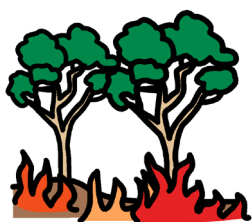
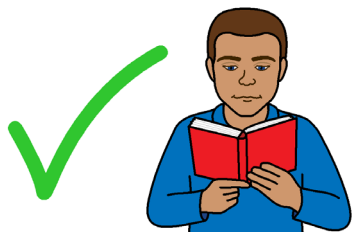


### 3 Get ready

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**Bushfire Safety Guide**



**Easy to read**



**Government of  
South Australia**



## Know your risk



When you say **yes** to any of these questions you may be at risk.

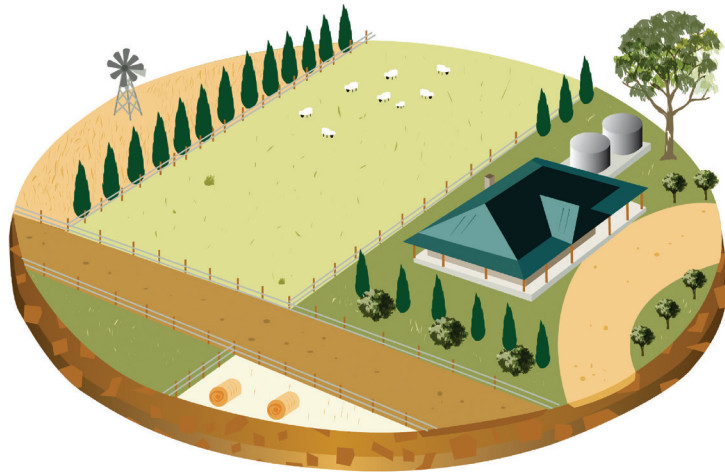
- Do you live near any of these places?



