

# Point Lonsdale

Township Protection Plan

## Prepare · Act · Survive



### Why Point Lonsdale is at risk of bushfire

Fire Authorities have assessed Point Lonsdale as having a VERY HIGH bushfire risk. Local residents and visitors should be prepared for fire and have a plan for when the Fire Danger Rating is **SEVERE**, **EXTREME** or **CODE RED**.

This township protection plan includes a map containing key elements of Point Lonsdale's bushfire risk. At the time of publication, there are no designated Neighbourhood Safer Places – Places of Last Resort at Point Lonsdale.

Important community bushfire safety information is provided to help you make informed decisions about how to survive a bushfire, whether you're a local resident or a visitor to the area. Planning and preparation can save lives in a bushfire. Use this township protection plan to help you and your family to prepare.



**PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.**

**FireReady** 

# Prepare

It's important if *you* live, work and travel in this area, to plan what *you* will do if a bushfire threatens.

## Understand **your** bushfire risk

- Point Lonsdale has been assessed as having a VERY HIGH bushfire risk in accordance with the Victorian Fire Risk Register.
- Learn about bushfire risk.
- Assess and prepare the capability of your property to withstand a bushfire.
- Bushfires move quickly uphill, so properties on hills or ridges will be at a greater risk.
- Be aware as it is impossible for emergency services to protect every individual home or property.
- Remember your usual travel routes may be limited or blocked. Know your local roads.
- In extreme wind conditions and without any occurrence of fire in the area, roads and tracks may become blocked by falling trees, preventing residents from leaving early.
- Know the daily Fire Danger Rating in the district where you live or travel [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)

## Reduce **your** bushfire risk

- Homes with too much vegetation and other flammable materials close to them are difficult to protect from bushfires.
- Take advantage of rubbish removal and green waste disposal opportunities.
- Prepare your home and property for bushfire, burning embers and radiant heat.
- Even if your plan is to leave early, a well prepared home has a greater chance of not being destroyed by bushfire.
- Assist your neighbours to reduce their bushfire risk as this may help make your property safer.
- **Develop and practise your Bushfire Survival Plan.**
- **You will also need to plan for your pets' safety.**
- You can attend or join:
  - A local Fire Ready Victoria meeting
  - A Bushfire Planning Workshop
  - A neighbourhood Community Fireguard Group
- **The Household Bushfire Self-Assessment Tool is available to help individuals assess the bushfire risk on their own property.**

