

# Mount Buller Fire Ready Information

Mt Buller has a VERY HIGH bushfire risk as it is surrounded by National Park and State Forest. Bushfires can be deadly and start without warning. Planning and preparation can save lives. If you chose to work in or visit areas of high fire risk it is vital to your safety to have a well developed survival plan for ALL days when hot, dry and windy conditions create a fire risk. Use this guide to help you and your family prepare.

Note your districts Fire Danger Rating daily as your **trigger** to act

Mt Buller is in the **North East** Total Fire Ban District

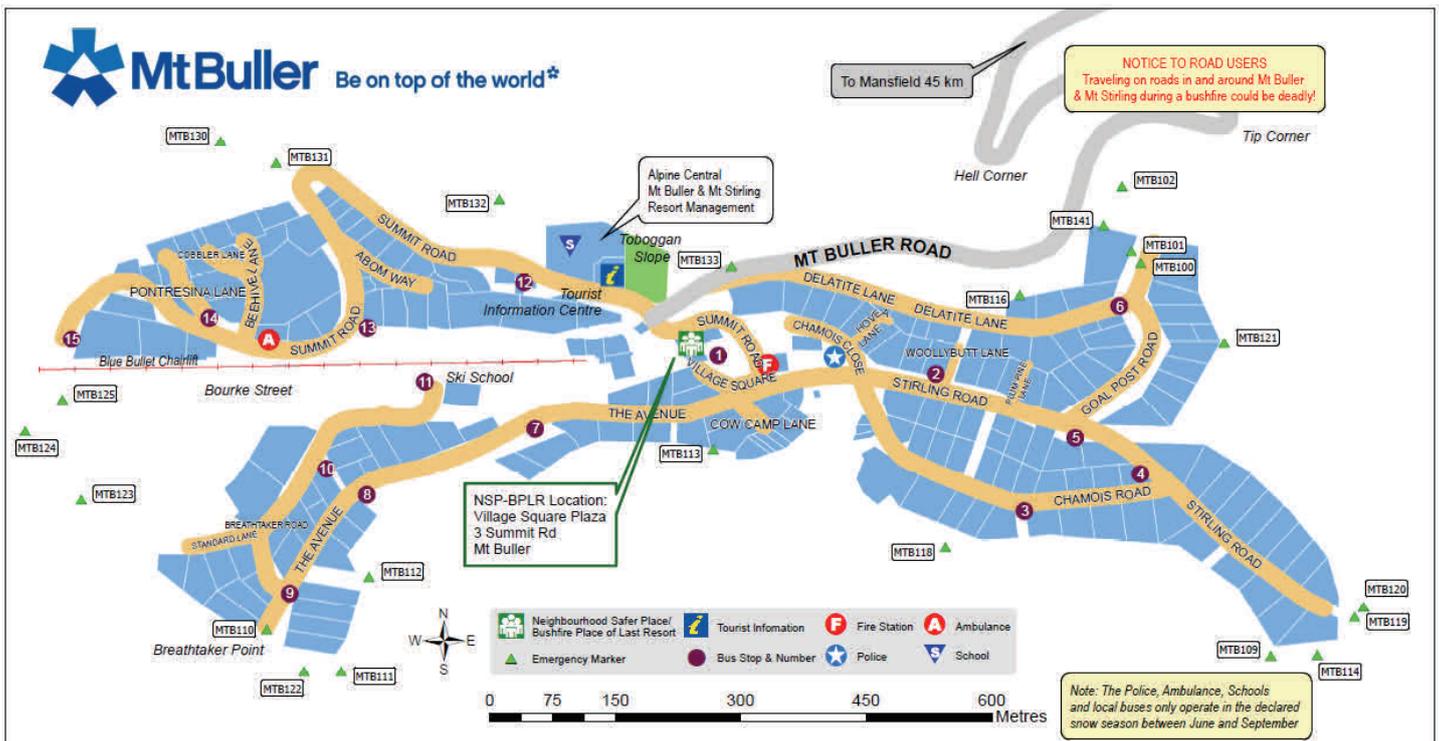


Refer to "Fire and Machinery" for limitations during a Total Fire Ban day



## Triggers

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?	WHAT SHOULD I DO?
<p><b>CODE RED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; These are the worst conditions for a bush or grassfire.</li> <li>&gt; Homes are not designed or constructed to withstand fires in these conditions.</li> <li>&gt; The safest place to be is away from high-risk bushfire areas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Leaving high-risk bushfire areas the night before or early in the day is your safest option – do not wait and see.</li> <li>&gt; Avoid forested areas, thick bush or long, dry grass.</li> <li>&gt; Know your trigger – make a decision about:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– when you will leave</li> <li>– where you will go</li> <li>– how you will get there</li> <li>– when you will return</li> <li>– what you will do if you cannot leave.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>EXTREME</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Expect extremely hot, dry and windy conditions.</li> <li>&gt; If a fire starts and takes hold, it will be uncontrollable, unpredictable and fast moving. Spot fires will start, move quickly and come from many directions.</li> <li>&gt; Homes that are situated and constructed or modified to withstand a bushfire, that are well prepared and actively defended, may provide safety.</li> <li>&gt; You must be physically and mentally prepared to defend in these conditions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Consider staying with your property only if you are prepared to the highest level. This means your home needs to be situated and constructed or modified to withstand a bushfire, you are well prepared and you can actively defend your home if a fire starts.</li> <li>&gt; If you are not prepared to the highest level, leaving high-risk bushfire areas early in the day is your safest option.</li> <li>&gt; Be aware of local conditions. Seek information by listening to ABC local radio, commercial and designated community radio stations, or watch Sky News TV, visit <a href="http://cfa.vic.gov.au">cfa.vic.gov.au</a>, call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 667 or via National Relay Service on 1800 555 677.</li> </ul>
