

If you are caught in the path of a bushfire

A car is one of the deadliest places to be in a bushfire. The only sure way to survive is to be nowhere near the fire.

- ☐ If there is a lot of smoke, slow down and be aware. In poor visibility you may not see people, vehicles or animals on the road.
- ☐ Turn on headlights and hazard warning lights.
- ☐ Always u-turn and drive to safety –your nearest Bushfire Safer Place may be your best option.

If you can't escape the path of the fire:

- ☐ Stay inside your vehicle – it offers better protection than being in the open.
- ☐ Pull off the road to avoid collisions in poor visibility. Try to park in a clear area, preferably behind a solid structure to block some of the heat.
- ☐ Face your car towards the fire.
- ☐ Turn the engine and air-conditioning off.
- ☐ Tightly close the doors, windows and air vents.
- ☐ Lie on the floor and shelter under woollen blankets to protect yourself from radiant heat.
- ☐ Avoid dehydration: drink lots of water.
- ☐ Heat and smoke from the fire and fumes from the car may make breathing difficult – stay under the blankets and cover your mouth with a P2 face mask or handkerchief..
- ☐ Stay down until the sound of the fire has passed, carefully leave the car (it will be hot).
- ☐ Move to a safe area such as a strip of land that has already burnt.



Stay safe while travelling in South Australia:

Bushfires can occur without warning and can quickly impact your travel route or holiday location. Being caught in a car or in the open during a bushfire could be deadly. Here is a simple checklist to help keep you safe while travelling this bushfire season:

- ☐ Know the risk of the area you're travelling to or through: know the Fire Ban District and the Fire Danger Rating.
- ☐ Know what you can and can't do: is it a Total Fire Ban?
- ☐ Stay safe on fire danger days: plan safer activities and know the nearest safer places you can go.
- ☐ Plan ahead and have the right gear in your car: create an emergency kit.
- ☐ Let family, friends or colleagues know where you will be.
- ☐ Know what to do if there is a bushfire in the area.
- ☐ Stay alert and stay informed.

On fire danger days

On fire danger or Total Fire Ban days, you need to be more alert and careful because any fire that starts will be more dangerous.

- If your travel or activities take you into high risk areas, can you postpone your trip, plan a different route, swap to an activity that is safer or not banned on Total Fire Ban days?
- Can a work-related job be done on another day or in a safer location?
- Do your plans involve activities or tools banned on a Total Fire Ban day?
- Do you know where the safest place to go to if a bushfire threatens?

Stay informed: listen for emergency warnings and alerts

Emergency Broadcast Partners: ABC Local Radio, FIVEaa Radio, Sky News Television, Commercial Radio Australia

Radio frequencies in SA

Adelaide	891 ABC Adelaide	891 AM
Adelaide	Cruise 1323	1323 AM
Adelaide	FIVEaa	1395 AM
Adelaide	Nova 91.9	91.9 FM
Adelaide	Mix 102.3	102.3 FM
Adelaide	Triple M	104.7 FM
Adelaide	Hit 107	107.1 FM
Andamooka	ABC North & West	105.9 FM
Ceduna	Flow FM	106.1 FM
Clare/Mid North	Flow FM	107.5 FM
Coober Pedy	ABC North & West	106.1 FM
Coober Pedy	Flow FM	99.7 FM
Cook	ABC North & West	107.7 FM
Coonalpyn	Flow FM	97.7 FM
Glendambo	ABC North & West	106.1 FM
Kapunda/Barossa	Flow FM	99.5 FM
Kingscote	Flow FM	95.5 FM
Kingston SE	Flow FM	107.3 FM

Leigh Creek Coalfield	ABC North & West	99.3 FM
Leigh Creek	ABC North & West	1602 AM
Maitland	Flow FM	90.9 FM
Marree	ABC North & West	105.7 FM
Minlaton	Flow FM	98.9 FM
Mintabie	ABC North & West	88.7 FM
Mt Barker	Power FM	100.3 FM
Mt Gambier	5SE	963 AM
Mt Gambier	Star FM	96.1 FM
Murray Bridge	5MU	1125 AM
Murray Bridge	Power FM	98.7 FM
Naracoorte	ABC South East	1161 AM
Naracoorte	Star FM	100.9 FM
North Mt Gambier	ABC South East	1476 AM
Oodnadatta	ABC North & West	95.3 FM
Padthaway East	Flow FM	100.3 FM
Pinnaroo	Flow FM	96.5 FM
Port Augusta	5AU	1242 AM
Port Lincoln	5CC	765 AM
Port Lincoln	ABC Eyre Peninsula	1485 AM

Port Lincoln	Magic FM	89.9 FM
Port Pirie	ABC North & West	639 AM
Prominent Hill	Flow FM	91.3 FM
Riverland	5RM	801 AM
Riverland	ABC Riverland	1062 AM
Riverland	Magic FM 93.1	93.1 FM
Roxby Downs	Flow FM	97.9 FM
Roxby Downs	ABC North & West	102.7 FM
Streaky Bay	ABC Eyre Peninsula	693 AM
Streaky Bay	Flow FM	99.3 FM
Victor Harbor	Power FM	99.7 FM
Woomera	ABC North & West	1584 AM
Woomera	Flow FM	101.7 FM
Wudinna	Flow FM	106.9 FM
Yalata	ABC North & West	105.9 FM

Contact the Bushfire Information Hotline on 1300 362 361 (TTY 133 677) visit [www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au)

Brochure updated 2016 To report a fire, call 000

@CountryfireService

@CFSAlerts

Alert SA app

Bushfire Information Hotline  
1300 362 361 (TTY 133 677)  
[www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au)

# Bushfire traveller safety

At work or on holidays, stay safe this bushfire season

Know your risk:

Travelling in the country during the bushfire season can put you at risk. Recognise the warning signs, and learn what to do to keep yourself safe.

