## Whatever the emergency



STORM

HEATWAVE

FIRE

# **Expect the unexpected**

Emergencies can be hard to predict and emergency services may be unable to reach you in a disaster.

What will you do for the first 72 hours if you have no services, such as:





**NO WATER** 

NO POWER





NO GAS



NO ROAD



LIMITED FOOD

# **Be Prepared**

Prepare yourself and your family for a stressful emergency situation.

For 24/7 crisis support call Lifeline 13 11 14 or Beyond Blue 1300 22 4636

# **Develop** a Plan

Use your plan and support network to help you through this time.

#### For more information

Scan the QR code or visit www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au/ services/emergency-preparedness





**Collaboration between:** Alpine & Moira Shire Councils

In conjunction with:

Country Fire Authority Victoria State Emergency Service Albury Wodonga Ethnic Communities Council

In consultation with: Hume Region Municipal Emergency Management Enhancement Group

Thankyou to Corangamite Shire Council for the initial work



# What are you going to do?



You can handle any emergency better if you are prepared!







**Back up** information



WATER

TORCH

FIRST AID

MONEY



Prepare a kit





Stav informed

#### WHO ...

do I need to consider? do I need to tell?

#### **WHAT** ...

do I need to know? do I need to do?

#### WHERE ...

will I go? do I get information? do I keep my plan?

#### **HOW** ...

will I get there? will I get there - plan B?

#### **WHY** ...

do I need to make a plan?

#### TO SUPPORT PLANNING:



To prepare for fire cfa.vic.gov.au

SES To prepare for flood and storm ses.vic.gov.au



Set up a watch zone emergency.vic.gov.au



# redcross.org.au/prepare

Important things to save:

- □ Your emergency plan
- Identification (to prove who you are)

#### DOCUMENTS

- □ Insurance policies
- Property documents
- Medical information and prescriptions
- ☐ Financial records

#### **HOME INVENTORY**

- Photos of posessions
- Photos of house assets
- Receipts, warranties etc.

#### **CONTACT LIST**

- □ Family
- Utility providers
- Other:





MEDICATION **RADIO &** BATTERIES



FOOD DOCUMENTS



**CLOTHES** 

PHONE &

CHARGER

TOILETRIES





0







WHAT ELSE?

#### WARNINGS AND ADVICE

It is important to tune into official and accurate information channels to stay informed with the facts before, during and after an emergency.



emergency.vic.gov.au Hotline: 1800 226 226 Press 9 for interpreter



Frequency: ABC 97.7 FM

Warnings – It's important to read the whole warning for information on evacuations, Emergency Relief Centres and more.



CHILDREN'S NEEDS

GLASSES

# SES is the control agency for floods, storms, and earthquakes

#### **1**32 500

This number is for those that need help during a flood or storm. For example, a large tree or branch has fallen and blocked access, your house has been damaged or your property flooded. **If the situation is life-threatening, call 000.** 

#### Department of Families Fairness and Housing

The DFFH provides a 24-hour state-wide toll free phone services that can connect you with housing and support workers in your area.

1300 475 170

#### **Disaster Legal Assistance**

Disaster Legal Help Victoria provides free information about legal issues and options for ongoing assistance after an emergency.
1800 113 432
www.disasterlegalhelp.org.au

#### Vic Emergency Website

*The Vic Emergency website provides information on a range of support services and programs.* 

www.emergency.vic.gov.au/relief

# Emergency Phone Contacts In an emergency: **9**000

# Strathbogie Shire Contacts

#### Municipal Recovery Manager (MRM):

The MRM is the first person you should contact after an emergency if your house is uninhabitable and you require assistance. • 0456 621 454

#### **After Hours Emergencies:**

**Local Laws** – emergency situation such as stock on roads or dog attacks.

9 5795 0000

*Engineering* – emergency situation such as a collapsed bridge or trees over roads. **●** 5795 0000

#### **Vic Emergency Hotline**

#### 1800 226 226

Call for information on the Fire Danger Rating or other key bushfire information, the location of relief centres, recovery after a bushfire, community information guides and planned burning information.

