

BUSH FIRE INFORMATION

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Information on fire activity in the Blue Mountains area

Issued at 9 December 2019 at 18:00hrs

Situation

The Ruined Castle fire to the south of Katoomba within the Pitts Amphitheatre in the Upper Kedumba Valley is being controlled. There is some fire activity on the western edge of the fire under Narrow Neck. Firefighters and aircraft are monitoring and working to control the fire in this area.

The Green Wattle and Kowmung River fires have now merged and are burning to the south of the Blue Mountains, in the Burragorang Valley. The fire is moving east and towards the Cox's River. Firefighters are monitoring the fire and working to establish containment

A significant bushfire is also burning in Wollemi National Park north of Mt Wilson, Mt Irvine, Bilpin and the Bells Line of Road. Fire fighters are working to establish containment north of these areas over the coming days.

Advice

BLUE MOUNTAINS GENERAL ADVICE

- Proactive fire mitigation works are being implemented across the Blue Mountains by RFS, NPWS, BMCC and contactors.
- Works include fire trail and asset protection zone (fire break) inspection and maintenance to lessen the potential impacts of fire.
- These activities will include the use of small machinery and hand tools as teams make their way around the bushland interface.
- Whilst there is no immediate threat, now is the time for all Blue Mountains resident to ensure their properties are prepared.
- Blue Mountains City Council is offering extra chipping services in the lead up to Christmas so residents can prepare for the current bush fire season. Book by Wednesday, 11 December at bmccbookaservice.com.au. Council will chip your material, making it easier for it to be removed via the fortnightly green bin collection for garden vegetation.

KATOOMBA, LEURA, WENTWORTH FALLS AND THE MEGALONG VALLEY AREAS

- If you are in the area of Cliff Drive at Katoomba or the Megalong Valley, monitor conditions in case the situation changes.
- Use this time to ensure your property is prepared.
- Check and follow your bush fire survival plan. If you do not have a plan, decide what you will do if the situation changes.

Stay up to date at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au or by calling 1800 NSW RFS (1800 679 737)

- Only call '000' if you see a fire without a fire truck in attendance.

Information

- Updates on this fire are also available at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au or by calling call 1800 NSW RFS (1800 679 737).
- Find out the latest Fire Danger Rating in your area at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au or by calling 1800 NSW RFS (1800 679 737).
- For information on road conditions or closures, please call the NSW RTA on 131 700 or check www.rta.nsw.gov.au. Remember roads may be closed without warning.
- For information on closures of National Parks associated with this fire, please visit www.npws.nsw.gov.au
- Numerous tourist sites remain open across the Blue Mountains. Check with individual locations prior to travel.
- **If you need to report a new fire or require urgent assistance, dial Triple Zero (000).**

Bush Fire and Your Home

PREPARE YOUR HOME AND PROPERTY FOR BUSH FIRES

These maintenance tips may help prevent burning embers destroying your house:

- Install metal gutter guards
- Repair damaged or missing tiles on the roof
- Install fine metal mesh screens on windows and doors
- Fit seals around doors and windows to eliminate gaps
- Enclose the areas under the house
- Repair or cover gaps in external walls
- Attach a fire sprinkler system to gutters

Things to do around your house and garden:

- keep lawns short and gardens well maintained
- cut back trees and shrubs overhanging buildings
- clean up fallen leaves, twigs and debris around the property
- have hoses long enough to reach around your house
- if you have a pool, tank or dam, put a Static Water Supply (SWS) sign on your property entrance
- check that your insurance is adequate and up to date
- complete your Bush Fire Survival Plan available at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au.

DID YOU KNOW
Not all homes can be defended - your safety is always the first priority.



In a bush fire many houses are destroyed through ember attack, when burning twigs and leaves carried by the wind land on or around the house. Even houses away from the direct path of the fire can be affected.

Look for the places embers could start fires - on the roof, under the floor and around windows and doors - and take action to prevent them.

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE. | BUSH FIRE INFORMATION LINE | 1800 679 737

