

What to do if a bushfire threatens your property: residential rural

It's impossible to predict when or where the next major bushfire will occur. If a bushfire threatens you it's important to know your triggers for evacuating or staying to defend your property. Make sure you monitor all warnings and alerts via ABC Radio or online at emergency.wa.gov.au Action your bushfire survival plan, stay alert, be aware of the surroundings and conditions and don't wait for advice or warnings to act. Make sure you charge mobile phones. If you have an evaporative air conditioner unit make sure you run the system to wet the filter pads and then switch the unit off. Dampen mulch and garden beds around the home and fill gutters with water. Remove all flammable items like shade cloth, outdoor furniture and doormats from outside the home. You should also close all internal and external doors and windows and shut off any gas valves. Wet towels and place in doorways. Remember to drink as dehydration in these conditions is a risk. Lastly, turn off all power before leaving or as the fire front gets closer to your property. For more information, go to cockburn.wa.gov.au or you can visit the DFES website.