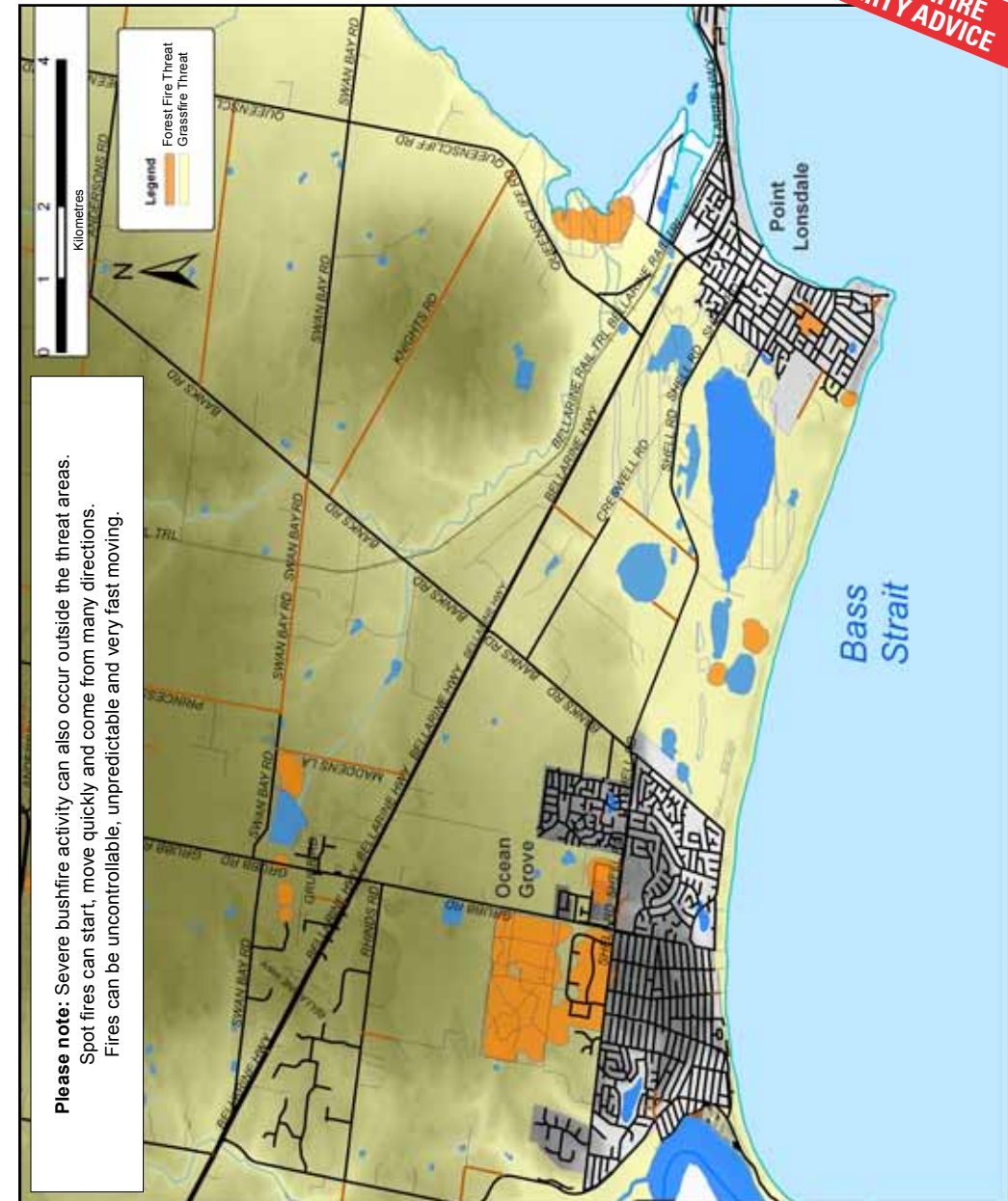


You can download the CFA FireReady kit, containing the full Leaving Early Bushfire Survival Plan from [cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au), or call **1800 240 667 (TTY 1800 122 969)**

## Point Lonsdale Bushfire Threat Map

To book a **FREE Home Bushfire Advice Service** and receive one-on-one advice from a fire safety expert, call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on **1800 240 667**.

**FREE BUSHFIRE  
PROPERTY ADVICE**





# Prepare

**FACT**

It is your responsibility to prepare yourself, your family and your home for the threat of bushfire. You need to act decisively in accordance with your **Bushfire Survival Plan** when bushfires threaten. Your survival depends on your preparations and the decisions you make.



## Leave early

Leaving early is always the safest option.

### Leaving early is more important when:

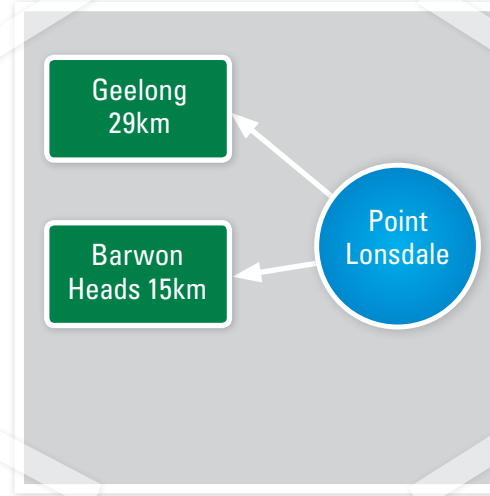
- The Fire Danger Rating is **CODE RED**. Homes aren't designed to withstand a bushfire during these conditions. Any fire that starts and takes hold will be so intense that you won't be safe to stay and defend your home – no matter how well prepared it is.
- There are children, elderly or disabled people in your home. People who are vulnerable due to age, health, or any other reason, should always leave early.
- You have not prepared yourself or your property to give you and your home the best level of protection from a fire.
- Your house is not defensible. Some homes are not safe to defend because of their location or construction.

If you plan to leave, then you should leave well before a fire reaches your area and well before you are under threat. Follow the actions recommended for the Fire Danger Rating of the day (see page 6 and 7). **Visit CFA website [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)**

### Where will you go?

- Is it a safe choice? You may choose somewhere that suits your personal needs and circumstances, e.g. a family member's house in an urban area with a backyard for your pet, or shopping centre complex, or central business district of a large regional centre.
- If you don't have any other options, you may wish to consider the following townships: Barwon Heads, Geelong.