If you have trouble understanding this leaflet:



Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) 131 450

Vicdeaf (03) 9473 1111

# Emergency Assistance Guide

Nagamb

Graytown

November 2023

Ruffy

Strathbogie

#### **Emergency Assistance Guide**

This guide has been prepared for those impacted by a disaster on a small scale, where individuals or families may have had their home or possessions severely damaged or destroyed, through an incident such as a house fire, localised flood, storm or vandalism.

#### If you need support as a result of an emergency, call the Municipal Recovery Manager on 0456 621 454

This service is available 24 hours a day.

Where possible it is recommended for affected people to stay with friends and relatives; this provides emotional support much needed at a traumatic time.

#### Services provided include:

- Accommodation 2-3 nights motel accommodation
- Clothing new essential items per household member
- Toiletries and groceries
- Bedding new essential items per household member
- Emotional support and assistance contacting other organisations when required.

Council will connect you with the Department of Families Fairness and Housing for an assessment for a Personal Hardship Assistance Payment (PHAP).

#### **Relief Assistance Payments**

Emergency Personal Hardship Assistance Payments (PHAP) are available to reduce personal hardship following an emergency. These payments help to meet the immediate essential health, safety and wellbeing needs of affected Victorians. Payments are available to eligible residents up to seven days following an emergency event.

Emergency relief assistance is provided on a needs assessment basis, and is available to assist eligible households after house fires, and after the following natural emergency events: bushfires, floods, severe storms and earthquakes

If you need further information about your eligibility for emergency relief assistance, please contact the

Vic Emergency Hotline 1800 226 226

#### **Crisis Payments - Centrelink**

A Crisis Payment may be available to assist those in severe financial hardship who have been forced to leave their home and establish a new one because of an extreme circumstance (domestic violence or their house burning down).

Contact Centrelink between 8am–5pm Monday to Friday for more information:

Exceptional Circumstances Relief Help 132 850

#### 24-hour Health Support

Lifeline: 13 11 14

Beyond Blue: 1300 224 636

Men's Helpline: 1300 789 978

Kid's Helpline: 1800 551 800

Victorian Virtual Emergency Department Register at www.vved.org.au

**Nurse On Call:** 1300 606 024 For 24-hour health advice for the cost of a local call from anywhere in Victoria.

**1800 RESPECT:** 1800 737 732 *(Family Violence Support)* 

**Red Cross:** 1800 232 969 *Red Cross have trained volunteers across the state that can assist with;* 

- Immediate relief needs
- Psychological first aid (phone/in person)
- Advocacy for affected people

#### **Further Assistance**

Victorian Council of Churches: (03) 9654 1736

Energy Safe Victoria: 1800 800 158

Register. Find. Reunite. Australian Red Cross: 1800 733 276

Victorian Legal Aid: 1300 792 387

Victorian Flood Recovery Support Hotline: 1800 560 760



# Warnings, Staying Informed and Important Contacts

\_\_\_\_\_

## Life-threatening Emergency 000 Triple Zero

<ul> <li>Current warnings - VicEmergency</li> <li>Emergency Radio Broadcasters</li> </ul>	emergency.vic.gov.au ABC 97.7 FM TRIPLE M 95.3 FM SKY NEWS Television	Hotline: 1800 226 226 HIT 96.9 FM UGFM 88.9FM or 98.9FM
<ul> <li>Bureau of Meteorology (BoM)</li> </ul>	bom.gov.au/vic/warnings	1300 659 217
VicRoads Traffic	traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au	
<ul> <li>VICSES Social Media</li> </ul>	facebook.com/vicses	twitter.com/vicsesnews
Preparing for Flood Emergencies	ses.vic.gov.au/get-ready	
<ul> <li>Creating an Emergency Plan</li> </ul>	redcross.org.au/prepare	
<ul> <li>Catchment Management Authority</li> </ul>	<u>gbcma.vic.gov.au/</u>	03 5822 7700
Strathbogie Shire Council	strathbogie.vic.gov.au	1800 065 993
<ul> <li>National Relay Service (NRS)</li> </ul>	relayservice.gov.au	

#### Australian Warning System Warnings via VicEmergency



SES issues warnings to provide you with information to help you make good decisions to protect you, your family and your property. The warning level is based on severity (danger level), local conditions and the likelihood of community impact.

