



Stay aware of the Fire Danger Rating and know what to do.

The Fire Danger Rating predicts how a fire would behave if one started, including how difficult it would be to put out. The higher the rating, the more dangerous the conditions. The rating is your trigger to act, so to stay safe you need to stay aware of the Fire Danger Rating in your district. During the Fire season, the Fire Danger Rating will feature in weather forecasts, be broadcast on radio and TV and appear in some newspapers. It can also be found on the of CFA and VicEmergency websites or by calling the VicEmergency Hotline **1800 226 226**

	WHAT DOES IT MEAN?	WHAT SHOULD I DO?
CODE RED	<p>These are the worst conditions for a bush or grass fire. Homes are not designed or constructed to withstand fires in these conditions.</p> <p>The safest place to be is away from high risk bushfire areas.</p>	<p>Leaving high risk bushfire areas the night before or early in the day is your safest option – do not wait and see.</p> <p>Avoid forested areas, thick bush and long, dry grass.</p> <p>Know your trigger – make a decision about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – when you will leave – where you will go – how you will get there – when you will return – what you will do if you cannot leave
EXTREME	<p>Expect extremely hot, dry and windy conditions.</p> <p>If a fire starts and takes hold, it will be uncontrollable, unpredictable and fast moving. Spot fires will start, move quickly and will come from many directions.</p> <p>Homes that are situated and constructed or modified to withstand a bushfire, that are well prepared and actively defended, may provide safety.</p> <p>You must be physically and mentally prepared to defend in these conditions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • If you are not prepared to the highest level, leaving high risk bushfire areas early in the day is your safest option. • Be aware of local conditions and get information by listening to ABC Local Radio, commercial and designated community radio stations or Sky News TV, going to cfa.vic.gov.au, emergency.vic.gov.au or call the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226.
SEVERE	<p>Expect hot, dry and possibly windy conditions.</p> <p>If a fire starts and takes hold, it may be uncontrollable.</p> <p>Well prepared homes that are actively defended can provide safety.</p> <p>You must be physically and mentally prepared to defend in these conditions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well prepared homes that are actively defended can provide safety – check your bushfire survival plan. • If you are not prepared, leaving bushfire prone areas early in the day is your safest option. • Be aware of local conditions and get information by listening to ABC Local Radio, commercial and designated community radio stations or Sky News TV, going to cfa.vic.gov.au, emergency.vic.gov.au or call the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226.
VERY HIGH	<p>If a fire starts, it can most likely be controlled in these conditions and homes can provide safety.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check your bushfire survival plan.
HIGH	<p>Be aware of how fires can start and minimise the risk.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor conditions. • Action may be needed.
LOW-MODERATE	<p>Controlled burning off may occur in these conditions if it is safe – check to see if permits apply.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leave if necessary.