If you - or someone you care for - will need help to prepare and leave early when there is high fire risk, obtain a Red Cross **Bushfire: Preparing to leave early guide** at [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au) or request a copy by phoning the **Victorian Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 667**



## PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

**PREPARE.** You must make important decisions before the fire season starts.

**ACT.** The higher the Fire Danger Rating, the more dangerous the conditions.

**SURVIVE.** Fires may threaten without warning, so you need to know what you will do to survive.

- Roads may become congested and may quickly become impassable.
- Falling trees may block roads.
- Burning roadside vegetation will create radiant heat.



## How you can stay in touch

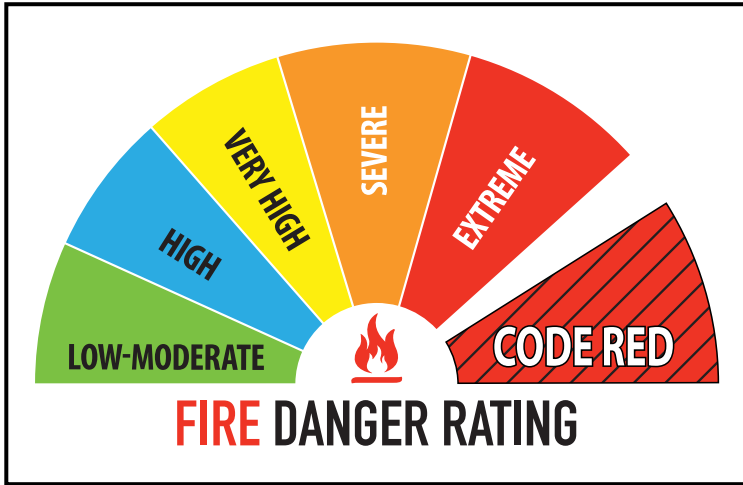
- Bookmark the CFA incidents webpage ([www.cfa.vic.gov.au/fires](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/fires)).
- Follow CFA on Twitter ([www.twitter.com/cfa\\_updates](http://www.twitter.com/cfa_updates)).
- Join the CFA Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/cfavic](http://www.facebook.com/cfavic)).
- Access the CFA mobile website at [www.cfa.vic.gov.au/mobile](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/mobile) or if you have a smartphone, download the CFA FireReady application for iPhone, Blackberry, Android and Windows.
- Beware, cordless home phones will NOT work if the mains power supply is cut.
- Wireless communications, internet and landlines may vary between service providers.
- Mobile phone coverage in and around Point Lonsdale is generally good, but may not be accessible during times of emergency and may vary between service providers.
- There are no community-alerting sirens operating in this township.
- Sirens sounding nearby are a trigger for you to seek information, as they may indicate fire activity in your area. When you hear a siren, further information may be available via ABC local radio, commercial and designated community radio stations, and SKY News TV (see page 16).



For more information on developing a plan for high risk days and assessing bushfire risk at your property, contact the **Victorian Bushfire Information Line: 1800 240 667**

# Act

Note *your* district's Fire Danger Rating daily as *your* trigger to act.



## Point Lonsdale is in the Central Total Fire Ban District



## Triggers

## Actions

	What does it mean?	What should I do?
<b>CODE RED</b>	<p>These are the worst conditions for a bush or grass fire.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Make a decision about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>–when you will leave</li> <li>–where you will go</li> <li>–how you will get there</li> <li>–when you will return</li> <li>–what you will do if you cannot leave</li> </ul>
<b>EXTREME</b>	<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>	<p>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.</p> <p>If you are not prepared to the highest level, leaving high risk bushfire areas early in the day is your safest option.</p> <p>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 <a href="http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au">www.cfa.vic.gov.au</a> or call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on <b>1800 240 667</b>.</p>
<b>SEVERE</b>	<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>	<p>Well prepared homes that are actively defended can provide safety – check your bushfire survival plan.</p> <p>If you are not prepared, leaving bushfire prone areas early in the day is your safest option.</p> <p>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 <a href="http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au">www.cfa.vic.gov.au</a> or call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on <b>1800 240 667</b>.</p>
<b>VERY HIGH</b>	<p>If a fire starts, it can most likely be controlled in these conditions and homes can provide safety.</p>	<p>Check your bushfire survival plan.</p>
<b>HIGH</b>	<p>Be aware of how fires can start and minimise the risk.</p>	<p>Monitor conditions.</p>
<b>LOW- MODERATE</b>	<p>Controlled burning off may occur in these conditions if it is safe – check to see if permits apply.</p>	<p>Action may be needed.</p> <p>Leave if necessary.</p>



# Act Planned Emergency Service Actions

## What are bushfire alerts?

During a bushfire, alert levels are used to give you an indication of the level of threat from a fire. You'll find these on the CFA website at [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au) and on radio and television.

