

Safety actions for the fire season



Feedback Survey

Q9 - Please provide details of the most informative parts of the webinar

Summary

The webinar emphasized the importance of comprehensive planning for bushfire readiness, including multiple contingency plans for various scenarios. Practical advice was given on what to include in a fire plan, such as triggers for action and the need to practice the plan regularly. Speakers shared personal experiences and highlighted the need for clear decision-making and preparation, especially in stressful situations. Topics covered included the psychological aspects of fire response, practical steps for property protection, and the importance of leaving early or having a robust plan for staying and defending. Attendees were encouraged to consider all possibilities, involve the entire family in planning, and be prepared for the unexpected. Overall, the webinar provided valuable insights and actionable strategies for bushfire preparedness.

Detailed audience responses

- 1 The information about multiple plans and brainstorming with the family about what to do in every instance that could occur. It is no good to just plan to go early as a fire can occur due to nearby lightening and move quickly so there needs to be multiple plans in place to deal with the unexpected. Great point about it being pitch black as the fire came through - need for head torches to help in that situation. Having a back-up plan for water if pumps fail or mains water cut.
- 2 The information on deciding what should be included in your plan if deciding to stay or go.
- 3 I got the most from Steve Pasco's presentation. It was realistic and practical. He described what did and didn't work in his experience through black Saturday. I loved his action plans and this stimulated discussion of what we can do to manage our safety this coming season. I got a little value from Jamie's presentation and I will investigate my local township protection plan. I found his presentation too theoretical. I liked Craig 's information and definition of a bad fire day.
- 4 Tonight's was brilliant. PLAN-PREPARE-PRACTISE, so useful to realize about the emotional flight/fight/freeze component that can kick in and hinder clear thinking.
- 5 Steve's personal story, sharing warts-and-all experience about what worked, didn't work, etc was very powerful. I also thought the third presenter's dot-points about planning were strong and effective.
- 6 Practising the fire plan, and asking the question 'what if I cannot do that', what will be my options?
- 7 Thank you to all involved with providing these excellent informative sessions. You are to be commended on putting this in the public domain as a vital kit of knowledge for people's safety.
- 8 I like the idea of multiple plans. I always had one for work days and another for at home days but to have ones for the different types of days is also good. I now need to consider my work's fire plan as they were evacuated in the 2019/20 fires. Once again, thank you for these webinars.

- 9 I felt empowered to start writing a plan and considered various combinations of options that might occur. Before this webinar (and the recent ones I watched) my plan wouldn't have been as detailed.
- 10 The best Information so far.
- 11 The "what if" situations which could bring the best made plans undone and the need for a "back-up" plan. The importance of including everyone with a job to do in the fire plan. The importance of leaving early is vital.
- 12 Links between emotions, fear and stress especially leading to poor decision making and very slow planning and actions. Hence need for plan of action in advance of fires.
- 13 The practical experiences shared by Steve helped to put the risks of bushfire into perspective and highlight the questions we need to consider. The information provided by the other presenters was equally practical and helpful.
- 14 Excellent presenters: Each contributed solid useful info including: 1. Craig Lapsley's definition of a bad weather day (T 30°C, Wind 30kph, RH less than 30). 2. Jamie Mackenzie's notification that we should have a written plan with trigger/decision points and practise the plan. 3. Steve Pascoe's edict that we need a written plan to be constructed in short, simple sentences. Everyone in the household needs to know the plan and have practised it.
- 15 Most Informative: Steve Pascoe: quantifying the number of actions from pre-season planning (20) thru to fire has passed (3), many breakdowns in planned actions, had to use all planned options to survive. Jamie Mackenzie: under stress, memory compromised, but deep emotion is powerful trigger, real stories help build 'experience'. Craig Lapsley: listed 'personality' types (doers, thinkers, panickers, leaders) but left open what to do with that; the weather to watch for (30,30,30, plus wind change), actions to match fitness; what NOT to rely on everything!; the 6 P's (worth memorising); think about road traffic 'pinch points'.
- 16 Importance of a plan and to ensure practising that plan.
- 17 The practising element of having a fire plan. Given our plan is to leave early the imperative to practise is not there. Even knowing that circumstances can force a stay to survive, the prod to practise helps. Always good to be reminded that if it happens, the circumstances will be beyond imagining, beyond anything experienced before. That wait and see is NOT a plan.
- 18 Each of the speakers was very good and had pertinent information about fire preparedness but I especially appreciated Craig, the final speaker.
- 19 Craig Lapsly's practical tips and information on what to expect and what to do - he is very easy to listen to.
- 20 Definition of a Neighbourhood Safer Place (Place of Last Resort). Looking at having plan A, B, C and D to account for the unexpected. Accentuating the idea of practising your bushfire plan. I became aware of the need to revise our plan and update it.
- 21 The information provided by the first and last presenters was useful for preparing my fire plan for this year.
- 22 Reinforced my intention to leave early and to use the 4 day forecast to activate my plan.
- 23 The end half of the webinar as it gave info about what to do to prepare as best as possible. Great info about staying or leaving.
- 24 Real life experience of Black Saturday and how your idea of being prepared may not be prepared at all. The need for a plan B, C and D! The need to practise your bushfire plan in all weather conditions and at night.