SES uses the VicEmergency "all emergencies" app, website, and telephone hotline to distribute flood, storm, landslide, earthquake and tsunami warnings and emergency information in Victoria. You can also access warnings from SES's social media and radio emergency broadcasters.

#### WARNING LEVELS

	<b>EMERGENCY WARNING</b> You are in imminent danger and need to take action immediately. You will be impacted. A Major flood warning usually fits into this category. Evacuation advice might be included in this warning
	WATCH AND ACT An emergency is developing nearby. You need to take action now to protect yourself and others. A Moderate flood warning usually fits into this category. Evacuation advice might be included in this warning
	<b>ADVICE</b> An incident is occurring or has occurred in the area. Access information and monitor conditions. Can also be used as a notification that activity in the area has subsided and is no longer a danger to you. A Minor flood warning or Flood Watch usually fits into this category.
EMERGENCY ALERT. BE WARNED. BE INFORMED.	<b>EMERGENCY ALERT</b> During some emergencies, communities may be alerted by an SMS text message sent to mobile phones or a voice message to landlines.



Sandbags won't stop the water completely, but can reduce the amount of water entering your home.

# How do I fill a sandbag?

- Only use sand to fill hessian bags. Do not use dirt.
- Only fill sandbag two-thirds full.
- Do not over fill the sandbag as it will be too heavy to carry.
- Do not tie the top of the sandbag.
- Take care when filling and lifting the sandbag, to avoid injury.

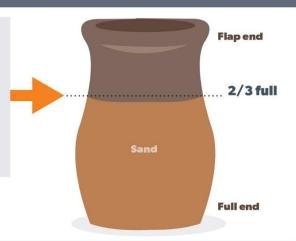
# How do I lay sandbags?

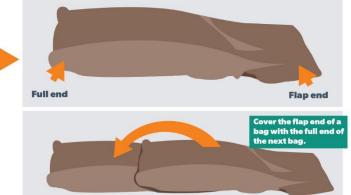
- Lay sandbags like brickwork. Stagger rows so that the joins do not line up.
- Start at one end and work to the other end.
- Ensure the unfilled part of the bag is covered by the next bag.
- Tuck flap under the bag at the end of the row.
- If the sandbag wall is going to be more than five (5) bags high, you will need to lay two (2) rows wide.

# Where do I place the sandbags?

- Place sandbags in plastic bags to cover drainage holes in home (e.g. showers, toilets, sinks) to stop back flow of water.
- Place a small wall across doorways, at least the height of the expected water level. Be careful not to trap yourself inside.
- If available, plastic sheeting may be used under sandbags to reduce the seepage.









# What do I do once I have finished with the sandbags?

- Sturdy gloves should be worn when handling wet sandbags as they can contain chemicals, waste and diseases.
- Sandbags that have been in contact with floodwater need to be thrown away.
- Contact your local council to find out how to dispose of your sandbags safely.

**Flood checklist** 

# Get ready, have a plan, know what to do...

Taking the time to plan for emergencies helps your think more clearly, have a greater sense of control, and make better decisions when an emergency happens.

