

# Travelling During a Bushfire

## ARE YOU BUSHFIRE READY?

[areyouready.wa.gov.au](http://areyouready.wa.gov.au)

### What will you do if you encounter a bushfire while travelling or staying near bushland?

In Western Australia, bushfires can start suddenly without warning throughout the year. People have been killed or seriously injured during bushfires. If you are travelling or staying near bushland, fire is a real risk to you. Be aware of your surroundings and carry a printed map of the areas you are visiting. Pack an emergency kit to take with you including important items such as woollen blankets, drinking water and protective clothing.

#### If there is a lot of smoke

- Slow down as there could be people, vehicles and livestock on the road.
- Turn your car headlights and hazard lights on.
- Close the windows and outside vents.
- If you can't see clearly, pull over and wait until the smoke clears.



#### If you become trapped by a fire

- Park the vehicle off the roadway where there is little vegetation, with the vehicle facing towards the oncoming fire front.
- Turn the engine off.
- Close the car doors, windows and outside vents.
- Call **000**.
- Stay as close to the floor as possible and cover your mouth with a damp cloth to avoid inhalation of smoke. If smoke enters the vehicle, toxic fumes are released from the interior of the vehicle.
- Stay covered in woollen blankets, continue to drink water and wait for assistance.
- Stay in the car until the fire front has passed and do not open windows or doors.
- Once the front has passed and the temperature has dropped, cautiously exit the vehicle. Internal parts may still be extremely hot.

#### Important Information

Find the local ABC radio frequency in the area you are travelling through. In a major emergency, when lives and property are at risk, ABC radio will issue broadcast warnings at a quarter to and a quarter past the hour.

Main Roads provides updated information on road closures throughout Western Australia. Call 138 138 or [www.mainroads.wa.gov.au](http://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au)



Check the weather forecast and current fire restrictions. Be aware of the Fire Danger Rating for the area you are travelling to and be prepared to reassess your plans.

Download the Bushfire Traveller's Checklist at [www.dfes.wa.gov.au](http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au)

For more information visit [www.dfes.wa.gov.au](http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au) or contact **DFES Community Engagement** 9395 9816