<p><b>SEVERE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Expect hot, dry and possibly windy conditions.</li> <li>&gt; If a fire starts and takes hold, it may be uncontrollable.</li> <li>&gt; Well-prepared homes that are actively defended can provide safety.</li> <li>&gt; You must be physically and mentally prepared to defend in these conditions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Well-prepared homes that are actively defended can provide safety – check your Bushfire Survival Plan.</li> <li>&gt; If you are not prepared, leaving bushfire-prone areas early in the day is your safest option.</li> <li>&gt; Be aware of local conditions. Seek information by listening to ABC local radio, commercial and designated community radio stations, or watch Sky News TV, visit <a href="http://cfa.vic.gov.au">cfa.vic.gov.au</a>, call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 667 or via National Relay Service on 1800 555 677.</li> </ul>
<p><b>VERY HIGH</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; If a fire starts, it can most likely be controlled in these conditions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Check your Bushfire Survival Plan.</li> </ul>
<p><b>HIGH</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Be aware of how fires can start and minimise the risk.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Monitor conditions.</li> </ul>
<p><b>LOW-MODERATE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Controlled burning off may occur in these conditions if it is safe – check to see if permits apply.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Action may be needed.</li> <li>&gt; Leave if necessary.</li> </ul>



## What should I do before the fire season?

- Decide where you'll go on bad fire-risk days - For example, a major town, shopping centre complex, or stay with friends or family in safer areas
- Work out different ways you can get there in case roads are blocked
- Tell your family and friends what you plan to do on hot, dry, windy days
- Prepare protective clothing that covers your skin and is made from natural fibres including gloves and a hat
- Get together an emergency kit including things you will need and want to take with you including:
  - \* Medicines and first aid kit
  - \* Mobile phone and charger
  - \* Battery powered radio and torch with spare batteries
  - \* Water and food
  - \* Toiletries and sanitary supplies
  - \* Woollen blankets
  - \* Important papers such as passports, will, ID and photos.

## How will I stay informed?

On hot, dry, windy days, fires will start and spread quickly. It's up to you to stay informed.