#### Make sure you'll receive warnings and emergency information in Victoria

- O Install the VicEmergency App and create a Watch Zone
- O Use emergency.vic.gov.au: for all hazards, all emergencies
- Note the VicEmergency Hotline: 1800 226 226
- Note your local Emergency Broadcaster e.g. ABC Radio 97.7FM/106.5FM

#### Find local flood information

- Find Local Flood Guides for most flood prone communities at ses.vic.gov.au/get-ready
- Connect with neighbours, other locals, or your local SES Unit to learn about past floods.
- Contact your Catchment Management Authority (CMA) for localised flood information <u>floodvictoria.vic.gov.au/</u> prepare-prevent/risks (Select from map of CMAs)

#### Plan and Prepare

- Install the Red Cross Get Prepared Smart phone app and follow the steps or complete the Australian Red Cross RediPlan booklet at redcross.org.au/prepare
- Keep a emergency kit with enough for 3 days in an emergency.
- Food, water, protective gloves, masks, medications and prescriptions, first aid and personal hygiene items, a waterproof torch, toilet paper, chargers, battery powered radio, batteries, reading glasses, essentials for babies and pets, spare clothing, and comfort items, especially for children and people with a disability.
- COVID-Normal\* Don't forget sanitiser, soap and face coverings.

#### Take action to reduce impacts at your property

- Keep gutters and drains clear of debris, outdoor furniture, toys etc.
- Check your building and contents insurance. What type of flooding does it cover?
- Put your most valuable possessions up high, above possible floodwater height.
- Backup important files and documents to a USB kept elsewhere, or to cloud storage.
- Identify higher ground on your property or further away from the danger area.
- O Learn about sandbagging at ses.vic.gov.au/get-ready
- Consider buying sand and sandbags at home ahead of time, especially if you live in a flood prone area.

#### When a flood emergency happens

- Monitor VicEmergency warnings and information.
- Never drive through floodwater this is the No.1 killer in floods. It takes just 15cm of floodwater to float a small car.
- Watch what is happening around you and activate your plan.
- Bag it, block it, lift it, and leave see Plan to stay dry over page
- Take your emergency kit and identification e.g.. Drivers licence, passport
- If you are impacted, register at the Relief Centre or with your local council, to get the help you need.
- Monitor VicEmergency for when it's safe to return and for Recovery information.



# FLOOD STORM 132 500

#### ses.vic.gov.au

# Bushfire Survival Plan



This planning template is designed for people who have a disability, chronic or acute medical condition or who are older.

As you fill this out, think about how your abilities and support needs affect your plan to leave early. This includes assistive technology, assistance animals and specific health management. For an accessible word version or to print or download this template, go to www.cfa.vic.gov.au/leaveearly

CFA can visit you for free to provide advice about your property. Request a visit via email: communityprograms@cfa.vic.gov.au

Please complete the following details:

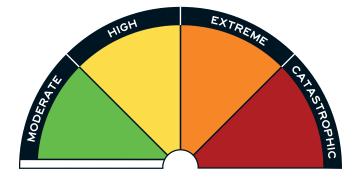
This Bushfire Survival Plan is for:

When living at:

My Fire Weather District is:

My plan was completed on: (dd/mm/yyyy)

#### 1. My Fire Danger Rating trigger to leave is



CATASTROPHIC	
Night before	Early i
EXTREME	

Early in the morning

Night before Early in the morning

# Catastrophic days are the worst conditions for fire.

Homes are not designed or constructed to withstand these conditions.

2. I will find out the daily Fire Danger Ratin	g from			
My neighbour, relative, friend support worker or carer	, Monitoring the VicEmergency app or website www.emergency.vic.gov.au			
<b>Listening to ABC Local Radio</b> or my designated community radio station	Watching Sky News TV			
Calling VicEmergency Hotline 1800 226 226         Image: Calling VicEmergency Ho				
3. What I will take				
Personal items (mobile phone, money, keys, identification, glasses, jewellery)	Essential items for daily living (mobility aids, communication aids, assistive technology devices and chargers)			
Medical equipment, medications and prescriptions	Important documents (will, insurance papers)			
Other	My emergency kit is stored			

4. I will stay at				
Details	Option 1		Option 2	
Name				
Telephone				
Mobile number				
Address				
I am able to stay more than one night	Yes	No No	Yes	No No