- Bush
- Forest



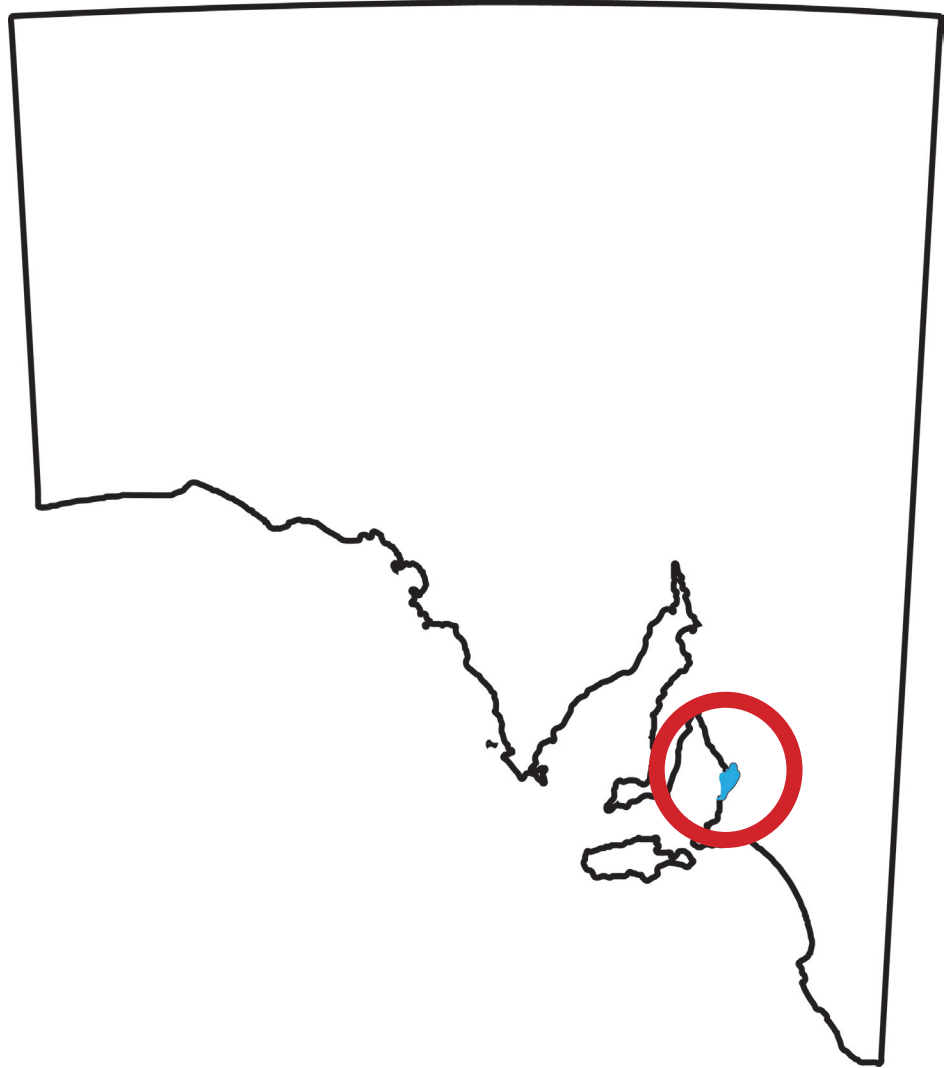
- Coast



- Paddocks with lots of grass
- Grassland



- Suburbs near the bush
- Land with lots of small plants



Adelaide is the blue part in the red circle.

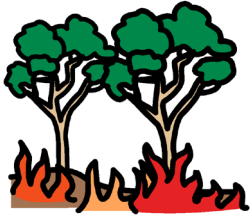
The inner suburbs of Adelaide are safe.

Do you

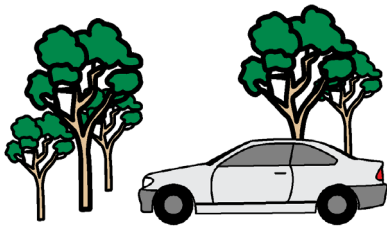
- live
- work
- or**
- travel

outside the safe part of Adelaide?

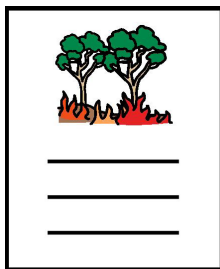
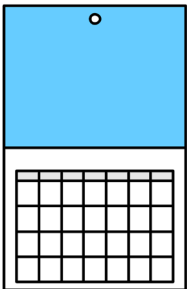




- Has there been a bushfire in your area before?



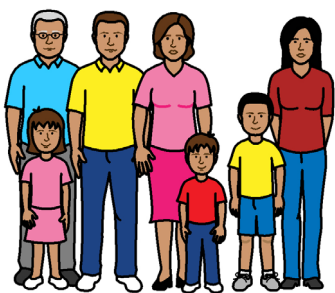
- When you leave your home do you have to drive in bushland?



- Is your Bushfire Plan more than 1 year old?



If you said **yes** to any of these questions you may be at risk. Leaving early is the safest thing to do.



## Write your Bushfire Plan

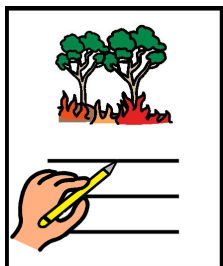
### Prepare

- you
- and** your
- family
- home
- animals.



### Read

- Information book - Leave early
- Information book - Stay and defend



### Do

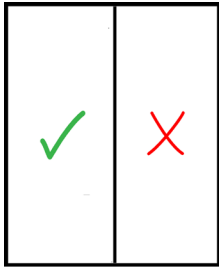
- My Bushfire Plan - Leave early
- or**
- My Bushfire Plan - Stay and defend



### Talk to

- family
- and**
- friends

about your Bushfire Plan.



## Understand the rules

Fire Danger Season is the dangerous months.

During Fire Danger Season there are rules.

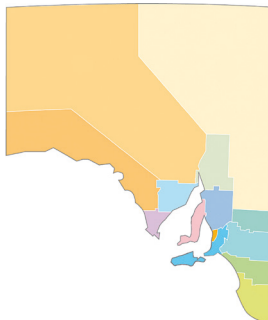


You must **not** burn off

- grass
- weeds
- leaves.



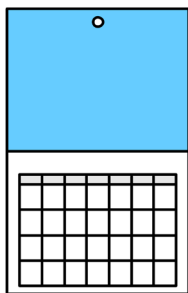
You must **not** use fireworks.



There are 15 bushfire areas in South Australia. CFS call the areas **Fire Ban Districts**. Know your area.

You must know

- the Fire Danger Season for your area
- and**
- when there is a Total Fire Ban in your area.



Fire Danger Season is **December to April** in

- Adelaide
- Kangaroo Island
- Mount Lofty Ranges.

