

Wallet Card

Please remove this wallet-sized *FireReady* card and keep it handy. It could save your life, or the lives of your loved ones.

- www.cfa.vic.gov.au
- ABC local radio/commercial radio
- Sky News TV
- Victorian Bushfire Information Line (TTY 1800 240 667)

For fire warnings and updates:



10 ways to reduce your fire risk

1. If your house is near bush, grass or scrub, make sure you are prepared for the risk of fire. Go to www.cfa.vic.gov.au or call 1800 240 667 for details.
2. Assess whether your house has sufficient defensible space by using the CFA Household Bushfire Self-Assessment tool, found at www.cfa.vic.gov.au
3. Prepare your property. Good preparation will give your home a greater chance of surviving a bushfire, even if you leave.
4. Develop a written Bushfire Survival Plan and practise it.
5. If you plan to defend your property you need to be physically capable and mentally strong.
6. Fire Danger Ratings have changed. Be aware of the ratings on a daily basis.
7. Find out what's happening in your community. Attend a Fire Ready Community meeting. Join or form a CFA Community Fire Guard group.
8. When on holidays or travelling, plan ahead, check the Fire Danger Ratings for the area in which you will be travelling and be alert to any fire warnings.
9. Look and listen for information. Tune into your emergency broadcasters ABC radio, local radio and Sky News TV.
10. Update insurance for your house and contents as well as business and personal assets.

Fire Danger Rating (FDR)

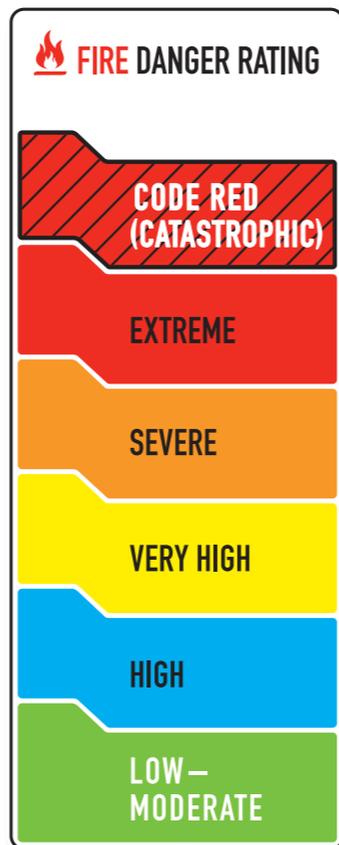
Victoria has adopted the new nationally agreed Fire Danger Rating scale to help communities understand information about fire danger. This new scale recognises the significant increase in severe bushfire conditions over the past decade and the subsequent greater level of danger to the community, and potential loss of life, as experienced by Victorians on Saturday, 7 February 2009.

Fire Danger

Every day during the fire season the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) forecasts an outlook of the fire danger index (FDI) by the predicted weather including: temperature, relative humidity, wind speed and dryness of vegetation.

The Fire Danger Rating for each weather district is determined by the BoM in consultation with the fire agencies.

For more information go to www.cfa.vic.gov.au



For this brochure and other information in:

Arabic	Indonesian	Somali
Chinese	Italian	Spanish
Croatian	Korean	Sinhalese
Dari	Macedonian	Sudanese (Dinka)
Greek	Russian	Turkish
Hindi	Serbian	Vietnamese

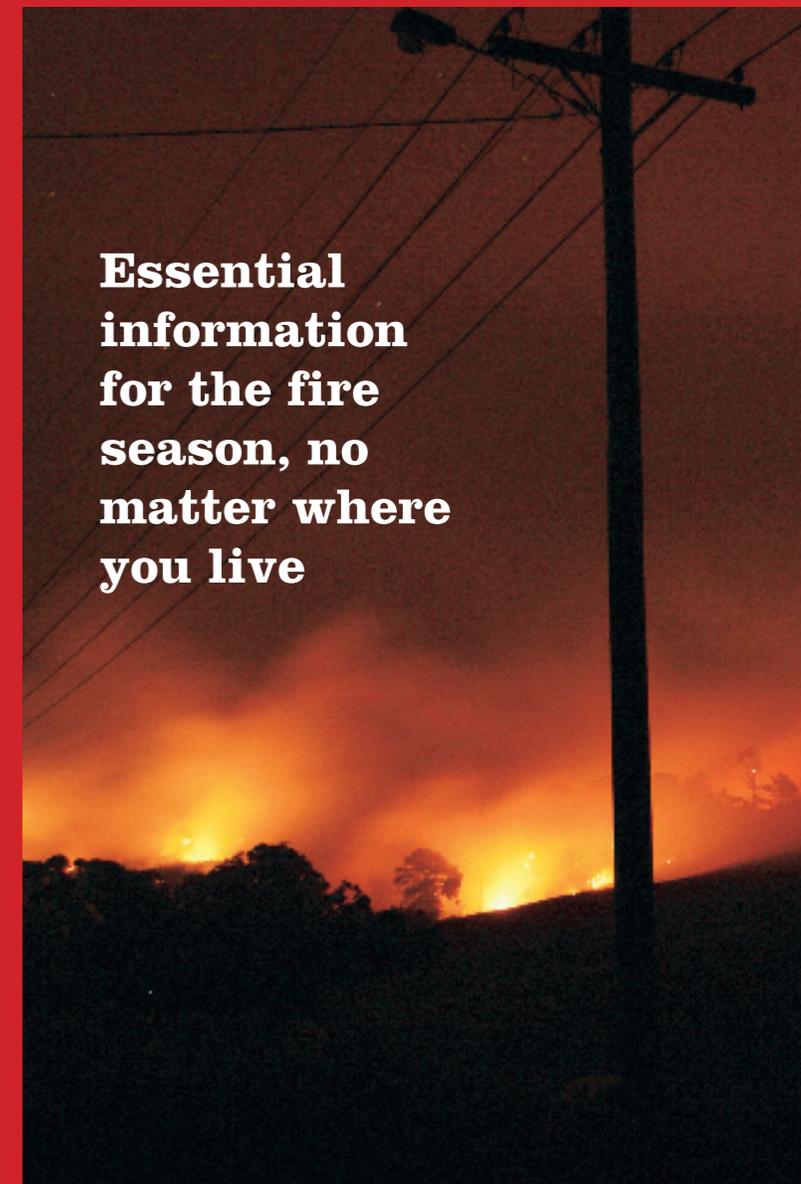
please go to www.cfa.vic.gov.au

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.
FireReady

For a free FireReady Kit contact:
 1800 240 667 www.cfa.vic.gov.

