



**Do you have a project that has improved resilience in your community?**

**If so, the 2009 Australian Safer Communities Awards may be the perfect way to promote and recognise your achievements in your own community and beyond.**

## **What are the Australian Safer Communities Awards?**

The Australian Safer Communities Awards are sponsored by Emergency Management Australia (EMA), a division of the Australian Government Attorney-General's Department, in conjunction with States and Territories.

They recognise best practice and innovation by organisations and individuals that have developed and successfully implemented an initiative which help to build safer communities across Australia.

The awards cover all aspects of community safety in the context of emergency management including:

- risk assessment
- research
- education and training
- information and knowledge management
- prevention, preparedness, response and recovery

The awards are judged on two levels (excluding the Federal agencies category) - State and Territory winners are decided and recognised first, and in turn become finalists for the National Awards

## **Award Categories**

There are seven categories based broadly on the type of organisation applying:

1. State agencies, including government-owned business enterprises
2. Local Government, single and collective subcategories
3. Volunteer organisations and community groups where membership is substantially voluntary
4. Private sector organisations
5. Education and training bodies, including vocational training, research, primary, secondary, TAFE or tertiary educational facilities
6. Not for profit organisations
7. Federal agencies, including government-owned business enterprises; or projects which are cross jurisdictional; or projects that are of national significance

NOTE: Entries in the final category are not judged at the State / Territory level. They are to be sent to the national coordinator (listed at the back of this brochure), for consideration by the national judging panel. Please contact the national coordinator if you are unsure if it is the most appropriate category for your project.

While there is no specific award for individuals, they may submit entries in any appropriate category.

## What sort of projects can be nominated?

To get an idea of the type of projects entered in previous years, visit the EMA website at [www.ema.gov.au](http://www.ema.gov.au) or contact your State / Territory coordinator (listed at the back of this brochure).

## Who are the awards for and who can enter?

Any organisation or individual can enter. Individuals who do enter on behalf of their organisation are required to ensure the entry is made with the endorsement of the organisation's senior authorised officer, such as Chief Executive Officer.

If you're aware of a good project, you can nominate the organisation for an award.

Safer Communities Award winners are recognised throughout the emergency management sector for their outstanding achievement, innovation and professional standing.

State and Territory winners will receive an award and a certificate at a special ceremony.

National award recipients will be sponsored to travel to Canberra to receive their award and certificate. The National Awards will be presented by the Attorney-General at a ceremony in Canberra, later in 2009. Press releases and a commemorative booklet will also be issued.

Winners at the State / Territory level and national award recipients may use the appropriate Australian Safer Communities Awards logo in their letterhead and promotional material.

## Time Frame

The entries in the 2009 Awards must:

- relate to projects commenced in 2008 or 2009, or
- relate to existing projects with significant outcomes since January 2008, or
- relate to existing projects with significant enhancements since January 2008.

## Judging

A panel of judges organised by the appropriate peak emergency management bodies will judge State and Territory entries.

State and Territory winners will then be judged for the National Awards by an expert panel appointed by the Director General, EMA.

## Judging Criteria

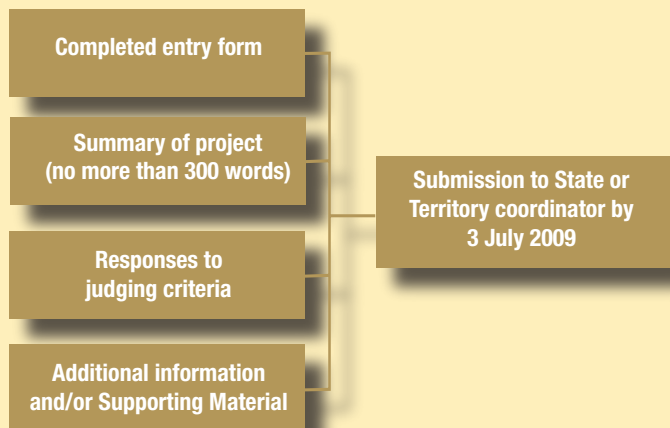
Each entry will be assessed on its contribution to community safety in the emergency management environment.

The State/Territory and national panels will assess answers to each entry's achievement against these criteria:

1. What identified need triggered the project?
2. What are the benefits of the project?
3. What evidence is provided that the project has improved safety in your community (for example, an evaluation of the project)?
4. To what extent were representatives of the community engaged in the development of this project?
5. What aspects of the project could be adapted or adopted for national applicability?
6. Is the project special or innovative in your community?
7. Does the project raise awareness of emergencies in your community?

## How to Enter

The entry form is part of this brochure and is available electronically on the EMA website [www.ema.gov.au](http://www.ema.gov.au)



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Is there a ceremony for State recipients?**

Yes, each of the States and Territories acknowledges the winning and highly commended entrants by hosting a ceremony. The ceremony usually takes place in late September to early October. Please contact your State / Territory coordinator for more information.