Fire Danger Season is **November to March** in

- North East Pastoral
- North West Pastoral.

Fire Danger Season is **November to April** in

- Eastern Eyre Peninsula
- Flinders
- Mid North
- Murraylands
- Lower Eyre Peninsula
- Lower South East
- Riverland
- Upper South East
- West Coast
- Yorke Peninsula.



The dates may change.

You can get more information.

Call the Bushfire Information Hotline.

Phone 1800 362 361.



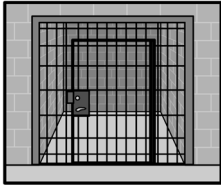


## Total Fire Ban

Some days are Total Fire Ban days.

A Total Fire Ban lasts for 24 hours.

You must **not** light any fires.



If you light a fire  
you might have to

- pay a fine

**or**

- go to jail.



Watch the night time news.

Find out if there is a

Total Fire Ban for tomorrow.



## Your BBQ on Total Fire Ban days

On Total Fire Ban days you can use your BBQ at home. You **must**

- live at the property.

This does **not** include a caravan

- have 4 metres of clear space around the BBQ
- have a person ready with water or a fire extinguisher
- The BBQ must use
  - gas
  - or**
  - electricity.



You can get more information.

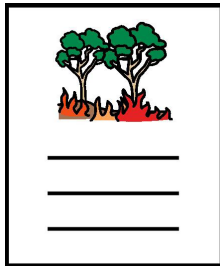
Call the Bushfire Information Hotline.

Phone 1800 362 361.

## Get your house and land ready



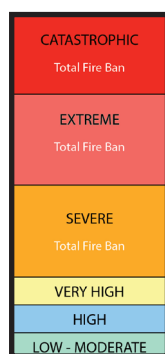
Get your emergency kit ready.



Check you Bushfire Plan.



Practise your Bushfire Plan with your family.



Check the Fire Danger Rating.

Fire Danger Ratings say how bad the bushfire will be.

Use the Fire Danger Rating to work out when to start your Bushfire Plan.



## Get insurance for your house

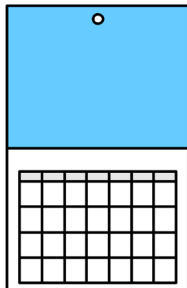
Insurance can help you pay for damage to your house. For example,

- fix your home
- rebuild your home
- buy new things for your home.



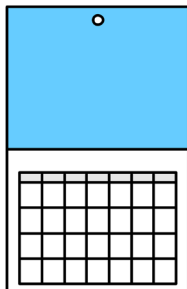
## Do jobs around your house

This book says what jobs you should do.



Do these jobs in May to October.

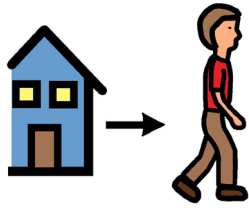
This is **before** the Fire Danger Season.



Do these jobs again in November to April.

This is **during** the Fire Danger Season.





If you plan to leave early  
do as many jobs as you can.

You might plan to leave early  
**but**

your plans can change. For example,

- you get scared
- the bushfire comes too fast
- it is **not** safe to drive
- you get sick.

You might have to stay at your house during a  
bushfire. Make your house as safe as possible.

