



FIRE PLANNING

KURRAJONG HEIGHTS NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUPS

NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUPS BUSH FIRE PLANNER

PROPERTY NAME/ADDRESS	
PRIMARY CONTACT	
SECONDARY CONTACT	
OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS 1	
OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS 2	
OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS 3	
OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS 4	
OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS 5	
OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS 6	

Please list name/mobile/email in box above. Delete sample comments below and replace with your own

This document is based on the RFS Bushfire Survival Plan which can be downloaded [here](#) and contains additional Neighbourhood information. Please share this Plan with your local Neighbourhood Group Coordinator and with family & friends

Complete a separate Property Map and share it with your Coordinator

Only the Map will be shared with the RFS, and it should contain no personal information

LEAVE

When will we leave?

What will be your sign to leave? It could be smoke in your area, or as soon as you find out there's a fire near you.

- **As soon as it is clear we will be impacted by a major fire**
- **Only leave if exit down Bellbird Hill is clear**

Where will we go?

Where's a meeting place that's safe and away from a fire area? It might be a friend or relative's place, or even a shopping centre

- **Agreed rendezvous**

How will we get there?

What road will you take? What's your backup plan in case the road is blocked

- **BLOR via North Richmond**
- **STAY if road blocked**

What will we take?

Make a list of what you'll take in the event of a fire. Remember to include pets, identification and irreplaceable items like photos or documents.

- **Which car**
- **Insurance documents, passports, marriage and birth certificates, licences, property deeds**
- **Animals**
- **Computers and backup devices**

- **Clothes**
- **Photos and Treasures, Family heirlooms**

Who will we call to tell that we're leaving and that we have arrived safely?

Who will we call to let them know we're leaving and that we've got there safely?

- **Family. Phone/email/address**
- **Friends. Phone/email/address**

What is our backup plan?

What if things don't go to plan? Identify a safer location nearby such as a neighbour's home that is well prepared, or a place of last resort. Is there a Neighbourhood Safer Place nearby?

- **No approved Safer Places nearby**
- **Discuss other options with your Coordinator**
- **If can't leave stay in house**

Link: [RFS Safer Places](#):



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STAY

Before you start, ask your household:

- Is your home well prepared to make it as safe as possible during a fire?
 - Check the Step 2 property protection checklists.
- Are we putting anyone in our family at risk by staying?
 - For example, children, the elderly, or people with asthma.
- Will we cope in an emergency situation? In a fire, it will be hot, smoky and physically draining. Even trained firefighters can find it challenging.

If you're not sure or aren't prepared, you should leave early.

Do we have all the equipment we need?

Go through all the items on the Decide to Stay checklist and see what's missing. Make a commitment to get all equipment by a specific date.

- **See Equipment Checklist below**

When there is a fire, what is our sign to start defending our home?

It could be as soon as you find out there's a fire near you. Do not wait for an official warning.

- **As soon as embers start falling**

Do we know what to do BEFORE, DURING and AFTER a fire?

Study the Decide to Stay action checklist.

Do all members of our household KNOW WHAT TO DO

in all situations?

Give specific roles to each person.

What is our backup plan?

Consider unexpected events such as if one of us is home alone, if we aren't home, if the fire moves faster than expected or if the phone lines and electricity are down.

Objective is to stay together. If clear to leave, go to Rendezvous. If not stay

It's not safe to stay with your property under some circumstances, like:

- If the fire danger rating is Catastrophic.
- There is an Extreme fire danger rating and your home is not specially designed or constructed for bush fires.
- Your property is not well maintained.
- You or the people in your home aren't mentally and physically fit and ready.
- **Under these circumstances, you should leave early.**

Identify a safer location nearby such as a neighbour's home that is well prepared, or a place of last resort. Is there a Neighbourhood Safer Place nearby?

TOP 5 ACTIONS TO MAKE YOUR HOME SAFER



1. TRIM

Trim overhanging trees and shrubs. This can stop the fire spreading to your home.



2. MOW

Mow grass and remove the cuttings. Have a cleared area around your home.



3. REMOVE

Remove material that can burn around your home (e.g. Door mats, wood piles, mulch, leaves, paint, outdoor furniture).



4. CLEAR

Clear and remove all the debris and leaves from the gutters surrounding your home. Burning embers can set your home on fire.



5. PREPARE

Prepare a sturdy hose or hoses that will reach all around your home. Make sure you've got a reliable source of water.



