

Why join or start a Community Fire Safe group?

1. Get to know your neighbours, and share ideas and experiences.
2. Be part of a small group who are united and motivated towards bushfire safety.
3. Gain in-depth and expert bushfire safety knowledge in a relaxed and comfortable atmosphere.
4. Learn what you can do to make your home and property safer.
5. Share your bushfire knowledge and experience with others.
6. Prepare yourself and family both emotionally and physically.
7. Know where you can access other information before and during a bushfire.
8. Know how you can prepare a written Bushfire Survival Plan for your home and family.
9. Be part of the most effective way of learning how to be Bushfire Ready.

Community Fire Safe is a free CFS program that could save you and your family this Summer.

For more information contact:

SA Country Fire Service Communications and Engagement
Level 7, 60 Waymouth Street
ADELAIDE, SA 5000

Telephone: (08) 8212 9858

Facsimile: (08) 8463 5510

Email: community.ed@cfs.sa.gov.au



Hearing or speech impaired?

Contact us via the National Relay Service - by calling **TTY 133 677** or through other contact options available at www.relayservice.gov.au

Stay Informed

Bushfire Information Hotline **1300 362 361**
Speak and Listen NRS users phone **1300 555 727**
www.cfs.sa.gov.au



@Countryfireservice



@CFSalerts



@SA_CountryFireService



Alert SA app



Community Fire Safe

Working together to prepare for bushfires



Government
of South Australia

Bushfire Information Hotline
1300 362 361 (TTY 133 677)
www.cfs.sa.gov.au





The reality is that in a major bushfire, a fire truck will not be available to protect every home. Neighbours are often the first - the only - help that you can count on during a bushfire.

So why not start working together now to plan for your bushfire safety?

By actively participating in a Community Fire Safe group and planning ahead, you and your neighbours are able to develop strategies that you own and that fit your lifestyle, environment and bushfire risk.

Whether you plan to leave early, or stay to actively defend during a bushfire, Community Fire Safe can help you.

Community Fire Safe is:

- a group of people living in the same street or area, who face a common bushfire threat
- a series of informal meetings where you learn about and discuss bushfire behaviour, prevention and survival
- driven by you and supported by us — we focus on the issues most important to you, with a CFS facilitator providing support, technical information and resources
- a way to gain practical knowledge and skills to prepare and protect your family and property from bushfire
- a great opportunity to meet neighbours, share ideas and develop support networks that may be needed in a bushfire emergency
- the way for you and your neighbours to gain the knowledge you need to create the best possible written Bushfire Survival Plans

The best option for your safety:

Community Fire Safe members cope better during and after a bushfire threat.

Research has shown that

- survivors of the 2009 Victorian bushfires who were regular and active members of Victorian (Community Fire Guard) groups were likely to have fewer losses and better emotional recovery following a bushfire
- people with better community links and support do better during and after a fire —meeting and connecting with your neighbours is a great start
- in South Australia, community meetings and Community Fire Safe groups are the most effective way of receiving detailed, practical and actionable information, and of connecting with your neighbours around bushfire safety

Community Fire Safe groups have:

- organised neighbourhood working bees to prepare each other's properties
- established telephone trees and group email lists to communicate to each other during a bushfire
- worked out new ways to Stay Informed about bushfires and current conditions by using sites like the CFS Facebook and Twitter feeds, the Alert SA mobile phone app and through the CFS website
- made plans with more vulnerable members of their community
- organised bulk buying of fire equipment, personal protective clothing and other necessary items
- held street meetings and property inspections with CFS staff and volunteers
- held street walks to identify local fire hazards and familiarise themselves with each other's fire fighting equipment

People are different and there are many 'right answers' to bushfire safety. Community Fire Safe helps you find yours.