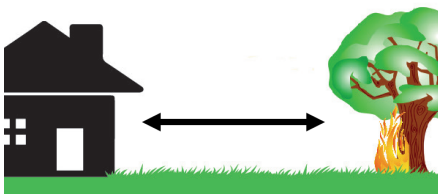
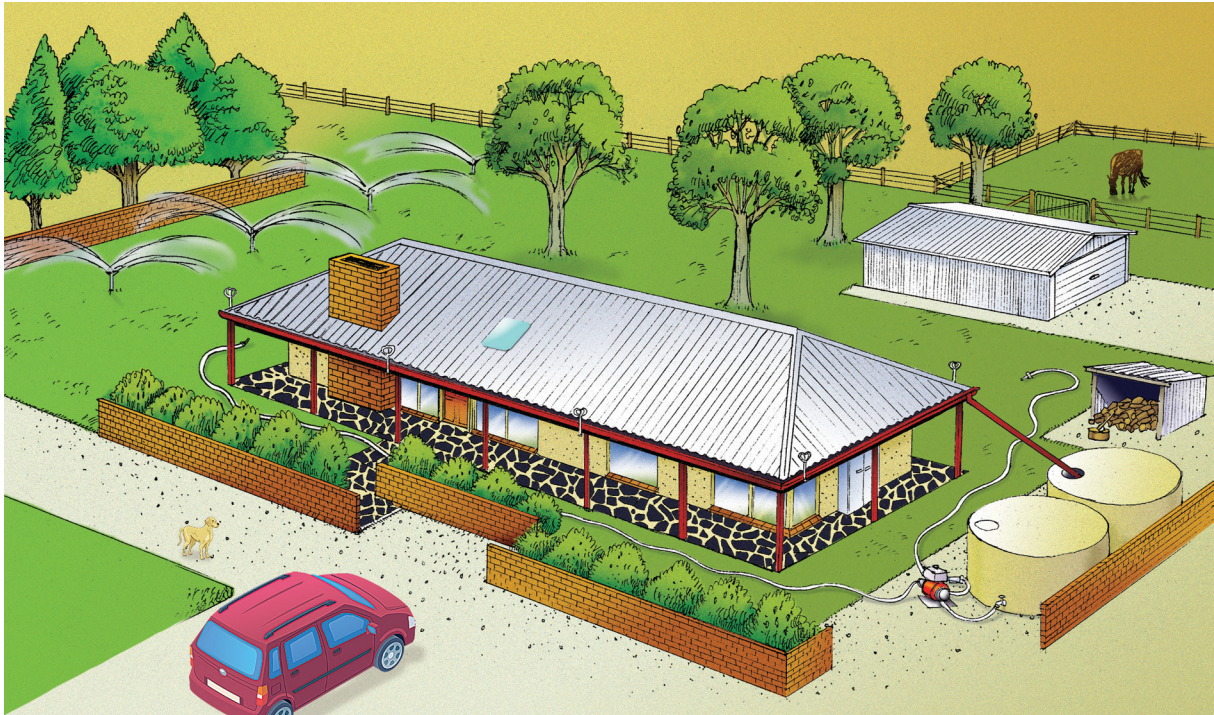


If you plan to stay and defend  
you **must** do all these jobs to get your

- house
- and**
- land ready.

You must read the rest of this book.

## Clear the space around your house

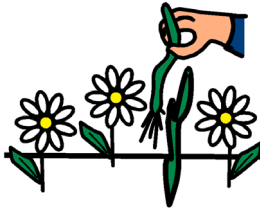


The clear space around your house is called defensible space. Clear up to

- 20 metres from your house
- 5 metres from your shed or garage.

You must keep your defensible space clear.

You **must** get rid of things that can catch fire.



Get rid of weeds.



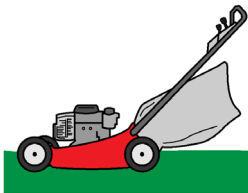
Rake away loose

- bark
- dry grass
- dry leaves
- dry twigs.



Cut branches that hang over your house.

Get rid of branches on the ground.



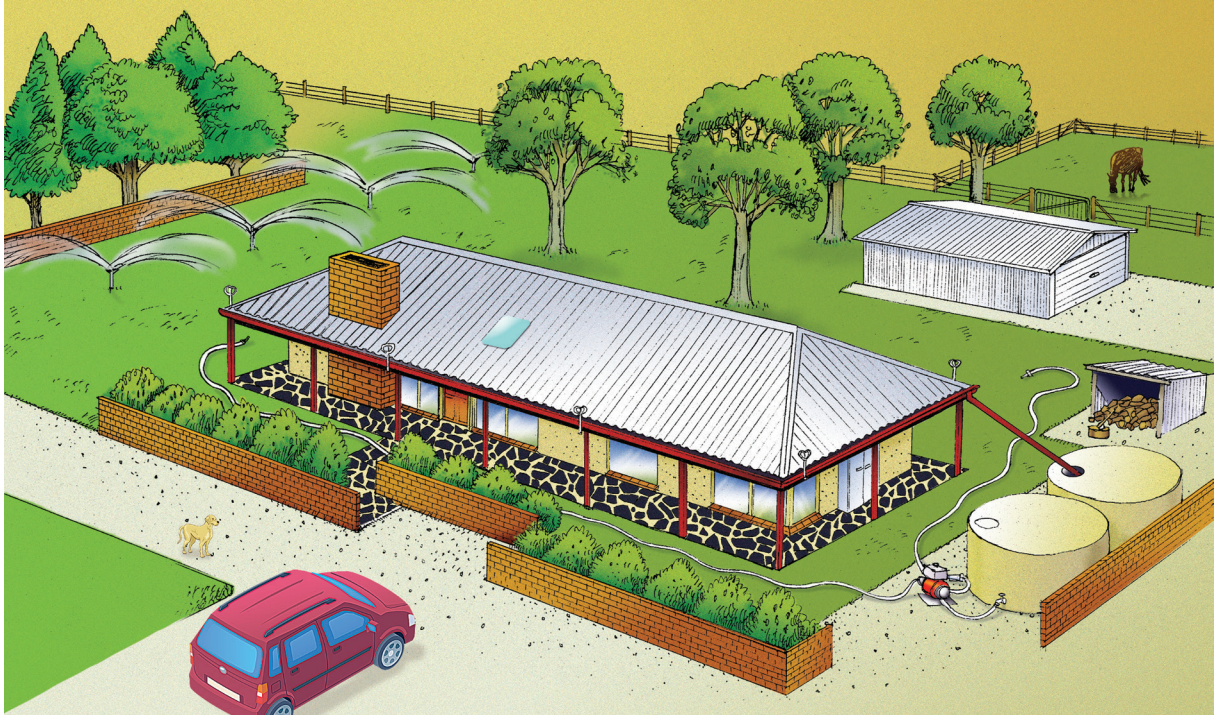
Cut your grass.



