



MY PERSONAL FIRE PLAN

Strathbogie has been assessed as having an EXTREME bushfire risk in accordance with the Victorian Fire Risk Register and it is important that all residents have a personal fire plan in place for each fire season.

If you plan to leave you should do so well before a fire reaches your area and well before you are under threat. Be aware that usual travel routes may be limited or blocked.

If you plan to stay and defend you must implement your fire plan. It is impossible for emergency services to protect every individual home or property – DO NOT EXPECT A FIRE TRUCK.

The Strathbogie Golf Club has been identified as a Neighbourhood Safer Place however this should not be considered a refuge – it is merely a PLACE OF ABSOLUTE LAST RESORT WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS.

After a fire the recovery process will be coordinated by the Shire and you should contact them for queries and seeking advice.

The following has been developed by the Strathbogie Tableland Action Group (STAG) to act as a guide for your personal fire plan.

Preparation for the Fire Season



- ☐ Create a protective shelter for your pump
- ☐ Check and maintain water systems, pumps, generator, sprinklers and firefighting equipment
- ☐ Check smoke alarms are working
- ☐ Scan important documents onto a memory stick
- ☐ Review your insurance
- ☐ Make sure stock are tagged and domestic animals microchipped
- ☐ Ensure your property name and number are clearly visible
- ☐ Make sure access is available for fire trucks
- ☐ Have equipment readily available: ladders, metal buckets, mops, super soaker pistols, etc.
- ☐ Clear flammable items away from the house (firewood, cans of fuel, etc.)
- ☐ Clean gutters and purchase/locate gutter plugs
- ☐ Cut, mow, prune, rake and remove fine fuels from around house, sheds, fences, gates
- ☐ Maintain water supply – tank topped up, water trailer full
- ☐ Position hoses and check that they reach all corners of the house
- ☐ Organise protective clothing and have it readily accessible
- ☐ Pack your relocation kit
- ☐ Display list of important contact numbers including your CFA state region number, map reference number and nearest intersection
- ☐ Have battery powered radio and working torches on hand with spare batteries
- ☐ Create a heavily grazed or ploughed area where stock can be moved

On Fire Danger Days



Drink plenty of water or sports drinks, alcohol and fizzy drinks should be avoided at all times

- ☐ Communicate with neighbours and be aware of their movements, make them aware of your movements
- ☐ Monitor fire information on ABC, UHF, Fireready, etc.
- ☐ Ensure pets and livestock have plenty of water
- ☐ Check equipment: generator, petrol pumps, sprinklers and firefighting equipment
- ☐ Pressure relief valves on gas bottles must point away from the house
- ☐ Have ladders on hand to access roof space (internal and external)
- ☐ Ensure mobile phone is fully charged

Fire in the Area



- ☐ Phone 000 and report fire if this has not already been done
- ☐ Move stock to bare paddock
- ☐ Block down pipes and fill spouting after diverting excess tank water
- ☐ Turn on sprinklers, wet down all exposed areas
- ☐ Remove garden furniture, doormats and other loose items
- ☐ Fill containers with water (bath, sink, buckets, wheelie bins, etc.)
- ☐ Close windows and doors, draw curtains and blinds
- ☐ Switch air conditioner to recycle/recirculate or turn it off
- ☐ Put on protective clothing
- ☐ Bring pets inside and restrain them, provide water
- ☐ Seal all gaps (wet towels); move furniture away from windows

Fire Front Arrives



YOU WILL BE IN HEAVY SMOKE

Drink plenty of water or sports drinks – avoid alcohol and fizzy drinks

- ☐ Before fire front arrives disconnect hoses and fittings and bring inside
- ☐ Stay inside for shelter and shield yourself from radiant heat
- ☐ Stay clear of glass areas
- ☐ Check on pets
- ☐ Check and patrol for embers inside
- ☐ Check roof space regularly
- ☐ Move outside once the fire front has passed and it is safe

After the Fire Front Passes



Drink plenty of water or sports drinks – avoid alcohol and fizzy drinks

- ☐ Continue to wear protective clothing
- ☐ Check for spot fire and embers:
 - inside the roof space
 - sheds and carports
 - on verandahs and decking
 - garden beds
 - mulch and wood heaps
 - on door sills
 - roof lines and gutters
 - outdoor furniture