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DECIDE TO STAY, BUT BE PREPARED

EQUIPMENT CHECKLIST

Petrol or diesel generator	
Ability to plug generator into house	
Sprinklers on roof	
Sprinklers on side of house	
Sprinklers in roof cavity	
Smoke alarms in the house that have been tested	
A hose, or hoses, that can reach all around the house	
Water supply of at least 10,000L e.g. water tank, dam, pool	
Petrol/diesel water pump with sufficient hoses to cover all around the house. Fuel in a safe, accessible place	
Ladders to access inside the roof	
Buckets and mops	
Shovels and metal rakes	

ACTION CHECKLIST

BEFORE (well before the fire has arrived)

OUTSIDE:

- Turn off gas mains and/or bottle **Disconnect and place on lawn away from the house pointing away from any structure**
- Move flammable items incl door mats away from the house **Esp wood pile**
- Block drain pipes with socks full of sand and fill gutters with water. **Or use sprinklers instead and leave downpipes open so some of the water returns to the tank**
- Don't get on the roof to hose it down
- Move animals to a well-grazed or ploughed area away from the house and wind
- Patrol the house well before the fire arrives to put out embers and spot fires
- As the fire approaches, wet the side of the house and garden that faces the fire
- Move your firefighting equipment to a place where it won't burn inside i.e. **Fire pump to water tank**

INSIDE:

- Close doors, windows and vents
- Fill baths, sinks, buckets and bins with water
- Confine pets to one room
- Place ladder next to roof access hole so you can check for spot fires
- Soak towels and rugs and lay them across external doorways
- Move furniture away from windows

DURING (as the fire is upon you)

- If flames are on top of you or the heat become unbearable move inside until the fire front has passed (usually 5-10 minutes)
- Patrol the inside of the house, including roof space, looking for sparks and embers
- Shelter in a room on the opposite side of the house from the approaching fire and ensure you have clear access to an exit

AFTER (immediately after the fire has passed)

- Check the house both inside and out for fires, including roof cavity, under the house, deck, stairs, windowsills etc
- If possible, and safe to do so, check all your neighbours 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

PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

Please complete for all family members

CLOTHING	#1	#2	#3	#4
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				

Any questions:
kh.rfs.community@gmail.com



NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP QUESTIONS

Please complete this section and share it with your Neighbourhood Group Coordinator

How well prepared is your house? See self-assessment checklist on last page:

Have you completed a Property Map identifying water sources and dangers? This should be shared with your coordinator and the RFS

Do you need a hand to prepare your place? If you are infirm, disabled or elderly RFS Mitigation crews can help under the AIDER program. You can apply yourself [here](#) or we can help you.

Can you identify hazards in the immediate neighbourhood? If so, please list them and any recommendation for mitigation:

Do you need assistance to evacuate? Please provide details

Do you know of someone else who will need assistance to evacuate? Please provide details including your relationship with them

Do you need assistance to evacuate animals? Please provide details

Any other comments or assistance required?



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SELF ASSESSMENT PROPERTY CHECKLIST

BUILDING – Do 2 nd page for sheds	YES/NO	COMMENTS
Is the guttering in good condition?		
Roof in good condition? Missing tiles?		
Are the gutters screened?		
Screens on external doors?		
Metal screens shutters on all windows?		
Vents & weepholes covered in wire mesh?		
Draught protectors on external doors?		
Garage doors tight fitting or have ember guards?		
Eaves enclosed?		
Decks etc use fire retardant timber?		
Under deck areas clear of debris & rubbish?		
Areas under the house enclosed?		
Smoke alarms fitted and tested?		
Gas bottles vented away from house?		
Equipment checklist complete? See above ..		
Repair or cover gaps in external walls?		
Any flammable items on or near house?		
Is the insurance up to date?		
Other?		

GARDEN	YES/NO	COMMENTS
Trees and shrubs overhanging buildings?		
Gutters clear of leaves and twigs?		
Garden clear of leaves, twigs & debris?		
Lawns cut and cuttings removed?		
No mulch around the house?		
Wood pile away from house?		
Hoses long enough to reach all areas?		
Fire suppressant plants in garden?		
Outdoor furniture moved well away from house?		
All other fire risks identified?		
Other?		



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ACTION	WHEN?	WHO? COMMENTS?
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		

[illegible]