	Driving my car	Always make sure you know alternative routes and have plenty of fuel
	Public transport	Ensure you have a current timetable and that the service is operating
	Taxi or other ride share	Company
	options	Telephone
$\bigcirc$	My neighbour, relative	Name
	or friend picking me up Always make sure to call the	
	day/night before to confirm	
	they are still picking me up	Telephone
6. What I w		·
Pet(s) wil	they are still picking me up	animal Pet(s) will be left with neighbours or in a kennel (with lead, food, bedding,
Pet(s) wil (with thei Pet(s) wil	they are still picking me up ill do with my pet(s) or assistance I come with me	animal Pet(s) will be left with neighbours or
Pet(s) wil (with thei Pet(s) wil (with fres	they are still picking me up ill do with my pet(s) or assistance I come with me r leads, food, bedding, crate etc.) I be left at home	animal Pet(s) will be left with neighbours or in a kennel (with lead, food, bedding, vaccination certificates)

Some fires can continue for many days, even weeks. It is important to factor this into your plan for your pets in case you cannot come back to your home.

7. I will tell these people that I am leaving early			
Details	Name	Telephone or email	
Personal contacts			
Service providers			

# Returning home

I will return home when the Fire Danger Rating is of lower risk. I will know this through the information I receive from my preferred source of information as noted in this plan.

# Backup plan

There may be some circumstances where a safe evacuation is not possible and you will be told it's too late to leave. You may need to seek another shelter option.

Go to a nearby well-prepared property (if previously discussed) Address	Go to a Place of Last Resort – Designated Neighbourhood Safer Place or Community Fire Refuge
	Location
Actively shelter at home	Route(s) I will take to get there
and the first state of the second state of the	

Remember, leaving early is always the safest option. You must plan your own survival.

 When the Fire Danger Rating is Extreme or Catastrophic, leaving the night before or early in the morning is the safest option for your survival.

1 a 40

- Sheltering in an unprepared house without active defence is extremely dangerous.
- Disruptions to services such as power and water are common during bushfires.
   Expect interruptions to your NBN, electricity, telephones, mobile phones or mains water.
- CFA cannot guarantee a fire truck will come to your home.

 Older people, children and people with a disability should not remain in a bushfire-prone area during dangerous fire weather or a bushfire.

Version 2 | June 2022

- Never wait to receive a warning, you may not get an official warning about a bushfire before its too late.
- You will not be told when to leave or assisted to leave during a bushfire. You must follow your plan.

You must plan for your own survival.



## 'S RediPlan.

MY EMERGENCY INFORMATION						
Name of household member	Medicare number	Centrelink number	Passport number	Tax file number	Driver Licence number	Car registration

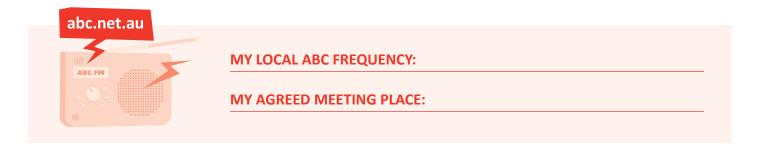
## **MY IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

	Name	Relationship	Phone	Address
Member of support network				
Member of support network				
Member of support network				
Out-of-town contact #1				
Out-of-town contact #2				
Other:				





MY IMPORTANT SERVICES			
	Company	Account number	Contact details
Electricity			
Gas			
Water			
Internet			
Phone			
Roadside assistance			
Other:			



MY ALTERNATIVE PLACE TO STAY IN AN EMERGENCY			
Name	Phone	Address	



**See Step 2** for more information about staying connected during an emergency, including identifying an out-of-town contact, an agreed meeting place, and an alternative place to stay in an emergency.

