

# COMMUNITY SAFETY POCKET GUIDE

2009/10 Season

[www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)



# Key Community Safety Messages 2009/10

- **Prepare. Act. Survive.** is CFA's overarching message for education and communications about bushfire safety.

## Key Messages:

- Life is your first priority
- All of Victoria is at risk of bushfire, including communities near bush, grassland and the coast particularly those in high risk bushfire zones. Suburban homes can be destroyed by bushfires
- Bushfires kill. Individuals must make their own choices and take responsibility for their decisions and actions before and during the fire season
- A written Bushfire Survival Plan is essential and should be practised regularly
- Fires can threaten lives and property within minutes of starting; you may not receive an official warning
- Hot, dry and windy weather increases bushfire risk. Be aware of daily conditions, understand the Fire Danger Ratings and activate your Bushfire Survival Plan accordingly
- The only sure way to survive a bushfire is to be well away from the threat
- On a Code Red (catastrophic) Fire Danger day, the safest option is to leave early in the morning or the night before
- The best prepared homes may not be defensible on a Code Red day
- On an Extreme Fire Danger day, the safest option is to leave early in the day if you live in a bushfire prone area and your Bushfire Survival Plan is to leave. Only stay if your home is well prepared, well constructed and you can actively defend it