- 25 Wife: A mix of personal lived experience, and variety of plans needed. Husband: I appreciated the balance of perspectives, even that “leaving” is not necessarily an easy option and has its own challenges. Also, the need to account for the complexity of possible situations, including psychological, that have to be included in pre-planning and innumerable possible points of failure to be considered.
- 26 Lived experiences.
- 27 I think it's good to see you prodding the folks that want to wait and see. I agree it's best to have a plan.
- 28 Steve Pascoe's plan based on stages - at start of bushfire season, on a bad bushfire day, etc which linked with Craig's actions plus his 6Ps.
- 29 Craig's reminder that leaving in the darkness is likely to be challenging. I will rehearse that.
- 30 The first and third presentations were most useful The 5 points in 'What a stay with your property plan might look like' Triggers for action. Ostrich Paradox book.
- 31 The mental preparation involved in planning: needing to practise: considering what to do when things go wrong. I would have liked to hear more about what actions were taken when things went wrong and where the family sheltered when the house burnt down.
- 32 The need to have more than one plan i.e. stay, leave or what if you cannot leave and to practise the various strategies. Practise in the dark for the various plans around the property and outside the house.
- 33 Steve Pascoe's written lists of actions. Jamie's reference to the value of slides. Craig's "this is my shed" navigation challenge.
- 34 Probably the 6 Ps and Steve's presentation was very interesting. I'd have liked to know what actions he and family took that kept them safe. I found the 2nd presentation a bit confusing. I think we're at a point by the end of the series when we're near the season and we're looking for practical examples of plans, checklists and the like.
- 35 There was a lot to absorb. For me the main point was to decide. Plan to leave early is my plan.
- 36 First presenter Steve suggested series of Bushfire Plan pages. Better understanding of human responses when under stress and how to counter unhelpful responses and get productive again.
- 37 Training your brain how to react, protecting your pump, a generator for power.
- 38 The Ps plus petrol and pack. Hearing about how communications can fail. I am one of a number of community groups who have received funding to give community members hand held radios and establish base stations in our communities in rough terrain. To HYDRATE to help body from being too fatigued and help with thinking. Having the plan plus the what if we can't Leave early while I'm in charge. What to do before to prepare house site in the 4 days before an event. I now know the open place oval over the road (with a locked gate) is not a real option. I didn't know about the T 30 degrees Wind 30kph and Relative Humidity less than 30 will be a trigger in our plan. Thank you so much for doing this and I have really enjoyed ALL the presenters who relay information in a very easy to comprehend manner.
- 39 Make a written plan with plan A, B, C.
- 40 Looking at all contingencies of a fire plan. It's important to look at the emotional side as well as the practical steps to take. What a great idea to practise the plan at night.
- 41 The bad weather day indicators. The 6 P's.
- 42 Details on what should go in to a Fire Plan. Info about how we respond and think when under stress.

- 43 First speaker's account.
- 44 The practical tips/focus. Very effective to have real lived experience of a house loss due to bushfire.
- 45 The first session was the most practical for us. It really hit home the potential meaning of not leaving early amongst other things.
- 46 Advice for creating a bushfire plan. Reminder to leave early or stay and defend, not to wait and see.
- 47 Craig's presentation.
- 48 Really helpful practical suggestions, having plan A, B, C, and D, the reality check for how it actually is in the heat of the moment, not when you're sitting around talking about a fire; creating a plan then practising it; involving all the family; the info about how intense fear compromises cognition; how to support one another with certain words or phrases if we go into the basement; knowing how to dig up the slides from the past as a resource; making a decision to stay or go, rather than wait and see; and having plan B if you planned to go and can't; expect things to fail; advance problem-solve and what if? We both thought it was really great info. Thanks guys.
- 49 I wrote a heap of key points then restructured all into four keys areas because each of the individual presentations touched on four key parts. For me anyway I was then able to highlight at least one or two key points in each quadrant. So our fire preparedness is even better than before. Property safety and awareness comes down to who is willing to pay the correct insurance also to cover loss and rebuild costs. Many in my area are definitely not insured or poorly insured. My age bracket generation however has a very different view to the importance of the right insurance. The right plans and the decision to leave as early as possible no matter what as lives cannot be replaced and our last resort place is not even fire ready itself.
- 50 About leaving early, be prepared.
- 51 Steve's planning details.
- 52 Actual experiences - having been thru a bushfire. Speakers were great with a lot of knowledge between them. Explained everything well with clear messages.
- 53 The presentations by Steve Pascoe and Craig Lapsley were very practical and most useful to us. Jamie Mackenzie's session gave a good understanding of the psychology of exposure to stress and danger.
- 54 Hearing from someone who went through black Saturday and of what went wrong.
- 55 I got a lot from the first and third speakers Steve and Craig.
- 56 Craig Lapsley's input.
- 57 Preparation.
- 58 Use of trigger points in planning.
- 59 Things I noted: torches, add electric pump for my generator, already have 7 petrol pumps, pump houses, map of places of last resort if travelling.
- 60 Prelim planning and thought processes.
- 61 6 P's Totally convinced me to leave early and to keep plugging away at preparing my property.
- 62 It was all good relevant information. It's what we teach community through our community education programs.

- 63 Everything you need to consider when planning your fire plan.
- 64 Need for plans A B C D. Even with leave early plan a stay and survive MUST be considered.