Fire Ban Districts

There are 15 Fire Ban Districts across South Australia. Fire Bans and Ratings apply across the whole district.



Total Fire Bans

The CFS may declare Total Fire Bans in some Districts or even across the whole state on days when bad fire weather– high temperatures, strong winds and/or low humidity - could cause fires to become uncontrollable. Activities like barbeques and camp fires are banned on these days.

Fire Danger Ratings

Every day during the Fire Danger Season, Fire Danger Ratings are issued for each District. These ratings are not predictors of how likely a bushfire is to occur, but how dangerous it could be if it did occur.

Find your District, Rating or if it's a Fire Ban by:  
- calling the Bushfire Information Hotline 1300 362 361  
- through the Alert SA mobile phone app  
- on the CFS website www.cfs.sa.gov.au

Hearing or speech impaired? Contact us via the National Relay Service by calling Speak and Listen 1300 555 727 or through other contact options available at www.relayservice.gov.au

Where to go on fire danger days

Leaving a bushfire prone area early, before a fire starts, is always the safest option for your survival.

CFS has developed a hierarchy of places that can offer relative safety from bushfire. The CFS website has more information and maps of these places.

Least Safe ↕ Safest	BUSHFIRE SAFER PLACE	Adelaide Metropolitan area, outer suburbs and rural settlements	For if you need to relocate early. Suitable for use during forecast bad fire weather or during bushfire. May be subject to sparks, embers and smoke
	LAST RESORT REFUGE	Designated ovals and buildings in rural areas.	For if your plan has failed. Not suitable for extended use and may provide only limited protection during bushfire.

	↑			DANGER RATING	WHAT SHOULD I DO?
FIRES CAN THREATEN SUDDENLY AND WITHOUT WARNING WATCH for signs of fire, especially smoke and flames KNOW the Fire Danger Rating in your area and be aware of local conditions HAVE your Bushfire Survival Plan and kit ready CALL 000 to report a fire TO SEEK INFORMATION • listen to your local Emergency Broadcast Partners • go to www.cfs.sa.gov.au • or call the Bushfire Information Hotline on 1300 362 361 (TTY 133 677)				CATASTROPHIC TOTAL FIRE BAN	<b>You need to act now.</b> <i>These are the worst conditions for a bushfire -if a fire starts, it will be extremely difficult to control and will move very fast. Buildings are not built to withstand these fires.</i> The safest place to be is away from any bushfire prone areas. • Avoid travelling through forests, thick bush or long dry grass • Leave bushfire prone areas the night before or early in the morning Act immediately – do not wait and see.
				EXTREME TOTAL FIRE BAN	<b>You need to get ready to act</b> <i>Fires that start under these conditions will be unpredictable, fast-moving and difficult to control.</i> The safest place to be is away from any bushfire prone areas: leave them early in the day, and do not travel into these areas.
				SEVERE TOTAL FIRE BAN	<b>You need to be aware.</b> <i>Fires that start under these conditions will be difficult to control.</i> If possible, avoid travelling into bushfire prone areas. If not, only travel if you and your vehicle are well prepared. Know where to go if there is a bushfire. Watch out for smoke or any changes in conditions.
				VERY HIGH	<b>You need to be prepared.</b> <i>Fires that start under these conditions are likely to be controlled.</i> Buildings can provide safety. Know where to get more information about the weather and bushfires, and watch out for any changes.
				HIGH	
				LOW-MODERATE	
	↓				

Pack your emergency kit

An emergency kit should include essential items to help if you are caught in a bushfire:

- ☐ portable radio and spare batteries.
- ☐ a first aid kit.
- ☐ woollen blankets.
- ☐ 2 litres drinking water per person.
- ☐ protective clothing: long-sleeved cotton tops, pants, hats and sturdy shoes, P2 face mask.
- ☐ a hard copy map of the area that you are travelling in - your phone or GPS may fail due to smoke or local conditions.



Bushwalking

Avoid bushwalking on fire danger days, but if you are caught in a bushfire:

Don't try to outrun the flames

- ☐ Head for a natural fire break, e.g. streams, clearings or rock outcrops.
- ☐ Keep away from high ground in the path of the fire.
- ☐ Cover yourself or shelter behind a solid object (e.g. a rock or solid structure) to protect yourself against radiant heat.

Camping and houseboats

Make sure you are familiar with local fire restrictions.

If camping or staying in a caravan park, ask them where the nearest Bushfire Safer Place is. Find out if they have a Bushfire Survival Plan or safe refuge area. A brick toilet building or shower block may be the best option.

Be careful using generators and make sure you understand the restrictions on fires and barbeques. This also applies to houseboat users when lighting fires along riverbanks. The CFS website and fact sheets have more information.

If visiting a National Park, check the website or your local DEWNR office as information about the local fire and barbecue regulations can vary.

Some Parks are closed on fire danger days - you may need to leave your campsite.

