



Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens: Australia, Bush Fire Season

Natural Disasters

East Asia & Pacific > Australia

1/4/2013

The Australian bush fire season runs from October to May, and local authorities are anticipating a difficult season this year. State and territorial emergency services in Australia provide up-to-date information on bush fires and advice on precautionary measures that can help minimize fire-related risks. These steps include cutting back overhanging trees on your property, clearing gutters, and keeping a water hose long enough to reach every part of your home. Information on emergency services in Australia is provided below. U.S. citizens are also advised to monitor local television and radio, as media reporting may be the best resource for breaking news on fire conditions. Please feel free to share this message with your fellow U.S. citizens.

Australia-wide:

Dial 000 (triple zero) for immediate assistance from the police, ambulance service or fire brigade.

The Bureau of Meteorology provides the most updated weather information and warnings countrywide.

Emergency Management Australia coordinates emergency response across the country.

Australian Capital Territory

ACT Fire Brigade: Manages fire emergencies across the Australian Capital Territory

ACT Emergency Services Agency: Provide emergency assistance following a disaster

New South Wales:

NSW Fire and Rescue Service: Manages fire emergencies in NSW's major cities and towns

NSW Rural Fire Service: Manages fire emergencies in regional NSW

NSW State Emergency Service: Provide emergency assistance following a disaster

Northern Territory:

NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services: Manages fire emergencies across the Northern Territory

Queensland:



QLD Fire and Rescue Service: Manages fire emergencies across Queensland
QLD State Emergency Service: Provide emergency assistance following a disaster

South Australia:

SA Metropolitan Fire Service: Manages fire emergencies in the Adelaide metropolitan area
SA Country Fire Service: Manages fire emergencies in regional South Australia
SA State Emergency Service: Provide emergency assistance following a disaster

Tasmania:

Tasmanian Fire Service: Manages fire emergencies across Tasmania
State Emergency Service: Provide emergency assistance following a disaster

Victoria:

Country Fire Authority: Manages fire emergencies in regional Victoria
Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board: Manages fire emergencies in the Melbourne metropolitan area
Victoria State Emergency Service: Provide emergency assistance following a disaster

Western Australia:

WA Fire and Emergency Services Authority: Manages fire emergencies across Western Australia

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Australia enroll in the Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) at <https://step.state.gov/step>. STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Regularly monitor the State Department's website at <http://travel.state.gov>, where you can find current Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read the Country Specific Information for Australia at

http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_4965.html. For additional information, refer to "A Safe Trip Abroad" on the State Department's website.

Contact the U.S. Consulate General for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free from within the United States and Canada, or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on Twitter at <https://mobile.twitter.com/travelgov> and Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/travelgov>, and download our free Smart Traveler iPhone App at



<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/smart-traveler/id442693988?mt=8> to have travel information at your fingertips.

The U.S. Consulate General in Melbourne is located at 553 St. Kilda Road, Melbourne, Victoria 3004 and is open Monday-Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm (except on U.S. and Australian public holidays). The phone number is +61-3-9526-5900. If you are a U.S. citizen in need of urgent assistance, the emergency number for the U.S. Consulate General is +61-3-9389-3601.