

# Grampians residents notice Fire preparedness following

recent fires

### 21 February 2024 4pm

### Information about the upcoming conditions

- Extreme Fire Danger Rating has been forecast for the Wimmera and South West districts on Thursday, 22
   February 2024. It is a day of Total Fire Ban.
- Conditions on Thursday will be very hot and windy until the wind change occurs in the late afternoon or evening. It may still be windy for a while after the change.
- Trees can be dangerous in windy conditions, especially those damaged by fire. You should stay clear of trees.
- You may see increased smoke levels due to winds blowing around the fires from last week.





Check Fire Danger Ratings via www.cfa.vic.gov.au

### What you should do

- Due to the impacts of the recent fires and tomorrow's forecast, residents in Pomonal and surrounds, and Dadswells Bridge and surrounds, should consider leaving early.
- Leave the area tonight or early tomorrow morning.
- Travel to the home of friends or family outside of the area.
- Travel to a large regional town or built area outside of the Extreme rating.
- Tell others that you are leaving and where you are going.

### Mental health

- With the recent bushfires, it is understandable if you are feeling concerned and experiencing a mix of strong emotions or physical reactions right now.
- Seeking help is a sign of strength and often the first step in recovery.
- Remember, you are not alone in this.
  If you are feeling overwhelmed or concerned about your mental health, or that of someone close to you, don't hesitate to reach out. Talk to:
  - Neighbours, friends or family
  - Your doctor
  - Lifeline on 131 114 or Beyond Blue on 1300 224 636

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### **Useful information**

- Enact your fire plan. If you do not have one, create one now: search 'Fire Planner' online or visit the CFA website: www.cfa.vic.gov.au
- If your circumstances have changed. reassess your fire plan.
- Check the VicTraffic website for road closures: www.traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au or call 13 11 70
- For relief information, contact the Emergency Recovery Hotline on 1800 560 760

#### Use multiple sources to stay informed

- Download the VicEmergency app
- Visit the VicEmergency website: www.emergency.vic.gov.au
- Call the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226
- Follow VicEmergency on Facebook and Twitter
- Follow VicEmergency Grampians on Facebook
- Listen to local ABC Radio Ballarat 107.9FM
- Tune into local TV (WIN News Ballarat) or Sky News

### Accessibility for warnings

- To access warnings and emergency information in other languages call the <u>Translating and Interpreting Service</u> on 131 450 (freecall) and ask them to call VicEmergency Hotline.
- If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech/communication impairment contact <u>National Relay Service</u> on 1800 555 677 and ask them to call the VicEmergency Hotline.

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