Ask your local council

- how to get rid of your garden waste
- when you can burn off. You **must** burn off **before** fire season.





If you are building a new house put in a

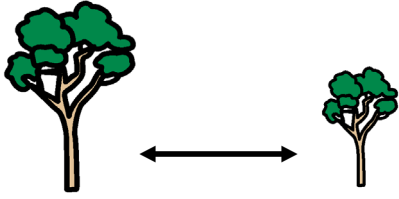
- driveway
- lawn
- and
- path

around your house.

Your driveway should be 3 metres wide.

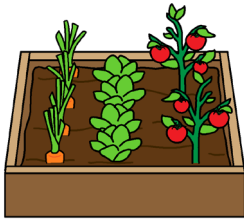
This can let fire trucks get to your house.





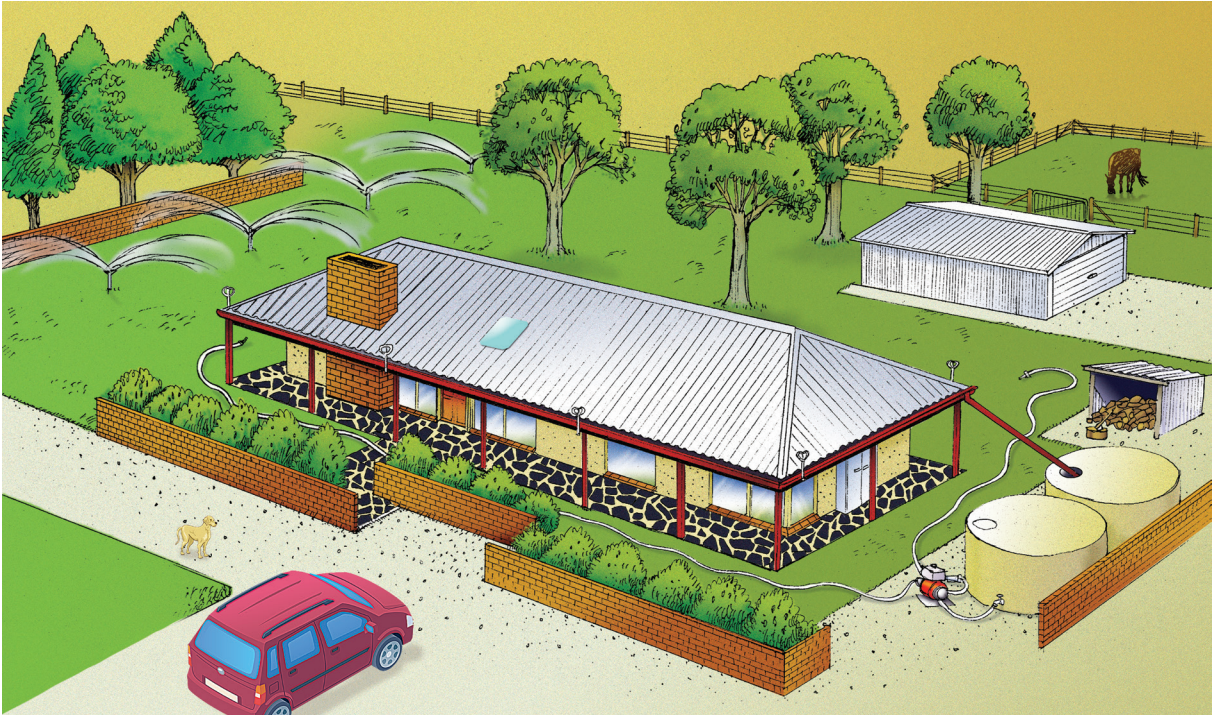
Make sure trees are far apart.

