



PREPARING FOR STORM

The more prepared you are for emergencies, the less stressful they become. Some simple steps can help you to plan and prepare for storms and other unexpected events and protect you, your loved ones and your property.

Where there is major structural damage from a storm, we may need to obtain reports from specialists such as a building consultant or engineer before repairs can commence. Repairs may also be delayed if a large quantity of rainwater has entered and the property has to dry before repairs can begin.

Prepare for storm

- ◆ Trim trees and branches near your home
- ◆ Secure trampolines and loose items around yard
- ◆ Keep roof valleys, gutters, downpipes and drains clear of leaves
- ◆ Fix any cracked/broken tiles or corroded metal roofing
- ◆ Check inside roof space for internal leaks
- ◆ Have your roof inspected by a professional every 5 - 7 years
- ◆ Check timbers around the home for rot and replace any deteriorated timbers you find
- ◆ Check and retighten fixings on shade sails, carports and pergolas
- ◆ Check shade sails for signs of deterioration, weakened fabric may tear in storms
- ◆ Install electrical surge protectors
- ◆ Move your car under cover or away from trees



During the storm

- ⇒ Stay indoors
- ⇒ Listen to your ABC Local Radio on a battery-powered radio for updates and advice
- ⇒ Bring children and pets inside
- ⇒ Keep clear of windows
- ⇒ Close shutters, curtains and blinds
- ⇒ Know where to turn off mains power, solar power, gas and water
- ⇒ Unplug and avoid using electrical appliances connected to mains power such as landline phones or modems
- ⇒ Don't enter floodwaters
- ⇒ When flash flooding is likely, leave low-lying homes well before flooding begins
- ⇒ Have your emergency kit handy in case you lose power or have to leave

If driving

- ⇒ Stop and put hazard lights on
- ⇒ Make sure you're well away from power lines, trees, and drains
- ⇒ Stay in the vehicle
- ⇒ Don't drive through floodwaters

After the storm

- * Listen to your ABC Local Radio on a battery-powered radio for updates and advice
- * Check your home and property for damage
- * Don't use electrical appliances if wet
- * Avoid fallen power lines, trees, damaged bridges and buildings
- * Don't enter floodwaters - electrical current passes easily through water
- * Don't use portable generators in enclosed spaces. They produce carbon monoxide - a dangerous gas that can cause death
- * Do not drive through affected areas unless it is necessary
- * Check to see if neighbours need help
- * Call your local SES on 132 500 for emergency (non-life threatening) storm and flood assistance
- * Only call 000 in a life threatening emergency