Essential information for the fire season, no matter where you live

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.
FireReady





Prepare

Things you can do:

- Find out whether your house is defensible – use the **Household Bushfire Self-Assessment Tool** online at www.cfa.vic.gov.au or call **1800 240 667** for your *FireReady* kit.
- A fire plan can save lives – develop your **Bushfire Survival Plan**.
- Practise your fire plan.
- Fire danger ratings have changed – see the wallet card in this brochure for a snapshot of the new national Fire Danger Ratings.
- Prepare your property – if you decide to leave, a well prepared home has more chance of surviving a bushfire.
- Learn as much as you can about bushfire warnings and safety – attend *FireReady* Victoria Community Meetings.
- Join or form a CFA Community Fire Guard group in your local area.
- Prepare a relocation kit with essential items packed in sturdy containers or bags.

All communities near bush, grassland or coastal areas are at risk of bushfire. If you live in these areas you must have a written Bushfire Survival Plan that details what you and your family will do if threatened by bushfire. It is a combination of preparation and a plan of action.



Act

Things you can do:

- Understand Fire Danger Ratings.

A Fire Danger Rating is a prediction of fire behaviour, including how hard it would be to put out a fire once it starts.

It provides information on:

- the type of threat bushfires may pose to life and property on any day given the forecast weather conditions.
- the sort of bushfire behaviour that could be experienced on that day.

The new Fire Danger Rating Barometer will alert you to danger so you can take action.

Fire Danger Ratings will be a feature of weather forecasts and alert you to the actions you should take in preparation for and on the day. It will be in newspapers, broadcast on radio, TV and on websites.

- Watch for signs of fire especially smoke and flames.
- Activate your fire plan, do not just 'wait and see'.
- If you are on holidays or travelling in Victoria this summer, plan ahead, check the Fire Danger Ratings for the area in which you will be travelling and be alert to any fire warnings.
- Look and listen for information. Tune into your emergency broadcasters ABC radio, local radio and Sky News TV. Visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au or telephone the Victorian Bushfire Information Line **1800 240 667**. Keep in touch with what's happening in your community.



Survive

Survival is your main priority. The only sure way to survive a bushfire is to be well away from the threat. Things you can do leading up to and on a Code Red day:

- If you live in a bushfire prone area the safest option is to leave the night before, or early in the morning.
- Activate your Bushfire Survival Plan.
- Prepare to leave.
- Monitor the weather and fire situation in any way you can: through the CFA website, ABC or local radio, TV and newspapers.
- Radiant heat can kill. Make sure you have protective clothing on hand.

Be aware of warnings

Standard Emergency Warning Signal (SEWS) is a distinctive siren sound that is played on radio and television in the event of an emergency. It is designed to:

- alert radio listeners and television viewers that an official emergency announcement is about to be made concerning an actual or potential emergency which has the potential to affect them.

You are strongly advised to become familiar with the sound. It can be listened to at www.cfa.vic.gov.au

Sirens may be used in some communities to alert you to fire danger. Consult your local CFA or local council to see if your community is using a siren for fire alerts.

A **telephone based warning system** using landline and mobile phones (billable addresses) may be issued if there is an emergency and communities need to be warned of imminent danger. You need to act on the advice of the warning.

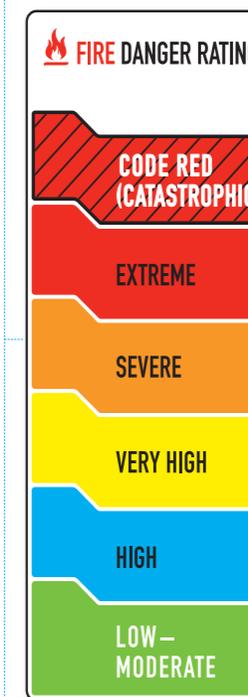
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IN EMERGENCY

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Fire, Police, Ambulance | Triple Zero (000) (TTY 106) |
| If I see flames or embers | Triple Zero (000) (TTY 106) |
| If fire is seriously threatening me | Triple Zero (000) |
| If I or another person is injured and needs an ambulance | Triple Zero (000) |

Do not call Triple Zero for information or advice only. Calling Triple Zero unnecessarily may put others who are in a genuine emergency situation at risk.



The new Fire Danger Rating Barometer

If you live in a bushfire prone area the safest option is to leave the night before, or early in the morning.

The safest option is to leave early in the day if you live in a bushfire prone area and your Bushfire Survival Plan is to leave. Only stay if your home is well prepared, well constructed and you can actively defend it.

The safest option is to leave early in the day if you live in a bushfire prone area and your Bushfire Survival Plan is to leave. Only stay if your home is well prepared and you can actively defend it.

If you live in a bushfire prone area and your Bushfire Survival Plan is to leave, the safest option is to leave at the beginning of the day.

Check your Bushfire Survival Plan.

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Push out along perforation

**For more information contact:
1800 240 667 www.cfa.vic.gov.**