MY MEDICAL PLAN						
Medical support list	Name	Phone	Out of hours contact	Address		
Doctor						
Local hospital with 24-hour emergency						
Chemist						
Optometrist						
Dentist						
Other:						

MEDICAL CONDITIONS						
	Y	Ν	Plan to manage condition during and after an emergency			
Heart disease						
Diabetes						
Asthma						
Migraines						
Fainting spells						
Anxiety						
Epilepsy						
High blood pressure						
Thyroid problems						
Dizziness						
Other:						



Consider getting a medical alert system that can easily call for help if you are immobilised in an emergency. Most alert systems require a working phone line, so have a back-up plan, such as a mobile phone or pager, in case landlines are disrupted.



#### **Current medications**

Write down below any medication you are currently taking.

Remember to attach copies of concession cards, health insurance cards and prescriptions to this plan. You may also want to identify where you keep the medication in your home in case you have to evacuate quickly or someone needs to get it for you.

#### **CURRENT MEDICATIONS**

Medical condition	Medication	Dosage	Times taken	Prescribing doctor (include contact details)	Location of medication in the home

MEDICAL AIDS				
	Y	N	Details	Plan to manage equipment in the case of an emergency
Do you use any equipment to assist you				
Style and serial numbers of medical devices				
Allergies and/or sensitivities (food, medication etc)				
Blood type				



Plan to have all the things you'd need with you for a week or two. This includes any medications you take regularly or specialised equipment (wheelchair, glasses, hearing aid) and supplies (patch kit for a wheelchair tyre or extra batteries). See **Step 4** for more information about packing a survival and recovery kit.

DISABILITY			
	Y	How my disability might affect my ability to respond to an emergency	Support plan
Intellectual			
Learning			
Speech-related			
Sensory			
Physical			
Neurological			
Other:			

MY WILL						
	Solicitor/s	Address	Phone			
Location of my Will						
MY POWER OF ATTORNEY:						

MY INSURANCE						
	Insurer	Contact details	Policy number			
Home and contents						
Health						
Car						
Life						
Income protection						
Business						



Consider your particular needs and how your support network might best assist you during an emergency. If you require help to evacuate, include written instructions and ensure your support network is aware of your plan. For example, "I am diabetic. Please take my insulin from the regrigerator", "My service animal may legally remain with me".

MY IMPORTANT ITEMS LIST AND PLAN						
Item	Location	Plan for protection				

See Step 3 for more information about how to identify and protect important items.

MY ANIMAL PLAN							
Breed	Microchip number	Vet/Kennel contact details	Emergency safe place	Equipment required	Plan		
		Breed Microchip	Breed Microchip Vet/Kennel	Breed Microchip Vet/Kennel Emergency	Breed Microchip Vet/Kennel Emergency Equipment		





In planning for emergencies you'll also need to think about your pets and animals and what they would need over the course of a week or more, including food, identification, medication, transport and accommodation.



# MY IMPORTANT NUMBERS

#### **EMERGENCIES**

Police Fire Ambulance	000
SES	132 500
Poisons Info Line	13 11 26
Lifeline	13 11 14
BeyondBlue	1300 22 46 36

MY IMPORTANT CONTACTS				
Doctor	Home Care Agency			
Dentist	Local Radio Frequencies ABC			
Vet	Local Radio Frequencies Other			
Solicitor	Out-of-Town Contact			
Council	Power of Attorney			
Gas	Insurer			
Telco	Bank			
Power	Roadside Assistance			
Water				

Your Emergency RediPlan



redcross.org.au/prepare



#### **MY HOUSEHOLD NUMBERS**

Name	Work	School	Mobile

#### **MY NEIGHBOURS / PERSONAL CARE NETWORK NUMBERS**

Name	Work	Mobile

OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS			
Name	Work	Mobile	



#### Tip:

Store these numbers in your phone and take a picture of the card so you will have all your important details available in one place. You may also want to send a copy to friends or relatives to have on file in case of an emergency.

~

GET PACKING

# Get your essentials together

Keep this handy checklist on the fridge until it's done!

Packing your survive and recover kit can be satisfying and fun, especially for the kids. So get together with everyone in your household or your personal support network to make a list of what you'll need.

Chances are you'll already have many necessary items in the house. If you need to buy anything, remember you don't have to do it all at once. You can stagger it over weeks or months—a few items each time you shop.