### **What happens after the State awards?**

The winning entries from each of the States and Territories are forwarded to the national coordinator in readiness for national judging. The national judging panel is convened and judges the merits of each entry in the seven different categories. The judging panel selects a winner and highly commended for each category, or may at its discretion, select more than one winner and / or highly commended per category or choose not to select any.

The national winners and highly commended are then invited to attend a presentation ceremony held in Canberra later in 2009.

### **How will I know if I've won?**

State and Territory coordinators will contact winners and highly commended entrants following State / Territory judging. Similarly, the national coordinator will contact national award recipients by letter following national judging.

### **Who is a national award recipient?**

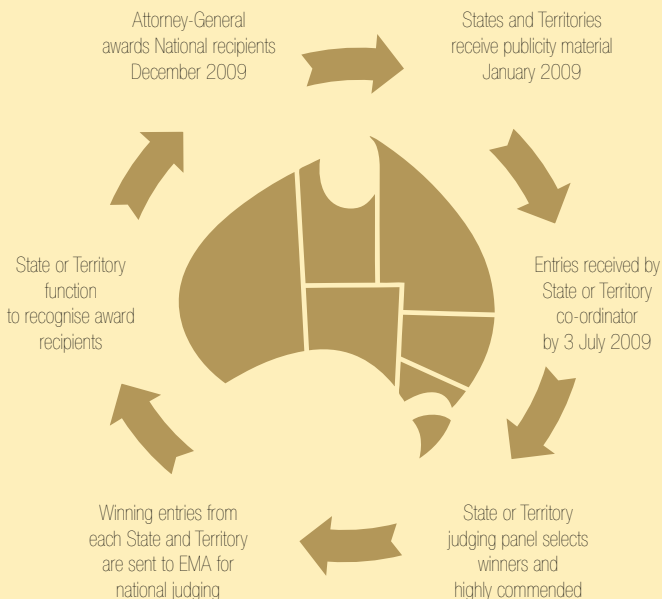
Winners and highly commended entries at the national level are national award recipients.

### **If I enter, do I get a trip to Canberra?**

Only the national award recipient's expenses are covered by EMA. However, all 2009 entrants are welcome to attend. Please contact the national coordinator on 03 5421 5296 or 0408 978 238 to request an invitation.

### **What if this is a joint project between two or more organisations?**

Many of the entries received in the past have been joint or combined projects. In most cases one organisation has the lead role and the category applicable to that organisation is where the entry needs to be submitted. Please ensure that all organisations are listed on the entry form and that endorsement by each organisation's senior authorising officer has been obtained.



*The Australian Safer Communities Awards, sponsored by Emergency Management Australia, highlight many wonderful community projects where government, communities and the private sector have worked collaboratively to strengthen the resilience of our communities.*

*Impressive entries have been submitted in past years from a wide range of participants, including projects for Indigenous people, culturally and linguistically diverse groups and for children, addressing a range of natural hazards and community safety issues.*

*Australian volunteers have a strong tradition of supporting their local communities – a tradition of which we can all be very proud. These dedicated community members provide tireless service to many of our emergency service agencies and non-government organisations. Consequently, volunteer groups can greatly increase our capacity to respond to disasters. I would particularly like to see more volunteer groups entering the Awards, as I know they are doing such valuable work around the country.*

*I commend the Australian Safer Communities Awards to you and encourage all Emergency Service Agencies, Local Government, non-government organisations and volunteer groups, whether large or small, to nominate a project for consideration, so that your outstanding achievement and innovation can be recognised and acknowledged nationally.*

*The Hon Robert McClelland, MP  
Attorney-General*

## Need more information?

For more information on the 2009 Awards visit [www.ema.gov.au](http://www.ema.gov.au) or contact the national awards coordinator, or for State and Territory entries, contact the organisation listed below.

### ACT

#### Jan Dachs

ACT Emergency Services Agency  
PO Box 104  
Curtin ACT 2605  
02 6205 4367  
email: [jan.dachs@act.gov.au](mailto:jan.dachs@act.gov.au)

### NSW

#### Sandra Murray

Office for Emergency Services  
L12, 52 Phillip St  
Sydney NSW 2000  
02 8247 5908  
email: [sandra.murray@oes.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sandra.murray@oes.nsw.gov.au)

### National Coordinator

#### Cate Moore

Emergency Management Australia  
601 Mt Macedon Road  
Mt Macedon Vic 3441  
03 5421 5296  
email: [cate.moore@ema.gov.au](mailto:cate.moore@ema.gov.au)

### NT

#### Regional Manager

Northern Territory Emergency Service  
PO Box 2630  
Alice Springs NT 0871  
08 8951 9301

### QLD

#### Joanne Mitchell

Department of Emergency Services  
GPO Box 1425  
BRISBANE QLD 4001  
07 3109 7232  
email: [jmitchell@emergency.qld.gov.au](mailto:jmitchell@emergency.qld.gov.au)

### SA

#### Julie Frittum

SAFECOM  
GPO Box 2706  
Adelaide SA 5001  
08 8204 9376  
email: [Frittum.Juie@safecom.sa.gov.au](mailto:Frittum.Juie@safecom.sa.gov.au)