If You Are Caught On the Road

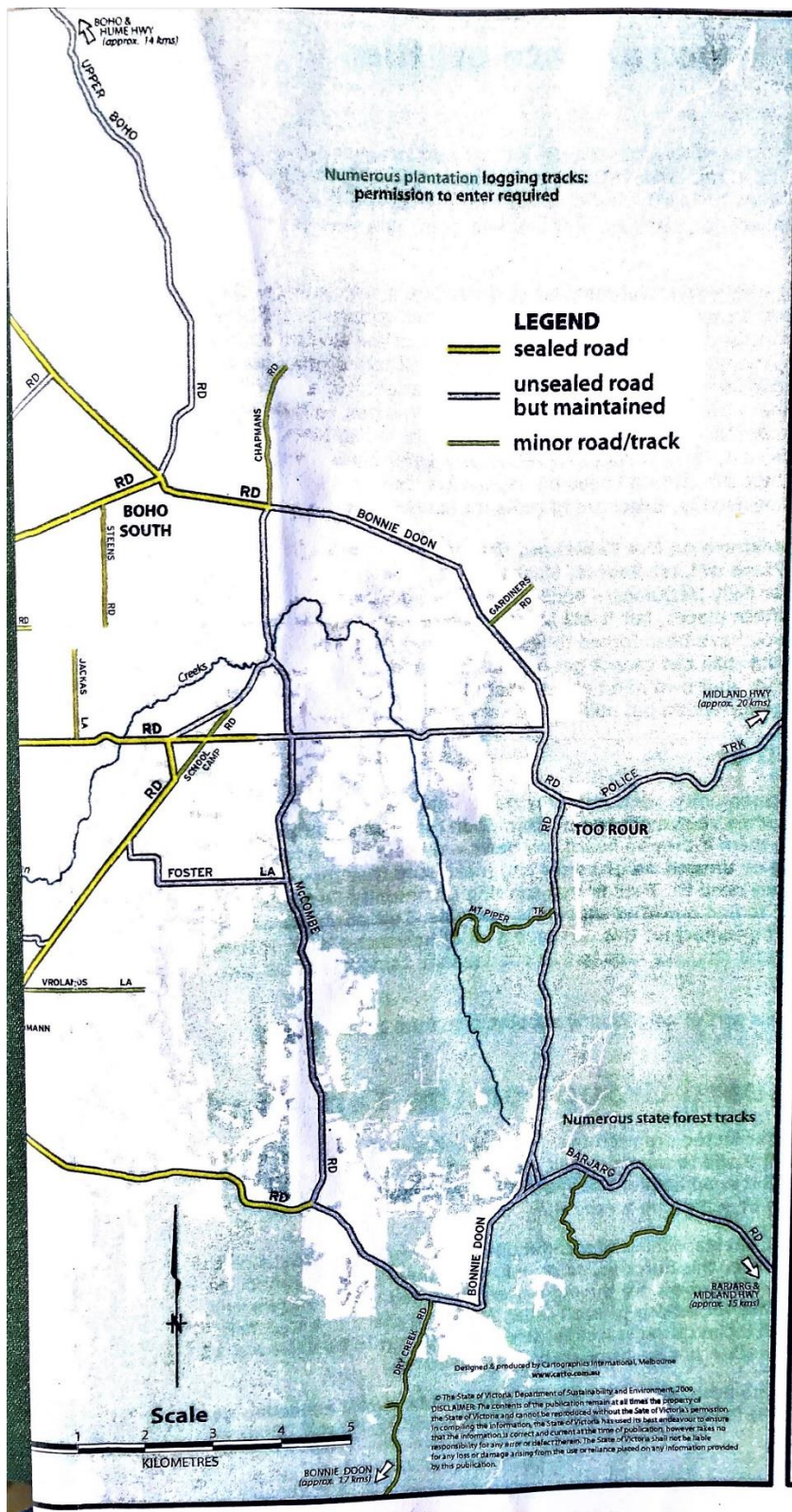


You should carry woollen blankets and water in vehicles at all times and have mobile phone or UHF radio with you.

- ☐ Turn the radio on to ABC local station for fire information
- ☐ Do not seek refuge in above ground tanks or pools
- ☐ Stay in the car
- ☐ Look for an area where you can park your car, such as a clear area away from trees, shrubs or long grass
- ☐ Avoid slopes and hill tops – avoid being above a fire
- ☐ Keep windows up and vents closed. If you can, park the car behind a solid structure to block radiant heat
- ☐ Put hazard and headlights on
- ☐ Cover exposed skin as much as possible with clothing – nothing synthetic
- ☐ Get down as low as possible below window level and cover up with a woollen blanket until the fire front passes
- ☐ Get out of the car after the fire front has passed and turn it off







STRATHBOGIE TABLELAND

This map shows the geography and relative safety of local roads in the event of bushfires on the plateau. It also shows how much vegetation there is – a serious fire hazard.

Sealed roads: There are only three which lead down off the Tableland. They are:

- Harrys Creek Road (to Violet Town)
- Euroa/Strathbogie Road (to Euroa)
- Galls Gap Road (to Euroa or Merton)

These routes are the major exit roads but each goes through areas of bushland and may become impassable in the event of fire, not least because of fallen trees and heavy smoke.

Secondary unsealed but maintained roads: Some of these also take you off the plateau, but typically through heavily forested areas. They are:

- Strathbogie/Merton road
- Barjarg Road
- Police Track
- Upper Boho Road

These are all good unsealed roads but all of them travel through potentially very dangerous bushland and/or pine plantations. It would be very unwise to use any of these as escape routes if fire is anywhere in their vicinity.

Minor roads and tracks. There are many such roads on the Tableland and only the better ones are shown here. Many others, particularly those in forest and plantations, have been omitted and none could be considered safe if fire is threatening.

