Remember, a holistic approach to bushfire preparation is critical. While garden design and maintenance can improve the chances of a house surviving a bushfire, do not rely on these in isolation. In high risk areas, on **Severe**, **Extreme** and **Code Red** days leaving early is always the safest option.

The location and arrangement of vegetation within a garden has a greater impact on how a bushfire will spread than the flammability of individual plants.

Use these four principles when designing your garden to reduce the risk of the garden contributing to house loss in a bushfire.

- **CREATE DEFENDABLE SPACE**
- **REMOVE FLAMMABLE OBJECTS FROM AROUND THE HOUSE**
- **BREAK UP FUEL CONTINUITY**
- **CAREFULLY SELECT, LOCATE AND MAINTAIN TREES**

For more detail and to use CFA’s online Plant Selection key visit [cfa.vic.gov.au/plants](http://cfa.vic.gov.au/plants) or call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 667.
**NATIVE SHRUBS**
- *Allyogyne huegelii* (Lilac Hibiscus)
- *Banksia blechnifolia* (Creeping Banksia)
- *Eremophila maculata* (Emu Bush)
- *Philotheca 'Bournda Beauty’* (Waxflower)

**CLIPPED HEDGES**
- *Acacia dealbata* (Gold Dust Wattle)
- *Spigotum francisii* ‘Little Gem’ (Dwarf Lily Pilly)
- *Westringia fruticosa* (Native Rosemary)

**NATIVE PERENNIALS**
- *Brachyscome multifida* (Cut-leaf Daisy)
- *Chrysocephalum apiculatum* (Common Everlasting)
- *Dampiera linearis* (Common Dampiera)
- *Scaevola abdita* ‘Mouse Clutter’ (Fan Flower)

**NATIVE SHRUBS**
- *Banksia blechnifolia* (Creeping Banksia)
- *Correa pulchella* (Salmon Correa)
- *Crowea exalata* (Small Crowea)
- *Eremophila maculata* (Emu Bush)

**CLIPPED HEDGES**
- *Acacia dealbata* (Gold Dust Wattle)
- *Spigotum francisii* ‘Little Gem’ (Dwarf Lily Pilly)
- *Westringia fruticosa* (Native Rosemary)

**NATIVE SHRUBS**
- *Alyogyne huegelii* (Lilac Hibiscus)
- *Banksia blechnifolia* (Creeping Banksia)
- *Eremophila maculata* (Emu Bush)
- *Philotheca 'Bournda Beauty’* (Waxflower)

**HERBACEOUS PLANTS**
- *Aloe x spinosissimum* (Spider Aloe)
- *Chrysocephalum apiculatum* (Common Everlasting)
- *Dampiera linearis* (Common Dampiera)
- *Scaevola albida* ‘Mauve Clusters’ (Fan Flower)

**ORNAMENTAL SHRUBS AND GRASSES**
- *Festuca glauca* (Blue Fescue)
- *Cotinus 'Grace’* (Smoke Bush)
- *Echium candicans* (Pride of Madeira)

**HERBACEOUS PLANTS**
- *Aloe x spinosissimum* (Spider Aloe)
- *Chrysocephalum apiculatum* (Common Everlasting)
- *Coreopsis ‘Moonbeam’*
- *Dianthus caryophyllus* (Pinks)

**ORNAMENTAL SHRUBS AND GRASSES**
- *Echium candicans* (Pride of Madeira)
- *Euphorbia characias* subsp. *wulfenii* (Wulfen Spurge)
- *Senecio vira-vira* (Dusty Miller)

**USE DECORATIVE PAVING AND GRAVEL AROUND THE HOUSE TO KEEP PLANTS AWAY FROM WINDOWS, DOORS AND OTHER VULNERABLE PARTS OF THE BUILDING.**

**USE LAWN AREAS TO PROVIDE SEPARATION BETWEEN GARDEN BEDS. THIS BREAKS UP THE CONTINUITY OF VEGETATION IN THE GARDEN TO PREVENT FUEL CORRIDORS.**

**LOCATE LANDSCAPING FEATURES WITH LOW FLAMMABILITY SUCH AS POOLS, TENNIS COURTS OR MAINTAINED LAWN BETWEEN THE HOUSE AND THE MOST LIKELY DIRECTION OF A BUSHFIRE.**

**AVOID PLANTING SHRUBS UNDER TREES. INSTEAD USE GROUNDCOVERS WITH LOW FLAMMABILITY AND LOW-GROWING SUCCULENTS UNDER TREES TO PROVIDE MAXIMUM SEPARATION BETWEEN FUEL AT THE GROUND LEVEL AND THE TREE CANOPY.**

**CLUMP TREES TO CREATE AT LEAST TWO METRES DISTANCE BETWEEN TREE CANOPIES. THIS HELPS PREVENT FIRE SPREADING FROM TREE TO TREE.**