### TAS

#### Sharon Sherman

State Emergency Service  
L1, 47 Liverpool St  
Hobart TAS 7000  
03 6230 2709  
email: [Sharon.sherman@ses.tas.gov.au](mailto:Sharon.sherman@ses.tas.gov.au)

### VIC

#### Heather Lakin

Office of the Emergency Services Commissioner  
GPO Box 4356  
Melbourne Vic 3001  
03 8684 7938  
email:  
[Heather.Lakin@justice.vic.gov.au](mailto:Heather.Lakin@justice.vic.gov.au)

### WA

Fire and Emergency Services Authority  
480 Hay St  
Perth WA 6000  
08 9323 9419  
email: [EMTraining@fesa.wa.gov.au](mailto:EMTraining@fesa.wa.gov.au)

All entries must be submitted through State or Territory coordinators. Nationally significant or cross-jurisdictional entries will be forwarded by coordinators directly to EMA for judging by the national panel.

# Testimonials

*Project HeartStart Australia is an initiative of St John Ambulance Australia that installs Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) into publicly accessible locations. Since it began in 2003 Project HeartStart has installed over 300 defibrillators and trained over 3,000 people in their use.*

*AEDs form a vital link in the 'chain of survival', significantly increasing the chance of survival for a victim of sudden cardiac arrest, a condition that affects around 20,000 Australians each year.*

*Project HeartStart Australia has received significant financial support, initially from Insurance Australia Group (IAG) and more recently through the Commonwealth Government, Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA).*

*The Australian Safer Communities Awards are presented by a prominent and well respected organisation and those won by Project HeartStart Australia in 2005 and 2007 have brought significant kudos to St John Ambulance Australia and enhanced their capacity to expand the program in partnership with government. The promotion of the Project has been an important component of the strategy to prevent deaths from sudden cardiac arrest.*

**Christine Barber**  
**Project Manager**  
**St John Ambulance Australia**

*Participating in, and winning the Training, Education and Research section of the Safer Communities Award with our Smart Sparx Fire Education and Awareness Program was extremely positive for the Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Service. The resultant Radio interviews, Government and departmental media releases and coverage in the local newspaper enabled us to highlight important aspects of the program to the wider community.*

*The Award also alerted other fire service jurisdictions to the programs existence and gave them an opportunity to look closely at Smart Sparx with a view to delivering the program in their jurisdictions.*

**Alan Stephens**  
**Assistant Director**  
**Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Service**

## *Testimonials*

*Australian Safer Community Awards is an excellent platform of which to elevate the emergency management profile at National, State and importantly local community level. The City of Bunbury and its local emergency management committee member partners have been fortunate to be both State and National recipients of these awards. This has seen resulted in local media and in turn local community awareness in emergency management. Due to the high profile of the awards, ongoing support for emergency management efforts has been secured as Council elected members and executive staff recognises the importance of striving to attain best practise to prepare Bunbury to respond and recover from adversity.*

**Lewis Winter**  
**Deputy Manager Community Law and Safety**  
**City of Bunbury, WA**

*It was a great honour to be short listed with our project partners Cube Management Solutions as winners of our category, the year our Council was nominated for the Relief Centre Management Guidelines, developed for managing the needs of our diverse community.*

*Interestingly, being part of the Safer Community Awards process also highlighted the broad and diverse range of ideas and initiatives on offer across the country from an equally diverse range of people, groups and background.*

*Importantly the Awards are about sharing, promoting and building upon worthwhile ideas and initiatives in our collective efforts to keep people safe, help get them back on track, or manage our ability to do so, before, during or after emergencies. "*

**Theo Pykoulas**  
**Manager Emergency Management**  
**Maribyrnong City Council**

# ENTRY FORM - 2009 AUSTRALIAN SAFER COMMUNITIES AWARDS

This entry form must be completed and attached to the material submitted. To download an electronic copy of this document, please visit [www.ema.gov.au](http://www.ema.gov.au)

\*Name of Organisations

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Title of Entry

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*Please ensure the organisation(s) name is complete and correct.*

Contact Name

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Position

Phone

---

Mobile

E-mail

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Address

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Postcode

**\*For joint entries please ensure all organisations involved in the project are listed. Please also indicate the lead organisation and to whom correspondence should be addressed.**

**Award Category (tick one)** - Please contact your state/territory coordinator if you are unsure which category your entry fits into.

State Government

Local Government

Voluntary

Private Sector

Education, training & research     Non-profit     Federal Government, cross jurisdictional or nationally significant

***Please note, the judging panel may at its discretion choose to reassign a project to another category. The project representative will be contacted should this occur.***

**Please indicate (tick one)**     New Project     Enhanced Project

**Is this a third party nomination?**     Yes     No    If yes, please advise your name and contact details.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Organisation \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Closing Date: All entries and attachments must be received by Friday 3 July 2009.**

I certify that to the best of my knowledge, the information provided is true and correct and confirm this entry is supported by a senior authorised officer. I agree that EMA may make the entry publicly available, retain in the EMA library and use it to promote the Awards.

Signature of Entrant \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Designation \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_