## Suggested survival items:



#### NOTE!

Don't leave batteries in the torch, and check them every six months. Consider wind-up torches that don't need batteries. Red Cross sells them online at **redcross.org.au** 

# TI/03

Water

#### NOTE!

Never drink tap water after an emergency until authorities have advised it is safe. Water can be stored for up to 12 months in airtight containers. Label when water was last changed.





#### NOTE!

Many people do not carry large sums of cash. ATMs and banks may not be operating in the early stages of any emergency. Having some cash will help meet basic and urgent needs.





#### NOTE!

Remember the needs of everyone in your household, including babies, children and pets. Have at least three days' worth of food (meals, drinks and snacks) ready in case you need to leave home. If staying home, you will need food high in energy with a long shelf life that's easy to prepare.



DO ONE SIMPLE THING TO MAKE YOU SAFER



#### Take your medicine

Medical needs are an important consideration for everyone when packing a Survive and Recover Kit.

Plan to have 14 days' worth of any medications you might need.

## Radio (battery-powered)

#### NOTE!



Radio is often the best source of information in an emergency. Mark on the dial the frequencies of your ABC Local Radio and other local services.

Select a radio that doesn't rely on electricity.

# **Chargers**



#### NOTE!

Have a charger or charged battery pack for your phone. Also consider, keeping an older landline phone that is not reliant on power—your telephone exchange may still operate even if the power is out.

# Special medical supplies or equipment



#### NOTE!

Consider what medications or supplies you might need and include these, alongside a list with their title, dosage and copies of your prescriptions.





#### NOTE!

Having toiletries can help keep you refreshed and give you a sense of routine—even when you are unable to wash or shower.

## First Aid Kit



#### NOTE! As well as buying a

Red Cross household or car first aid kit, it's also a good idea to do first aid training.

#### Protective clothing / blankets



#### NOTE!

Consider clothes made from natural fibres, keep seasons in mind, and try to pack sturdy shoes or boots and heavy-duty gloves. Remember sunscreen, insect repellent, and wide-brimmed hats.



#### NOTE!

Factor your pet into water needs, and make sure your dog or cat is registered and microchipped.

Most of the things you need will be at a supermarket, hardware store or even the \$2 shop. Remember you may already have useful items around the home, such as camping equipment.



#### Suggested recovery items:





## Photographs of valuable household items



# Copies of videos and photos



#### Make sure valuable items are stored well above ground level, or use waterproof containers.

Consider purchasing a fireproof safe for valuables. Keep some sturdy garbage bags for putting other items of sentimental value in, in case you have time to collect them in an emergency.

Store your scans or copies so that they can be grabbed quickly and easily if you have to leave.

The same care taken with your important documents can be applied to your personal videos and photos.

Take photos of any important household items, particularly those that are insured. Store the photos in a secure place, with copies in your kit, to assist with any insurance claims after the emergency.

Map where your valuable items are stored in your home in case you have to collect them quickly.







#### Comfort the kids

Children will need familiar things to help comfort them in a stressful and uncertain situation. Talk to your kids about what's important to them. This is likely to be different to what you think is important to them.

## Store and review your kit

# As you can see, you'll need more than a simple shoulder bag to hold your survive and recover kit.

You'll need a sturdy container, preferably waterproof. Think about a box with wheels or handles and a watertight seal. Alternatively you can use a large sports bag or a suitcase with wheels. Arrange your container last so you'll know what size it needs to be. Store your survive and recover kit where it's easy to access—close to an escape route in your house, or in a shed. Mark your kit clearly, and put some reflective tape on it so it can be seen easily in darkness. Make sure everyone in your household and personal safety network knows where it is.



#### Set an annual reminder in your phone and/or calendar to check your survive and recover kit.

Make a note of any perishables and rotate them through your bathroom and pantry. Your kit should be updated to reflect changes in your life, such as the addition of children or pets, changes to relationships, location changes, and so on.

