

Action Guides

EARTHQUAKES

BE PREPARED

- > Know your local area, particularly if there is a history of earthquakes
- > Have an emergency kit on hand, including a battery operated radio, torch and spare batteries
- > Keep a list of emergency numbers handy
- > Identify a meeting place in case you become separated from loved ones

ACT SAFE

If an earthquake strikes:

- > If indoors, stay there
- > Seek shelter under a door frame, table, or bench
- > If outdoors, keep well clear of buildings and other structures, power lines, trees etc
- > If in a vehicle, stop in an open area and listen to your car radio for advice
- > Do not use elevators or lifts

STAY VIGILANT

- > Expect aftershocks
- > Keep your radio tuned to local media
- > Watch for hazards and check for injuries or damage
- > Turn off electricity, gas and water
- > Only use telephones in an emergency
- > Avoid driving unless for emergency
- > Stay calm and help others if possible

For further information contact you local State Emergency Services office

STORMS

Severe storms cause more damage than any other event. Here are some simple steps you can take to minimise the risk from storms to you and your property.

BE PREPARED

- > Stay inside and shelter away from windows
- > Have an emergency kit on hand, including a battery operated radio, torch and spare batteries
- > Keep a list of emergency numbers handy
- > Secure loose items in your yard
- > Keep downpipes and guttering clear
- > Store poisons above ground level in case of flash floods

DURING THE STORM

- > Stay inside and shelter clear of windows
- > Listen to your radio for storm updates
- > If outdoors, find safe shelter
- > Do not shelter under trees or metal structures
- > Ensure pets are safe

AFTER THE STORM

- > Check your house for damage
- > Beware of fallen power lines
- > Check trees for damage and stability
- > Listen to your radio for further weather information
- > Check on your neighbours if safe to do so

For further information contact your local State Emergency Service office.

FLOOD

Don't be fooled by a flood ? they can happen in a flash. Take these simple steps to ensure the safety of you and your family during a flood.

BE PREPARED

- > Know your local area, particularly if there is a history of flooding
- > Have an emergency kit on hand, including a battery operated radio, torch and spare batteries
- > Keep a list of emergency numbers handy
- > Identify evacuation routes and centres

STAY ALERT

- > Stay tuned to local media for current weather advice and warnings
- > Keep an eye out and don't allow children to play in, or near, flood waters

DON'T DELAY

- > Always follow instructions and directions from local authorities
- > Be ready to evacuate if necessary

ACT SAFE

- > Never drive in flood waters
- > Never swim or wade in flood waters
- > Continue to monitor your local media for updated information and advice.

For further information contact your local State Emergency Service office.

CYCLONE

BE PREPARED

Preparing prior to the cyclone season can minimise damage to your property and save you time in an emergency. You can prepare prior to the cyclone season by :

- > Trimming branches well clear of your home.
- > Fitting window shutters or at least metal screens.
- > Clearing your property of loose material that could blow about to cause injury or damage during extreme winds.
- > Have an emergency kit on hand, including a battery operated radio, torch and spare batteries
- > Keep a list of emergency numbers handy

BE INFORMED

Ask neighbours, SES, council, whether cyclones have occurred in your area, what to expect and appropriate actions to take.

BE ALERT

- > Keep up to date with the progress of a cyclone through information provided by the Bureau of Meteorology at www.bom.gov.au.
- > Based on predicted wind speeds and storm surge heights, evacuation may be necessary. Decide as early as possible whether you are going to evacuate. Official advice will be given on local radio/tv regarding safe routes and when to move.
- > Follow the advice of local authorities in regards to appropriate actions during each stage of the cyclone.

For further information contact your local State Emergency Service office.

PETS IN EMERGENCIES

Your animals are your responsibility. It is up to you to prepare for the safety and welfare of your pets in case of an emergency.

BE PREPARED

- > Include your animals in household emergency plans
- > Keep a list of emergency phone numbers on display
- > Be aware that some evacuation centres may not accept animals so plan alternatives accordingly.

ACT EARLY

- > If moving animals to a safer place, do so early to avoid unnecessary risk
- > Ensure there is access to plenty of food and water
- > If staying at home secure animals in good time so that they do not take flight

BE CONSIDERATE

If you have to leave pets behind:

- > if possible, leave your pets indoors
- > place pets in separate rooms with small or preferably no windows (eg laundry, bathroom)
- > provide adequate food and water in large heavy bowls
- > if left outside, do not tie them up

ACT SAFE

- > Your safety, and that of your family, is paramount
- > Don't risk human life trying to find and protect pets

For more information refer to www.rspca.org.au

LIGHTNING PROTECTION ACTION GUIDE

BE PREPARED

Check with your local electrical contractor for advice on surge protectors and lightning conductors

Have an emergency kit on hand, including a battery operated radio, torch and spare batteries

Keep a list of emergency numbers handy

ACT SAFE

If caught outdoors:

Seek shelter in a hard top vehicle or solid building. Never shelter under a tree or a group of trees

If far from shelter crouch down. Don't lie flat

If boating or swimming, leave the water immediately

Avoid metal objects such as ladders, umbrellas, fences and clothes lines

Secure pets in a safe place

If indoors

Disconnect computers, televisions and other electrical/electronic appliances

Avoid using fixed line telephones unless essential

Keep clear of windows

Avoid metal fixtures, such as roofs, guttering, down-pipes and taps.

AFTER THE LIGHTENING

Keep your radio tuned to local media for updated weather reports and power outages

Confirm location and safety of family members and immediate neighbours

Check operation of essential household items and check fuse box for surge protection/fuse/circuit breaker impact

For further information contact your local State Emergency Service.
