

Preparing for storms

PREPARING FOR STORMS

Dangerous storms are the most common natural hazard in Australia and on average, cause more damage and destruction than cyclones, earthquakes, floods and bushfires.

Most storm damage to homes occurs from:

- Loose and broken roof materials.
- Fallen trees and branches.
- Flooding from blocked gutters and downpipes.



State Emergency Service (SES)

DFES State Emergency Service (SES) volunteers help the community of Western Australia during storms and other natural hazards and emergencies.

SES volunteers assist by:

- Making emergency temporary repairs to homes and businesses. It is your responsibility to organise permanent repairs and contact your insurance company.
- Clearing fallen trees.
- Rescuing trapped or injured people.
- Sandbagging areas in danger of flooding.
- Assisting in relocating people.



During a severe storm there may be hundreds of calls for emergency assistance. Each call is prioritised so please be patient – SES volunteers will attend as soon as possible.

DFES has these tips to help you and your family stay safe:

- ☐ Trim branches around the home or business to prevent them falling on roofs or cars.
- ☐ Hire a contractor to clear trees from power lines.
- ☐ Clear gutters and downpipes of leaves and blockages.
- ☐ Check the roof for cracked ridge capping, loose tiles or loose nails.
- ☐ Store or weigh down loose objects like outdoor furniture, playground equipment, trampolines and sheds.
- ☐ Clear rubbish from around the yard, balcony or patio.
- ☐ Prepare an emergency kit with a portable battery operated radio, torch, spare batteries and a first aid kit.

**STAY SAFE
and be prepared
this Storm
Season.**

Did you know...

- Each year from May to October, storms, including, tornados, thunder, lightning, hail, flash flooding and gale force winds cause major destruction to the southern half of the State from Kalbarri to Israelite Bay.
- As storms are unpredictable, felt locally and happen in smaller areas their devastating impact is often underestimated.

If you need help

- For life threatening emergencies call **000**
- If your home has been badly damaged, call the SES on **132 500**.

For more information visit www.dfes.wa.gov.au or contact **DFES Community Engagement 9395 9816**



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Fire & Emergency Services**



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