



# Your Bushfire Survival Guide

Throughout NSW, the Bushfire Danger Period is between 01 October and 31 March. This may vary according to prevailing conditions. During these months, Fire Restrictions must be observed.

For information on Fire Restrictions in the Sydney Metropolitan Area, dial 02 9846 3384. In other areas, contact your local Fire Brigade or Council.

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**During a TOTAL FIRE BAN, no fire may be lit in the open. This includes incinerators and barbecues which burn solid fuel, eg, wood or charcoal.**

## Bushfire - Protecting your Home :

1. keep grass short - both in your yard and on nature

2. always rake up leaves and grass cuttings

3. do not store boxes/cartons/wood next to or under

4. make a regular habit of cleaning leaves and other

5. debris from gutters and downpipes

6. always use a properly constructed incinerator if

7. you are permitted to burn garden clippings or rubbish

8. never store highly flammable liquids in the house

9. and think carefully when you dispose of hot ashes

## During a Bushfire :

1. don't panic !!!

2. if you have time block all downpipes and fill roof

3. close all windows and doors

4. block spaces beneath doors with towels/blankets or

5. anything else you can stuff into these crevices

6. gather your family and pets together and stay in

7. part of the house which is away from the

8. approaching fire

9. after the main fire has passed go out and inspect

10. the house to see if it has caught alight

11. if the house is alight and you can't fight the fire

12. you should quickly move out to a burnt area or

13. other safe area nearby

1. don't panic !!!
2. don't attempt to drive into or through dense smoke
3. try to park in an area where there is NO vegetation
4. turn the car headlights ON and the ignition OFF
5. close off all air vents and wind up all windows
6. get everyone down on the floor of your car and cover yourselves with rugs or coats - this helps you avoid radiant heat
7. stay in the car - don't attempt to get out until the main fire has passed

## In a Car :

If you are caught in a bushfire you can greatly improve your chances of survival by following this expert advice.

## Bushfire Survival Tactics :

1. don't panic !!!
2. never run uphill to get away from an approaching fire
3. never attempt to run through a fire unless you are sure it is small ( less than 1 metre deep with flames of less than 1 metre high ) and then only as a last resort
4. try to find an open space - even better a space where the ground is burned
5. make yourself a firebreak - you can quickly clear away a lot of flammable material
6. if a large area of water ( like a swimming pool ) is available take shelter - NEVER climb into elevated water tanks

**If you are on foot and are caught in a bushfire, there are a few points to remember :**

**RADIANT HEAT** from fire is the number one killer in bushfires, so cover up as much exposed skin as possible and remember .... the air is fresher and cooler near the ground.