

M E D I A R E L E A S E

4 October 2018

Get fire ready during Fire Action Week

Fire Action Week is Victoria's annual fire planning and preparation week, marking the start of the annual Summer Fire Campaign in partnership with emergency services.

Fire Action Week, between 7-14 October, is a great opportunity to find out more about fire risk where you live, to prepare your property and decide well in advance about what you'll do if a fire starts.

This summer, Victoria will experience an earlier start to the season. Forecasts show there is potential for an above average fire season, with the potential for escalating fire risk later in summer due to higher temperatures in spring and lower rainfall in winter drying out high-risk areas.

Over the summer months, you'll see fire safety messages promoted through television, radio, press, outdoor and digital advertisements, as well as through social media channels.

The purpose of these messages is to prompt all Victorians to understand their local risk, talk to their family or household about how to stay safe, and to encourage communities to take responsibility for their own safety.

CFA brigades around the state will also be talking to their communities about the local fire risk, how to prepare, and what to do to stay safe over summer.

City of Melton Mayor, Cr Bob Turner, said: "Last week over 6000 advice letters were sent out by Council reminding our rural residents and vacant land owners of their responsibilities during Fire Danger Period over summer."

"It is vital that everyone understands any potential fire risks associated with their properties, and to become fire ready," Cr Turner said.

"The right time to prepare is now."

For more information on how to get prepared, visit the [VicEmergency website](#).

Tips to make sure you're ready for the upcoming summer:

- Check the fire risk where you live.
- Download the VicEmergency app to your mobile device
- Check warnings – make sure you understand the three levels of warnings and what they mean.
- Pack an emergency kit of essentials. This should include important documents, medications, a mobile phone, torch, battery operated radio, money and clothes so you can leave easily before a fire starts.
- Talk to your household and neighbours about how you'll know when to leave and where to go to stay safe.



M E D I A R E L E A S E

- Do you have family, friends or neighbours who need help preparing to leave early? Talk to them about when they're going to leave, where they're going to go, and how you can help.
- Be prepared for power shedding and failure in extreme weather conditions. Read the Power Outage Guide.

ENDS

Melton City Council media enquiries (not for publication): Therese Allaoui – Media and Communications Adviser on (03) 9747 7132.