

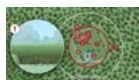
# Bushfire-Ready Property Checklist for householders



In most bushfire conditions in Tasmania, a well-prepared property will increase the likelihood of successfully defending your property. Even if you plan to leave early, a well-prepared property is more likely to survive without being actively defended, or it will make it easier for firefighters to protect your property, if firefighters are available to protect it. If there is no time to leave safely, a well-prepared property will provide better shelter than an unprepared property.

For more information and for help with completing your checklist:

- Bushfire-Ready Property videos and resources: [www.bushfirereadyneighbourhoods.tas.gov.au/bushfire-ready-property](http://www.bushfirereadyneighbourhoods.tas.gov.au/bushfire-ready-property)
- Bushfire Survival Plan booklet: [www.bushfirereadyneighbourhoods.tas.gov.au/prepare-bushfire-survival-plan](http://www.bushfirereadyneighbourhoods.tas.gov.au/prepare-bushfire-survival-plan)
- Building for Bushfire resources: [www.fire.tas.gov.au/BuildForBushfireResources](http://www.fire.tas.gov.au/BuildForBushfireResources)



**Defendable Space** – an area around your home where vegetation is managed to reduce the intensity of a bushfire. Defendable space can reduce the amount of direct flame contact and radiant heat affecting your home.



**Vegetation management** – reducing the amount of flammable materials (e.g. leaf litter, bark) and cutting back trees and shrubs to reduce the intensity of an approaching bushfire.



**Water supply** – a reliable water supply is a critical part of defending your property. Even if you plan to leave early, it is important to think about water supply in case things change and you cannot leave and need to actively defend your property.



**Access** – if your house is set back from the road, can a fire truck enter and turn around if it needs to respond to a bushfire.



**Building improvements** – your house and any adjoining structures need to be well constructed to deal with the impact of bushfire, including having openings sealed to prevent embers entering.



**Maintenance activities** – like cleaning gutters, removing leaf litter, and testing firefighting equipment, can help to keep you bushfire-ready.



**Personal capacity** – consider the physical and psychological risks of staying and defending your property – it will be hot, scary, tiring, hard to see and breath, and extremely hard work.



**Potential hazards** – if you plan to stay and defend be aware of potential hazards like electricity supply, LPG, firewood storage that could impact your personal safety.

	Helps to protect your house from			Critical to actively defend your property
	Direct flames	Radiant heat	Ember attack	
Defendable space	✓	✓		✓
Vegetation management	✓	✓	✓	✓
Water Supply			✓	✓
Access				✓
Building improvements		✓	✓	✓
Maintenance activities	✓	✓	✓	✓
Personal capacity				✓
Potential hazards				✓



Tasmania Fire Service

**PREPARE • ACT • SURVIVE**

# Bushfire Ready Property Checklist for householders

## Defendable Space

- Have you removed flammable materials from on, under and around the house?
- Have you pruned lower branches on trees and remove flammable shrubs?
- Have you removed any buildup of leaves, bark and other bush litter?

YES	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Vegetation management

- Have you replaced highly flammable plants with low-flammability plants?
- Have you used non-flammable mulch close to your house and buildings?
- Have you removed plants from against the walls of your house and buildings?

YES	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Water Supply

- Do you have water for firefighting (e.g. a steel or concrete 10,000 litre tank)?
- Does the tank have a Storz 65mm adaptor/coupling?
- Do you have a petrol or diesel water pump? And spare fuel?
- Are water pipes and fittings metal?
- If water pipes and fittings are plastic, are they buried underground?

YES	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Access

- Is your street number clearly visible?
- Is a fire truck able to enter your property and turn around?
- Is your driveway at least 4m wide?
- Is your driveway clear to a height of 4m?

YES	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Building improvements

- Have you sealed gaps (more than 2mm) around house and other buildings?
  - Roof, Windows, Doors, Vents
  - Under the house, deck etc
- Have you installed valves on your downpipes?

YES	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Maintenance activities

- Have gutters been cleaned?
- Have you tested your firefighting equipment?
- Have you cleaned up leaf litter, long grass, pruned dead branches etc?
- Have flammable materials been moved away from the house and buildings?

YES	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Personal capacity

- Are you physically and emotionally prepared to defend your property?
- Have you prepared appropriate clothing for defending your property?
- Have you prepared a bushfire survival kit?
- Do you have drinking water and food available?

YES	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Potential Hazards

- Are LPG bottles away from vegetation? Can they be moved away from buildings?
- Have you stored firewood away from your house and buildings?
- Will pets and livestock be safe and not pose a threat to firefighters?

YES	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

