

# PREPARING YOUR PROPERTY



## **FIREFIGHTERS WILL BE TOO BUSY FIGHTING FIRES ON THE FRONTLINE TO BE ABLE TO DEFEND YOUR HOME AND PROPERTY.**

To reduce the spread of fire and provide some shelter, start preparing your property by completing this Property Preparation Checklist.



## PROPERTY UPKEEP

**Set calendar reminders to complete these preparations monthly during fire season.**

- Cut the grass around your property to 10cm or less.
- Prune shrubs so they are not dense.
- Ensure gas cylinders are chained/secured upright.
- Check gas release valves face away from property.
- Clean gutters.

## LASTING PROTECTION

**Set calendar reminders to complete these preparations annually.**

- Keep gas cylinders away from likely direction of fire (i.e. where bush is) and turn release valves outwards.
- Remove shrubs, wood, mulch or any flammable material, against or near the house.
- Block any gaps under floor, in the roof spaces, under eaves, external vents, skylights, chimneys and wall claddings.
- Install metal fly wire mesh on all windows, vents and install a protective screen on evaporative air conditioner.
- Create a mineral earth firebreak along the boundary of your property.
- Install a fire or heat radiant shield such as a solid fence.

## RURAL PROTECTION

**Complete these preparations if you own a rural property.**

- Make sure fire trucks can access and turn around on your property.
- Check bridge loading and cattle grid loading for fire truck access.
- Create fire breaks along paddock boundaries.
- Store petrol and gas safely.
- Install underground water pumps that lead from dams to the house.
- If a fire threatens, move livestock to a well grazed paddock.
- Check generator and pumps are working.

For more information visit  
[dfes.wa.gov.au/bushfire](https://dfes.wa.gov.au/bushfire)

or contact DFES Community Preparedness:  
[Community.Preparedness@dfes.wa.gov.au](mailto:Community.Preparedness@dfes.wa.gov.au)

or **9395 9816**

