



BUSHFIRE AREA ACCESS STRATEGY

Talking points for residents

Could you be trapped in an emergency?

Run through this self-check for emergency egress risk

Ideally, all residents should have access to more than one way out of their property. A single egress way could be blocked by a fire, fallen tree or crash.

Do you have more than one way out?

There needs to be more than one public road or established access way leading away from your property to the wider local road network, so you won't be trapped by a dead end.

If your answer is NO, you might be at risk of limited egress.

Does each route truly offer a separate way out?

The two routes shouldn't eventually merge, otherwise both could still be blocked by the same hazard.

If your answer is NO, you might be at risk of limited egress.

If on a no-thru road, are you under 200m from a two-way intersection?

State Planning Policy 3.7 Planning for Bushfire Prone Areas recommends that if your property is on a no-through road, it should be no more than 200m from your boundary to an intersection where two-way access is provided.

If your answer is NO, you might be at risk of limited egress.

Could emergency services get in while you get out?

Consider the width of your driveway, and the roads / access ways you are planning to use, they need to be wide enough for two vehicles to pass safely.

If your answer is NO, you might be at risk of limited egress.

Handy tips for limited egress

Consider making leaving early your default plan, well before roads might become dangerous or closed. But, in case you can't leave early safely, here's a few tips:

Know your exit route/s

- Consider alternate routes, for example, with permission, you may be able to go through a neighbour's property.
- Remain familiar with your exit routes, be comfortable they are suitable for your vehicle, know how long they take to drive along and whether anything could block them.

Over-plan for limited egress

- Understand your property's egress limitations and understand that you may not be able to leave safely at short notice.
- Decide what triggers you will have to leave early, keeping in mind your extra limitations.
- Make a Bushfire Plan (<https://mybushfireplan.wa.gov.au/>) and share it with household members.

Extra preparedness for limited egress

Create and consistently maintain a gold-standard Asset Protection Zone (APZ) around your home. This low-fuel buffer is one of your best defences against direct flame, radiant heat and ember attack during a bushfire.

Identify the best 'shelter in place' room in your house

- Choose a room with minimal windows but ensure there's another exit option.
- Avoid rooms opening directly to gardens or bushland.
- Opt for rooms made from fire-resistant materials like brick or concrete.
- Keep the room clutter-free and remove flammable items.
- Prepare with water (maybe a garden hose or buckets).
- Store a battery-powered radio, torch, phone, and emergency supplies (water, blankets, first aid kit).
- Seal vents and gaps to prevent ember entry.
- Keep a fire extinguisher or fire blanket nearby if safe to use.
- Inform family, friends, or neighbours if you plan to stay.

If you do need to 'shelter in place'

- Seal doors and windows, remove curtains and move furniture away from windows.
- Place wet towels or rugs inside external doorways.
- Keep soaked woollen blankets handy for heat protection.
- Stay low to avoid heat and smoke, drink plenty of water.
- Wear long sleeves, long pants, and sturdy boots.

And after the fire passes

- Extinguish small spot fires if safe.
- Check roof space and cavities for embers.



7000 Great Eastern Highway, Mundaring WA 6073 ☎ 9290 6666

✉ shire@mundaring.wa.gov.au   @shireofmundaring

www.mundaring.wa.gov.au