



HUFF STUFF

Newsletter

Issue 38

July 2019

Greetings everyone,

Well so far so good – no storms to speak of and no significant weather events. Last month I sent you the information you need if indeed there are some storms brewing on the horizon. What we do know however, is that it is going to be very dry until at least October so it is not looking good for the fire season. So, here's a timely reminder to check that your property is prepared.

From the NSWRFSS website:

“Prepare your home

A well prepared home is more likely to survive a bush fire. Even if your plan is to leave early, the more you prepare your home, the more likely it will survive a bush fire or ember attack. A well prepared home can also be easier for you or firefighters to defend, and is less likely to put your neighbours' homes at risk. A well prepared home will also give you more protection if a fire threatens suddenly and you cannot leave. Here are some basic maintenance tips to prepare your property:

- Clean your gutters of leaves and twigs
- Install metal gutter guards
- Repair damaged or missing tiles on the roof
- Install fine metal mesh screens on windows and doors

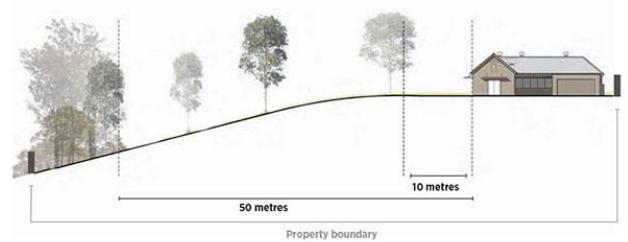
- Fit seals around doors and windows to eliminate gaps
- Enclose the areas under the house
- Repair or cover gaps in external walls
- Attach a fire sprinkler system to gutters
- Keep lawns short and gardens well maintained
- Cut back trees and shrubs overhanging buildings
- Clean up fallen leaves, twigs and debris around the property
- Have hoses long enough to reach around your house
- If you have a pool, tank or dam, put a Static Water Supply (SWS) sign on your property entrance, so firefighters know where they can get water
- Check and maintain adequate levels of home and contents insurance. Ensure it is up to date.

These tips are also available in our [Bush Fire and Your Home fact sheet](#).

You can assess your risk using the [bush fire household assessment tool](#).

Check if you live on [Bush Fire Prone Land](#).”

Please share this information with your neighbours. You can also book a free property assessment if anyone you or anyone you know is not sure about what to do. Just email me.



Downloaded from NSWRFWS website.

CYBER_Shed APP_FIX_IT

Simon is offering free help with your smartphones and tablets each Wednesday at BANC from 9.30 -12.30. Just drop in, no need to book. Please pass the word around.

10/50 vegetation clearing

If you live in an area close to the bush, you need to prepare your home. The 10/50 Vegetation Clearing Scheme gives people living near the bush an additional way of being better prepared for bush fires.

The scheme allows people in a designated area to:

- Clear trees on their property within 10 metres of a home, without seeking approval; and
- Clear underlying vegetation such as shrubs (but not trees) on their property within 50 metres of a home, without seeking approval.

You can find out if your property is in a 10/50 Vegetation Clearing Entitlement Area using [our online tool](#).

The 10/50 scheme is supported by the [10/50 Vegetation Clearing Code of Practice](#).

Get Ready Weekend

It's a long way off but put this in your diary. This year we are having *Get Ready Weekend* at Blackheath Public School on Sunday the 22nd September from 10.00am to 2.00 pm. BANC will be partnering with us by having a kite making workshop. The day will be a good culminating activity for the two weeks of fire safety talks that I and my team will be presenting to the students. Come along and join in the fun.

Regards, Mina