Grow trees that do **not** burn much. These are trees that have lots of water in their leaves.



Plant a vegetable garden. This may stop a bushfire burning fast.

## Fix your walls and roof



Fix gaps between

- roof tiles
  - metal sheets
  - bricks
- or**
- timber.



Keep your walls smooth. Paint

- old wood
- and**
- cracked paint.



Put metal sheets or metal mesh over

- outside vents
- skylights and air conditioners
- spaces under your house.



Use metal flywire on

- doors
- and
- windows.



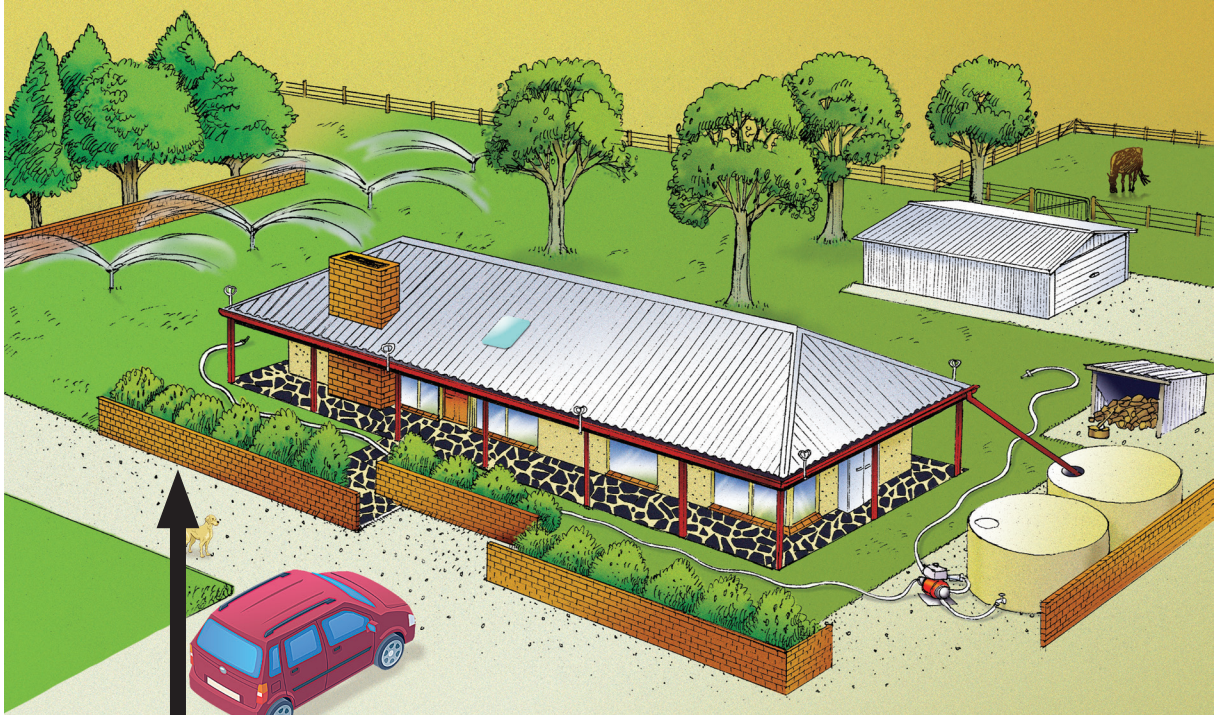
Put metal shutters on windows.



Clear your gutters.

Build a metal roof. If you have tiles put fibreglass in the gaps.





If you are building a new house build a barrier close to your house. For example, a

- stone wall
  - earth wall
- or**
- brick fence.

