

PREPARING YOUR PROPERTY



FIREFIGHTERS WILL BE TOO BUSY FIGHTING FIRES ON THE FRONTLINE TO BE ABLE TO DEFEND YOUR HOME AND PROPERTY.

You can better prepare your home for a bushfire by completing this Property Preparation Checklist.



PROPERTY UPKEEP

Set calendar reminders to complete these preparations monthly during fire season.

- Cut the grass around your property to 10cm or less.
- Prune shrubs so they are not dense.
- Ensure gas cylinders are chained/secured upright.
- Check gas release valves face away from property.
- Clean gutters.

LASTING PROTECTION

Set calendar reminders to complete these preparations annually.

- Keep gas cylinders away from likely direction of fire (i.e. where bush is) and turn release valves outwards.
- Remove shrubs, wood, mulch or any flammable material, against or near the house.
- Block any gaps under floor, in the roof spaces, under eaves, external vents, skylights, chimneys and wall claddings.
- Install metal fly wire mesh on all windows, vents and install a protective screen on evaporative air conditioner.
- Create a mineral earth firebreak along the boundary of your property.
- Install a fire or heat radiant shield such as a solid fence.

RURAL PROTECTION

Complete these preparations if you own a rural property.

- Make sure fire trucks can access and turn around on your property.
- Check bridge loading and cattle grid loading for fire truck access.
- Create fire breaks along paddock boundaries.
- Store petrol and gas safely.
- Install underground water pumps that lead from dams to the house.
- If a fire threatens, move livestock to a well grazed paddock.

For more information visit dfes.wa.gov.au/bushfire

or contact DFES Community Preparedness: Community.Preparedness@dfes.wa.gov.au

or **9395 9816**

