

FROM THE CHIEF OFFICER

For most people, the warmer months are an opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors with family and friends.

It's also a time to get serious and think about preparing for bushfire. If you live in, work or travel in high risk bushfire areas in Victoria you need a Bushfire Survival Plan.

Preparing your home, family and community for bushfire is a shared responsibility.

CFA has a range of information and programs for everyone.

You can go online, attend a FireReady Victoria or Community Fireguard meeting, call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line or simply talk to your local CFA brigade today.

Don't wait, there's no time like the present.

Sincerely,

Euan Ferguson
CFA Chief Officer



CFA CAN HELP YOU GET PREPARED

CFA offers a range of free information and advice to help you and your family plan for bushfire.

➤ **Take the time to read this brochure and decide what's right for you**

Stay aware of the Fire Danger Rating and know what to do.

The Fire Danger Rating predicts how a fire would behave if one started, including how difficult it would be to put out. The higher the rating, the more dangerous the conditions.

The rating is your trigger to act, so to stay safe you need to stay aware of the Fire Danger Rating in your district.

During the fire season, the Fire Danger Rating may feature in weather forecasts and be broadcast on radio and TV and appear in some newspapers.

It can also be found at cfa.vic.gov.au or by calling the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on **1800 240 667**.



PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.
FireReady

An hour or less to get you on your way

➤ Talk to your local fire brigade

Local brigades have excellent knowledge and advice about your local area.

➤ Visit cfa.vic.gov.au

The CFA website offers a range of information in one easy to access place. Book free expert advice or find out about the many free programs and services.

➤ Call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line (VBIL)

Call **1800 240 667** for information on bushfire planning, Total Fire Bans and Fire Danger Ratings. Think about storing this number in your phone for when you are out and about.

Deaf or hearing impaired? Call via the National Relay Service on **1800 555 677**.

➤ Attend a FireReady Victoria meeting

Attend a FireReady Victoria meeting in your local area and receive important bushfire safety information in a group environment from a trained presenter.

Visit cfa.vic.gov.au or call the VBIL on **1800 240 667** to find a meeting in your area.

➤ Download the FireReady smartphone app

CFA's free smartphone app, available for Android, Blackberry, iPad and iPhone, is a great way to stay in touch and check up-to-date information.



An hour or two

➤ Read and complete the CFA FireReady kit

Information to help you with your personal bushfire survival plan. Read the kit and complete the planning templates.

➤ Book the FREE Home Bushfire Advice Service

Have a bushfire expert 'on the spot' at your property. A FREE visit from a CFA Fire Safety Officer will help you identify ways to make your home safer. You can also discuss your family's bushfire survival plan.

Book a visit by calling the VBIL on **1800 240 667** or online at cfa.vic.gov.au.

➤ Use the House Bushfire Self Assessment Tool

Use this online tool to help build an accurate picture of your property's risk.

➤ Attend a Bushfire Planning Workshop

The Workshop is designed to assist you with your personal bushfire survival plan. It's an opportunity to get some one-on-one advice in a local setting.

Preferably, people will have already attended a FireReady Victoria meeting and/or read the FireReady Kit and would like assistance with developing a plan.



A longer term commitment

➤ Join or form a Community Fireguard group

The Community Fireguard program supports small groups of neighbours who get together with a facilitator to discuss bushfire planning in a friendly and informal setting.

With six interactive core sessions and plenty of options for extra workshops and ongoing involvement, this program can help you work towards a higher level of preparedness.

You can register your interest or get your own group started by contacting the Community Fireguard Coordinator at your regional CFA headquarters. Visit cfa.vic.gov.au for more information.

For more information visit cfa.vic.gov.au or call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line **1800 240 667** or via National Relay Service **1800 555 677** if you are deaf or hearing impaired.



For the same time it takes to read a magazine, do your weekly shop or watch a game of footy, you can develop your Bushfire Survival Plan.