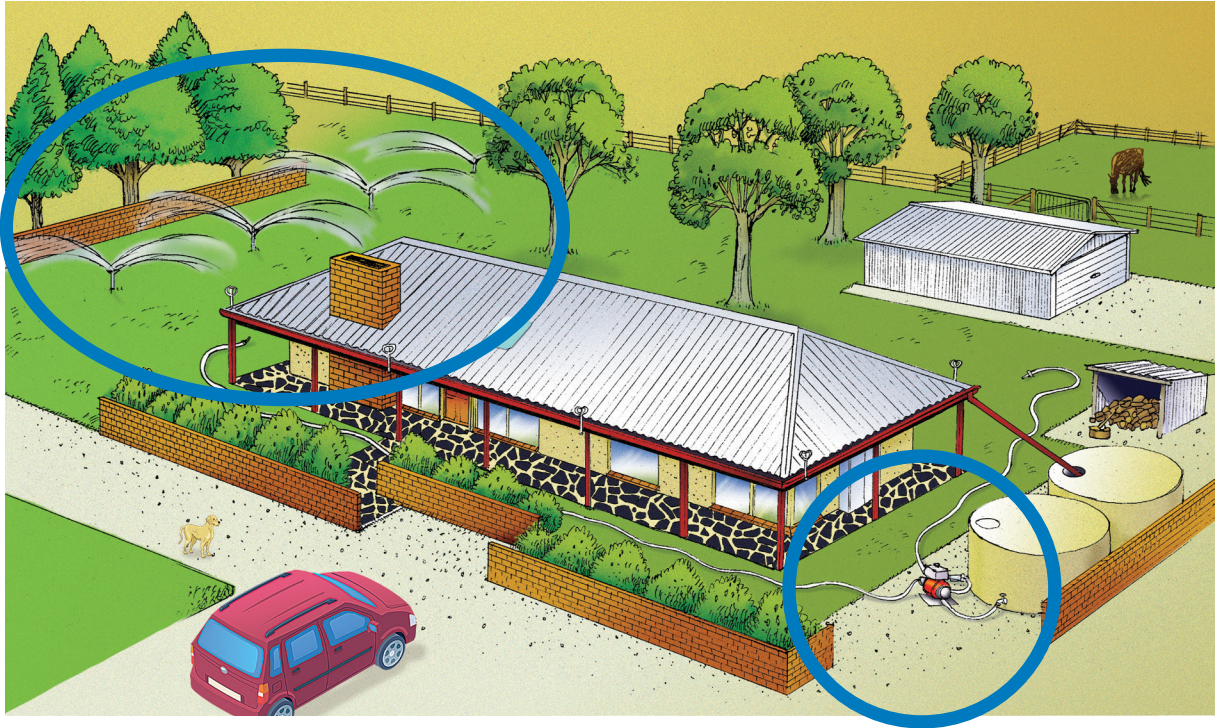
This will keep some radiant heat away from your house.

Build walls using

- brick
  - fibre cement
- or**
- mud brick.



## Check the tools at your house

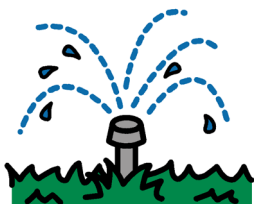


Make sure everyone at your house knows how to use your tools.

Check your



- water pump. The pump must use
  - petrol
  - or
  - diesel



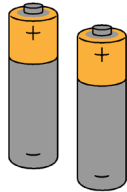
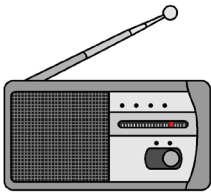
- sprinkler system. Use metal sprinklers.  
Sprinklers will keep your house wet



- fire extinguisher.

Look at the date on the label.

Do you need a new fire extinguisher?



You need to listen to bushfire warnings.

Make sure you have

- a radio that uses batteries
- spare batteries that work.

