

CFS FACT SHEET

FIRE DANGER RATING



To help you assess your level of bushfire risk, it is important that you understand the Fire Danger Rating. The rating is forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology each day and is an early indicator for you of the potential danger, should a bushfire start on that day. The rating provides a classification of the expected fire behaviour on a given day, and can be used as a guide for the actions you will take on that day.

The Fire Danger Rating is determined by the Fire Danger Index (FDI). The Fire Danger Index is a combination of temperature, relative humidity, wind speed, vegetation and drought factors. The Fire Danger Rating is issued by the Bureau of Meteorology after 4pm the day before and is available at www.bom.gov.au.

A Fire Danger Index of 0 (a Fire Danger Rating of Low-Moderate) means that a fire will not burn, or will burn so slowly that its control presents little difficulty. A Fire Danger Index in excess of 100 (a rating of Catastrophic) means that fire will burn so fast and so hot that it is impossible to control.

| Fire Danger Rating | Recommended Action and Potential Fire Behaviour and Impact |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| CATASTROPHIC FDI 100+ | <p>ACTION: For your survival, leaving early is the best option.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fires will be uncontrollable, unpredictable and fast moving. Flames will be higher than roof tops. Thousands of embers will be blown around. Spot fires will move quickly and come from many directions, up to 20 km ahead of the fire. There is a very high likelihood that people in the path of the fire will die or be injured. Thousands of homes and businesses will be destroyed. House construction standards do not go beyond a Fire Danger Index of 100. Well prepared, constructed and actively defended homes may not be safe during a fire. Do not expect a fire truck. |
| EXTREME FDI 75-99 | <p>ACTION: Leaving early is the safest option for your survival.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fires will be uncontrollable, unpredictable and fast moving. Flames will be higher than roof tops. Thousands of embers will be blown around. Spot fires will move quickly and come from many directions, up to 6 km ahead of the fire. There is a likelihood that people in the path of the fire will die or be injured. Hundreds of homes will be destroyed. Only well prepared, well constructed and actively defended houses are likely to offer safety during a fire. Do not expect a fire truck. |
| SEVERE FDI 50-74 | <p>ACTION: Leaving early is the safest option for your survival. Only stay if you and your home are well prepared and you can actively defend it during a fire.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fires will be uncontrollable and move quickly. Flames may be higher than roof tops. Expect embers to be blown around. Spot fires may occur up to 4 km ahead of the fire. There is a chance people may die or be injured. Some homes and businesses will be destroyed. Well prepared and actively defended houses can offer safety during a fire. Do not expect a fire truck. |
| VERY HIGH FDI 25-49 | <p>ACTION: Only stay if you and your home are well prepared and you can actively defend it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fires can be difficult to control. Flames may burn into the tree tops. Expect embers to be blown ahead of the fire. Spot fires may occur up to 2 km ahead of the fire. There is a low chance people may die or be injured. Some homes and businesses may be damaged or destroyed. Well prepared and actively defended houses can offer safety during a fire. |
| HIGH FDI 12-24 | <p>ACTION: Know where to get more information and monitor the situation for any changes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fires can be controlled. Expect embers to be blown ahead of the fire. Spot fires can occur close to the main fire. Loss of life is highly unlikely and damage to property will be limited. Well prepared and actively defended houses can offer safety during a fire. |
| LOW - MODERATE FDI 0-11 | <p>ACTION: Know where to get more information and monitor the situation for any changes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fires can be easily controlled. Little to no risk to life and property. |

For more information, go to www.cfs.sa.gov.au.



Government
of South Australia

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