If you choose to go early and leave the Tableland, then listen to most up-to-date warnings and choose your route according to where there is least likelihood of fire occurring.

If you believe that you must evacuate late, think very carefully before driving on any Tableland roads, many of which are narrow, winding and hilly. Fallen trees can trap you both ahead and behind and fire can arrive quickly across paddocks as well through bush. Being caught on the road is one of the worst places to be in a bushfire. Smoke can reduce visibility to nearly zero even though the fire is not that close.

Use this map to work out your planned and emergency escape routes.

Protective Clothing



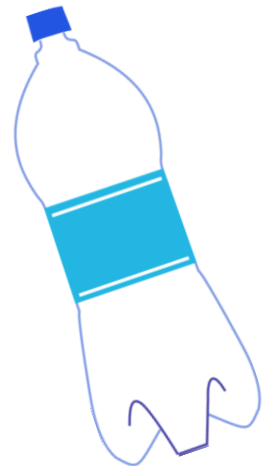
Should be made from natural fibres (wool or cotton) not synthetic

- ☐ Long sleeved wool or cotton shirt, long pants (trade overalls are ideal)
- ☐ Wide brimmed hat
- ☐ Sturdy leather boots or shoes
- ☐ Goggles or glasses (preferably with flexible side and filters)
- ☐ Face mask or moistened towel tied around nose and mouth
- ☐ Sturdy gloves made of natural fibres (preferably leather with long cuff)

Relocation Kit



- ☐ Protective clothing
- ☐ Food and water
- ☐ Woollen blankets
- ☐ Medications, prescriptions and toiletries
- ☐ Mobile phone and charger
- ☐ UHF radio and charger
- ☐ Battery powered radio and spare batteries
- ☐ First Aid kit
- ☐ Pet food, restrainers, cages, bedding
- ☐ List of contact numbers for doctor, dentist, local hospital, chemist, vet, council, gas, electricity and water providers
- ☐ Copies of important documents such as passports, wills, marriage and birth certificates, land titles and insurance papers
- ☐ Details of tax file number, Medicare number, bank accounts and credit cards, superannuation and any investments
- ☐ Diary, photos, jewellery and other important mementos





Heat Cramps are muscle pains or spasms, usually in the stomach, arms or legs. They may occur after strenuous activity in a hot environment when the body's salt and water are depleted. They may be a symptom of heat exhaustion.

Stop activity and sit quietly in a cool place. Increase fluid intake, rest a few hours and if there is no improvement, seek medical help.

Heat Exhaustion is a serious condition that can develop into heat stroke. Symptoms may include pale complexion, sweating and rapid heart rate, muscle cramps or weakness, dizziness or headache, nausea or vomiting and fainting.

Lie down in a cool area, remove outer clothing, drink more fluids, wet skin with cool water or cloths and seek medical advice.

Heat Stroke is life threatening. It occurs when the body cannot prevent rapid temperature rise. Symptoms may be the same as for heat exhaustion but the skin may be dry (no sweating). The person's mental state worsens. They may stagger, appear confused, have a fit or collapse and become unconscious or appear to have had a stroke.

Call 000 for an ambulance, get the person to lie down in a cool area, remove clothing and wet skin while fanning. Position unconscious person on their side to clear their airway.

Smoke Irritation Signs of smoke irritation include itchy eyes, sore throat, runny nose and coughing. Healthy adults usually find these symptoms from a short exposure to smoke clear up once the smoke goes away. Children, the elderly, smokers and people with pre-existing illnesses such as heart or lung conditions may find that symptoms worsen and include wheezing, chest tightness and difficulty breathing.

Drink plenty of water; avoid alcohol and fizzy drinks – they will increase the risk of dehydration.

FIRE EMERGENCY 000



OUR ADDRESS

Region (for fire ban days): Northern Country

Rural Road Address: _____

CFA Map Reference: CFA Region 22

Map Grid reference: _____

Nearest intersection: _____

RADIO AND INTERNET INFORMATION



ABC local radio: Goulburn Valley 97.7 FM
Mansfield 103.7 FM

ABC Melbourne 774 AM

Websites: Vic Emergency emergency.vic.gov.au
Bureau of Meteorology bom.gov.au
Elders weather:
eldersweather.com.au/vic/northeast/Strathbogie

EMERGENCY NUMBERS



Ambulance, Fire, Police	000 (for all regions, includes CFA)
Bushfire Information Line	1800 240 667
Vic Emergency Hotline	1800 226 226
Shire of Strathbogie	1800 065 993 (24 hour line)
Electrical Emergencies	1800 000 922
SP Ausnet	131 799
VicRoads	131 170
SES	132 500
Telstra Faults	132 203
DELWP	136 186
Nurse on Call (medical helpline)	1300 606 024
Wildlife Victoria	1300 094 535
Crime Stoppers	1800 333 000
Vets	
Euroa Clinic	5795 2888
Strathbogie Clinic	5795 2822 (all hours)

Personal Notes

