

Bushfire Safety for Workers online module

Tips for making safer decisions



Understand bushfire risk

- Check the Fire Danger Ratings each day.
- Bushfires are uncontrollable on days rated Catastrophic. Do not be in bushfire risk areas on these days.
- Find out the Fire Danger Rating for your area: cfa.vic.gov.au/fdr



Prepare before you go

- Have a basic emergency kit in the car. Store it on the floor behind the front seat.
- Download the VicEmergency app and save the VicEmergency Hotline 1800 226 226 in your phone.
- Assess your route for anything that could increase risk, such as dense vegetation or gravel roads, poor mobile phone reception or limited places to turn around.
- Learn what to pack in your emergency kit: cfa.vic.gov.au/emergencykit



Travel safely

- Follow your workplace travel procedures and contact plan.
- Never travel in high-risk areas on a Catastrophic rated day as it is extremely dangerous.
- On days rated Extreme, reconsider travel in all bush, grass or forested areas. If it is not essential, postpone or move the work activity. If travel is essential, go early in the morning, monitor conditions and have back-up routes.
- Smoke, ash, embers, or a large column of smoke in the distance are all signs of a nearby fire.
- If you suspect a fire, pull over and check your VicEmergency app, or call the VicEmergency Hotline: 1800 226 226.
- DO NOT continue driving towards a fire. Always turn back and drive away from the fire.
- Learn more about traveling safely: cfa.vic.gov.au/travel



Survive — know what to do if caught in a fire

- Radiant heat and extremely hot air from a bushfire can kill you.
- To protect yourself from radiant heat — increase your distance, shelter behind a solid object and wear protective clothing.
- If caught out in your vehicle you can increase your chances of survival by:
 - Parking the vehicle behind a solid structure or in a cleared area.
 - Sheltering inside the vehicle below window level and covering yourself with a woollen blanket.
 - Drinking water so you don't get dehydrated. Even if you are not thirsty.
- If you are caught in a building or house you can increase your chances of survival by:
 - Actively sheltering inside and staying alert to what the fire is doing outside. Always shelter in a room with at least two exits — you must be able to escape if the building catches fire.
- Learn more about your last resort options: cfa.vic.gov.au/last-resort



Remember — complete the Bushfire Safety
for Workers refresher training every year.
cfa.vic.gov.au/workers