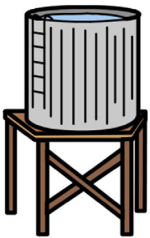
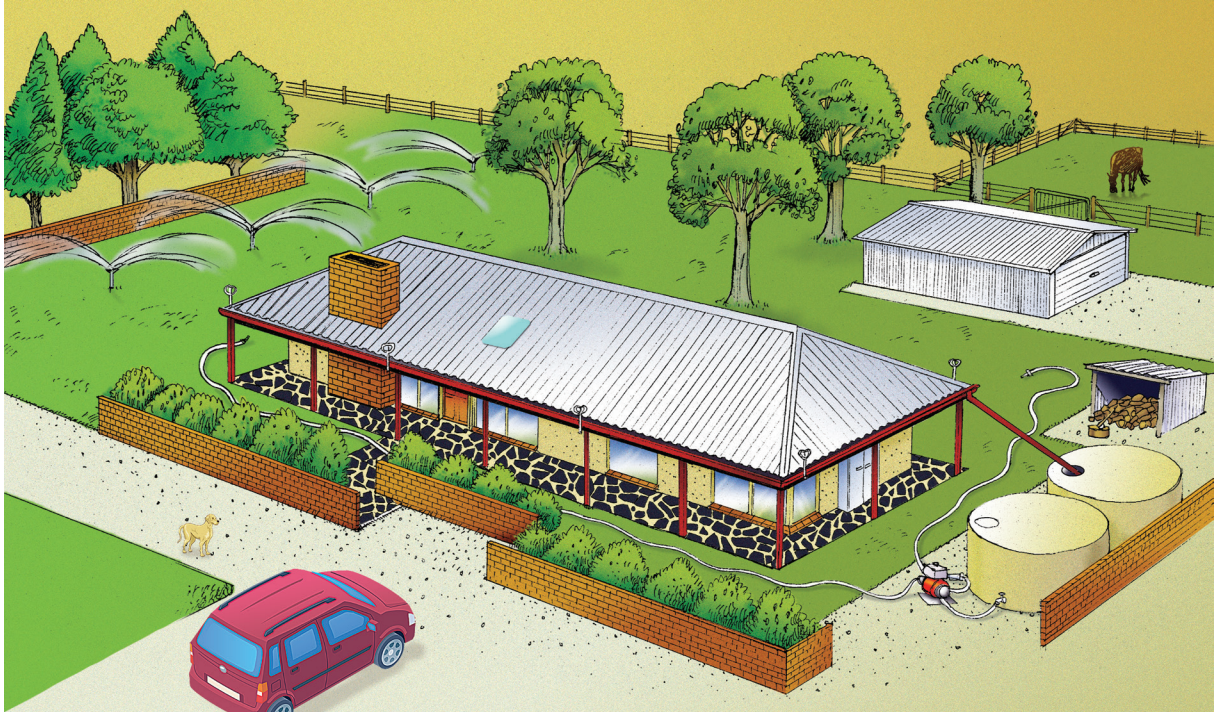


You may have a hose to fight bushfire.

Make sure your hose can reach around your home.



## Keep extra water on your property



Your main water supply may be cut off in a bushfire. Keep extra water in a

- tank
  - dam
- or
- swimming pool.

You can use the extra water to fight a bushfire.

You must have at least 5000 litres of water.



## There are other books you might need to read

All of these books are part of the Bushfire Safety Guide.

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Understand how fire acts
- 3 Get ready. This book tells you how to get your house and land ready for bushfire.

### **Fact sheets**

- 4 Fire Danger Ratings and Warnings.  
This tells you when to start your plan
- 5 Safer places
- 6 Going on a holiday
- 7 Emergency Kit
- 8 After the fire

### **Plan for Bushfire**

- 9 Information book - Leave early
- 10 Information book - Stay and defend
- 11 My Bushfire Plan - Leave early
- 12 My Bushfire Plan - Stay and defend



## More information



Bushfire Information Hotline

Phone 1800 362 361



TTY phone 133 677

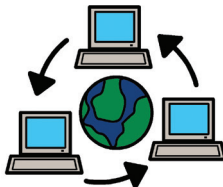
then ask for 1800 362 361



National Relay Service

Phone 1300 555 727

then ask for 1800 362 361



Website [www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au)



Go to your local Bushfire Blitz meeting.  
Join or start a Community Fire Safe group for your area.

You can also use social media.



- Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/countryfireservice](https://www.facebook.com/countryfireservice)



- Twitter @CFSTalk

Scope's Communication Resource Centre wrote the Easy English in August 2013. [www.scopevic.org.au](http://www.scopevic.org.au)

To see the original book, contact the Country Fire Service (CFS).

Mayer-Johnson LLC says we can use the Picture Communication Symbols © 1981 – 2013.

Mayer-Johnson LLC says we can use the ThinLine package.  
© 2010 – 2013.

Valuing People

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