**There are three bushfire alert levels and a recommendation to evacuate.**

### ADVICE

- General information to keep you up-to-date with developments.

### WATCH AND ACT

- A fire is approaching you.
- Conditions are changing and you need to start taking action now to protect your life and your family.

### EMERGENCY WARNING

- You are in imminent danger and need to take action immediately.
- You will be impacted by fire.



For some fires, you may hear a warning message, such as a siren over your radio or television, or you may receive a text message or phone call.

**Other fires may start so quickly that there will be no time for any warning at all.**

Bushfire alerts are not always given in the above order. As an example, the first alert you receive may be Watch and Act.

If you receive a bushfire alert, you must take it seriously. Failure to take action may result in death or injury to you or your family members.

## Evacuation

You may be advised to evacuate by police or emergency services. In fast-moving situations, you may not always receive a warning or recommendation to evacuate. Stay informed, aware of local conditions and the Fire Danger Rating, so that you can plan ahead and make the right decision in a bushfire. Leaving early is always the safest option. Refer to 'Community Evacuation Information', available at [www.police.vic.gov.au](http://www.police.vic.gov.au)

Should a recommendation to evacuate be made, the following advice would apply:

- A fire is rapidly advancing.
- If advised travel to the evacuation destination as advised by emergency services.
- Strictly follow all instructions and advice.

### Fire Agencies

- Protecting life is the highest priority
- Issue advice and warnings via official channels (see page 16)
- Control and manage fire fighting activities
- Where safe do so, protect:
  - Identified community assets
  - Property
  - The environment

### Victoria Police

- Keep people safe and property secure
- Control traffic in bushfire areas
- Manage evacuations
- Register people who have evacuated

### Point Lonsdale

- Residents and visitors, know your risk and act in accordance with the Fire Danger Rating triggers on pages 6 and 7
- Listen for warnings on your local radio station
- Check the CFA website for current updates

### Borough of Queenscliff

- Activates and supports the Emergency Relief Centres when required
  - Assists and supports the Community to Recover from the emergency
- NOTE: On Code Red days council services may not be available

### Vic Roads

- Manages Road Closures on advice from Police and Fire Agencies
- Undertakes safety inspections of roads prior to re-opening
- Provides advice to communities about road closure

### Department of Human Services

- Coordinates recovery activities for affected communities
- Coordinates interim accommodation after the emergency
- Coordinates emergency relief grants and material aid

# Bushfire Survival Options

## WHAT TO DO

### Leave Early

- When the Fire Danger Rating is Code Red, leaving early is always the safest option
- Leave early destinations could include homes of families & friends who live outside the risk area, a nearby town or built up area

Always the safest option

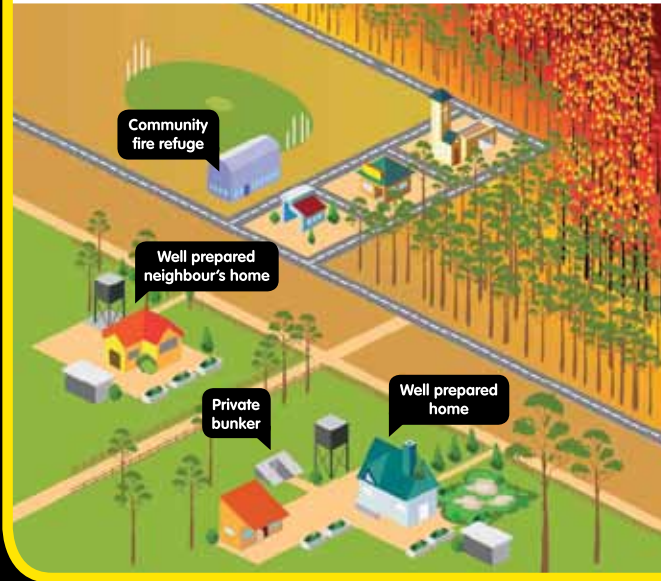


### Well Prepared

If leaving the high-risk area is no longer an option, there may be options close to where you are that could protect you. These include:

- A well prepared home (yours or your neighbours') that you can actively defend on Severe & Extreme Fire Danger Rating days only
- Private Bushfire Shelter (bunker) that meets current regulations
- Designated community fire refuge

