

How to harden an existing house



Feedback Survey. Q 4 What is the most important thing you learned from this session?

- 1 Combustible material near ground and against house.
- 2 Ember attack.
- 3 Embers and looking for vulnerabilities.
- 4 Paths of ember attack and possible difficulty of putting out spot fires. Concentrate on house.
- 5 List of methods of attack and critical importance of fail safe.
- 6 Performance of poly-carbonate sheeting.
- 7 The house should be well set without me being there.
- 8 thoughtful preparation, seek advice if unsure .
- 9 Look at the vegetation out the back and gaps in our house.
- 10 All of it. What to prioritise is probably my takeaway.
- 11 90% failure of petrol water pumps, unsuitability of fibreglass tanks and sheeting.
- 12 Hardening against ember attack.
- 13 Getting your house hardened ahead of bushfire season is important.
- 14 The priority rating Justin gave to work you can do, very helpful.
- 15 Not to rely on pumps and sprinklers to protect your house.
- 16 That despite best efforts to protect a house it will still be vulnerable so don't be at home on high fire danger days.
- 17 Seal up extremely well every gap and look for ember gathering locations.
- 18 Having a house that is survivable in its own right is the best option.
- 19 Gaps, gaps, gaps - keep looking and fixing!
- 20 Embers.
- 21 Review various building items.

- 22 Personally I was relieved to hear that ridge capping over corrugated iron can be gapped with fibreglass or rockwool. I was planning to retrofit expensive custom cut corrugated flashing which would have been difficult. Main learning was that fire preparedness actions should enable passive defence i.e. not rely on active fire fighting during fire event - too late by then.
- 23 Roof sarking vulnerability.
- 24 Making home safe from ember attack.
- 25 The answer to what happens to thin cement sheet - very detailed and useful, thanks.
- 26 Prevention/protection more important than trying to extinguish a fire.
- 27 The importance of protecting against ember attack.
- 28 Sprinkler effectiveness.
- 29 Types of products available to assist with mitigation. Failure of water-filled polypipe.
- 30 To better protect my property
- 31 That I suspect my 100 year old weatherboard home in a BMO is unlikely to survive a fire event and that we should move house!!
- 32 To fire proof not only your house, but your shed as you will not be able to protect it during a fire.
- 33 Consequential Fire - very interesting and things I hadn't thought about.
- 34 Manage the house to minimise the risk of ember attack.
- 35 Re melting joiners/sealants that can create gaps. Fuel accumulations during fire.
- 36 Flammability of fibreglass - dangers of consequential fires - electric pump and generator.
- 37 You need to do your homework and plan ahead.
- 38 Very practical tips on protecting structures in bushfires.
- 39 Additional detail on bushfire vulnerabilities around the house. Example shown were very informative.
- 40 Materials choices and placement.
- 41 Passive prevention of fire starting in the structure is the top aim.
- 42 Info about pump types and performance factors in fire situations.
- 43 The flammability levels (BAL) of different materials.
- 44 Checking ember entries and looking at window screens.
- 45 Need a specific designed sprinkler system. Wood structures next to other create flammability.
- 46 Good general bushfire resilience information.

- 47 Items that can be purchased to aid window and door resistance to ember attack.
- 48 High temperature seal for around pipes etc through roof.
- 49 Information regarding consequential fire.
- 50 Passive protection, but Justin talks are superb overall.
- 51 Roof, roof, roof.
- 52 Prepare & protect Your house for best outcome.
- 53 That my retaining walls need to be replaced.
- 54 Importance of bushfire planning when building a home. Reservations about reliance on house sprinkler system. Use of treated pine problems. Limitations on use of popular materials.
- 55 My tiled roof needs consideration.