have arrived safely.

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](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au)  
[www.myfireplan.com.au](http://www.myfireplan.com.au)



**Your nearest NSW RFS  
Fire Control Centre:**



**Bush Fire Information Line**  
1800 NSW RFS (1800 679 737)