Your safety is not guaranteed

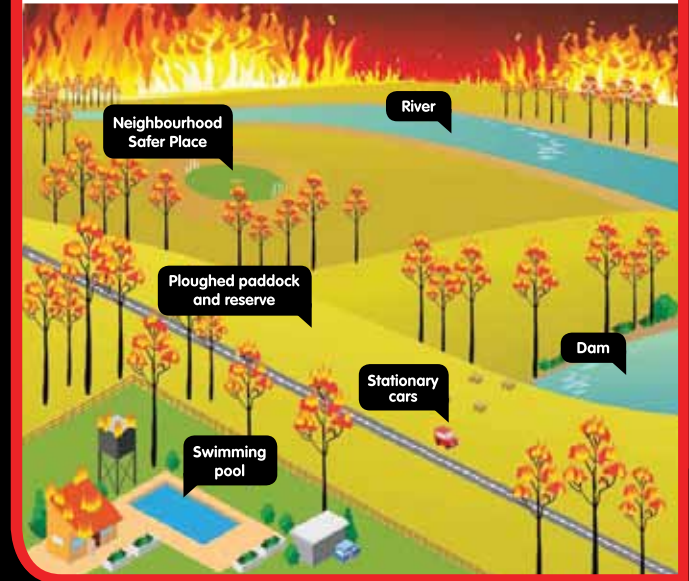


### Last Resort

In situations where no other options are available to you, taking shelter in one of the below may protect from radiant heat:

- Neighbourhood Safer Place (place of last resort)
- Stationary car in a clear area
- Ploughed paddock or reserve
- Body of water (i.e. beach, swimming pool, dam, river, etc.)

High risk of trauma, injury or death



For more information on how to prepare your own Bushfire Survival Plan:

[www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au) or call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line 1800 240 667

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

**FireReady** 



# Point Lonsdale Community Map



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# Making Victoria FireReady

**In EMERGENCY dial 000 (TTY 106)**

Do not call Triple Zero for information or advice. Calling Triple Zero unnecessarily may put others who are in a genuine emergency situation at risk.

## **Victorian Bushfire Information Line (VBIL): 1800 240 667** **Emergency Contact Information**

Tuning into your emergency broadcaster and CFA website on days of high fire danger ratings is the most reliable way of staying informed. Mains power may be unavailable, or fail, during fire and emergencies – keep a battery powered radio available.

**Emergency Broadcasters:** Sky News TV, ABC 774 AM, Fox 101.9 FM, Triple M 105.1 FM, Gold 104.3 FM, Classic Rock 91.5 FM, Nova 100.3 FM, 3AW 693 AM, Magic 1278 AM, MTR 1377 AM, SEN 1116 AM, Mix 101.1 FM, 93.9 Bay FM, FM 95.5 K-Rock

**Road closures:** 13 11 70 [www.vicroads.vic.gov.au](http://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au)

**Park closures – Parks Victoria hotline:** 13 19 63

**State Forest closures (DSE):** 13 61 86

**School closures (DEECD):** 1800 809 834

**24 Hour Wildlife Emergency:** 13 000 WILDLIFE or 1300 094 535

**24 Hour NURSE-ON-CALL:** 1300 60 60 24

### **Bushfire Information:**

**CFA website:** [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)

**Follow CFA on Twitter:** [www.twitter.com/cfa\\_updates](http://www.twitter.com/cfa_updates)

**Join the CFA Facebook page:** [www.facebook.com/cfavic](http://www.facebook.com/cfavic)

**DSE Website (Planned burning):** [www.dse.vic.gov.au](http://www.dse.vic.gov.au)



### **Further Information**

**Dept of Human Services:** [www.dhs.vic.gov.au/emergency](http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/emergency)

**Dept of Primary Industry:** [www.dpi.vic.gov.au](http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au)

**Weather:** [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au)

**CFA District Office:** (03) 5240 2700 (**non emergency calls only**)

**Borough of Queenscliffe:** (03) 5258 1377 [www.queenscliffe.vic.gov.au](http://www.queenscliffe.vic.gov.au)

**Fire Prevention Plan:** [www.tinyurl.com/queenscliffe-vic-gov-au-MEMP](http://www.tinyurl.com/queenscliffe-vic-gov-au-MEMP)

**City of Greater Geelong:** (03) 5272 5272 [www.geelongaustralia.com.au](http://www.geelongaustralia.com.au)

**Fire Management Plan:** [www.geelongaustralia.com.au/em/](http://www.geelongaustralia.com.au/em/)

Deaf, hearing impaired or speech impaired? **Contact the National Relay Service on 1800 555 677** if you use a **TTY, 1800 555 727** if you use Speak and Listen, and then ask for: **1800 240 667**