**Fire Danger Ratings** are a good way to decide when to leave. They are not a weather forecast – they tell you how dangerous a fire would be if one started. As the ratings increase, so does the risk of a fast moving and uncontrollable fire. Check the Fire Danger Ratings daily and act before a fire starts to keep your family safe. Monitor Fire Danger Ratings at [emergency.vic.gov.au](http://emergency.vic.gov.au) or on the Vic Emergency App

Warnings tell you that a fire has already started. You should never wait for a formal warning to act. There are three levels of warnings.:

**Advice-** general information to keep you up to date

**Watch and Act-** An emergency threatens you, conditions are changing and you need to act now

**Emergency Warning-** You are in imminent danger, you will be impacted by the emergency. You may receive a warning on your mobile phone or landline.

**Evacuate/Prepare to Evacuate-** An evacuation is recommended or procedures are in place to evacuate.

You can check warnings at [emergency.vic.gov.au](http://emergency.vic.gov.au) or on the **Vic Emergency App**.

You can also stay tuned to emergency broadcasters ABC 774 AM, ABC 103.7 FM, Star 93.7 FM and Sky News TV.

**Remember- don't rely on a warning to act.** On hot, dry windy days monitor warnings, use your senses and check if you can smell smoke, or see smoke or flames. It's up to you to stay informed.

## Where should I go?

- If you wait until a fire has started before you leave, you risk the serious danger of driving your family through thick smoke, fallen trees and power lines, and face the threat of collisions, being trapped or worse. Choose the safer option of leaving early and protect yourself and your family.
- On **Severe** or **Extreme** Fire Danger Rating days, it's safer to leave early in the morning or the night before. **Never** travel into bush or grassland areas when a **Code Red** has been forecast.
- From Mount Buller, you could consider travelling to a large regional centre such as: Mansfield, Benalla or Yea.

## How can I shelter from a bushfire?

Protect yourself from **radiant heat** by covering **all** exposed skin and seek shelter in a structure.

If you are caught outside, look for an open area that is as far from vegetation as possible, or shelter behind a solid structure or an earth barrier, to provide protection from radiant heat.

If the travel path is open and safe, you may consider sheltering at the local **Neighbourhood Safer Place/Bushfire Place of Last Resort**, which is located at:

**Village Square Plaza, 3 Summit Road, Mt Buller**  
Remember, there may be no facilities or emergency services there. Sheltering at a Neighbourhood Safer Place does not guarantee your safety.



## Fires and Machinery

### What you can and can't do during summer

Fire Danger Period Total Fire Ban

	Have a barbecue?	<b>YES</b> check conditions	<b>YES</b> check conditions
	Light a campfire?	<b>YES</b> with conditions	<b>NO</b>
	Drive a vehicle that will be in contact with vegetation?	<b>YES</b> check conditions	<b>YES</b> check conditions
	Weld, grind or solder?	<b>YES</b> check conditions	<b>NO</b> (Section 40 permit required)
	Use machinery with internal combustion or heat engine?	<b>YES</b> check conditions	<b>YES</b> check conditions
	Use chainsaws, plant or grass trimmers or lawn mowers?	<b>YES</b> check conditions	<b>YES</b> check conditions

### Web sites to stay informed and safely plan your day:

Can I, Can't I? Full details.

<https://goo.gl/CzU7TA>



Current Fire Danger Ratings

<https://goo.gl/F4TBE4>



## Emergency Information

In **EMERGENCY** Dial **000** (TTY 106)

**VicEmergency Hotline** 1800 226 226

**Emergency Broadcasters:** ABC 774AM, ABC 103.7 FM, Star 93.7 FM, and Sky News TV

**Emergency Management Victoria:** [emergency.vic.gov.au](http://emergency.vic.gov.au)

**Road closures:** 13 11 70 or [www.vicroads.vic.gov.au](http://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au)

**Park closures - Parks Victoria Hotline:** 13 61 86

**State forest closures (DELWP):** 13 61 86

**School closures (DEECD):** 1800 809 834

**24 Hour Wildlife Emergency:** 1300 094 535

**24 Hour NURSE-ON-CALL:** 1300 60 60 24

**Mt Buller and Mt Stirling Resort Management:**

(03) 5777 6077 or [www.mtbuller.com.au](http://www.mtbuller.com.au)

Prepared by Mt Buller Community and supported by



Environment,  
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