

Bushfire Policy

General

Interchange Outer East (IOE) conducts a large number and range of programs, activities and one to one support for groups and individuals in a variety of locations within Victoria. In conducting these programs and activities we need to be mindful of both forecast potential and actual bushfire conditions that may make these programs and activities unsafe.

This policy is specific to bushfire situations. Please see IOE Weather Policy for guidance on other weather events.

IOE has a responsibility to ensure all people involved in our programs and activities are safe. This policy sets out the responsibilities of staff members conducting programs, activities and support work when bushfire conditions and/or events may create unsafe conditions.

Note: This policy refers to several Victorian emergency services, such as CFA and Emergency Vic. Where the emergency is an interstate emergency that may affect IOE services, please refer to the same processes, but information can be sought from the relevant interstate warning and information services listed at the end of this policy.

Triple Zero (000) is relevant Australia-wide.

Fire Danger ratings

The Country Fire Authority (CFA) publishes fire danger ratings for every day within the fire danger period. These ratings are to assist the public to understand how dangerous a fire would be if it started on that day.



The CFA publishes these fire danger ratings for all areas across Victoria. The majority of IOE programs are held within the Central Fire District – however some recreational camps and holiday trips may travel beyond this fire district. It is the responsibility of the IOE nominated 'fire watch person' to be aware of which districts activities are running in and to be aware of the fire danger ratings for that period of time.

NOTE: Fire danger ratings are updated twice daily at 5.30am and 4pm

What do the ratings mean?



Code Red

These are the worst conditions for a bush or grass fire to occur. Homes are not designed or constructed to withstand fires in these conditions. The safest place to be is away from high risk bushfire areas.



Extreme

Expect extremely hot, dry and windy conditions. If a fire starts and takes hold, it will be uncontrollable, unpredictable and fast moving. Spot fires will start, move quickly and come from many directions.



Severe

Expect hot, dry and possibly windy conditions. If a fire starts and takes hold, it may be uncontrollable.



Very High

If a fire starts, it can most likely be controlled in these



High

conditions. Be aware of how fires can start and minimise the



Low-Moderate

risk of fires starting.

IOE will base decisions and actions on the forecast fire danger rating to ensure that all people involved in our programs, activities and support are kept safe.

Emergency After Hours Pager

On days where severe, extreme or code red fire danger is predicted, or bushfire warnings are in place, the after hours pager service is likely to be busy. The staff member on the IOE emergency after hours service should consult with relevant team leaders and/or general manager, and assistance will be provided where required.

The pager team may consider taking phone calls, then calling the person back from another IOE phone immediately, to keep the pager phone line free for further phone calls, which could include emergency calls from IOE staff in dangerous situations.

High Risk areas

Interchange Outer East recognises that there are some areas that IOE provides support that are of a higher bushfire risk than other areas. The risk of bushfire is most extreme in areas that are close to or among dense or open bush. IOE considers these 'high risk' areas for the purpose of this policy.

Areas within the Shire of Yarra Ranges, including IOE's Yarraburn office, are considered high risk areas. This also includes any locations around Victoria that a group may travel to, or shift locations that are considered 'close to or among dense or open bush'. If you are uncertain whether a planned destination would be considered a high risk area, please liaise with the relevant team leader or general manager.

Actions to occur for FORECAST fire danger:

CODE RED	1:1 support	<p>All 1:1 support shifts in high risk areas will be cancelled.</p> <p>Support workers will not be paid for shifts cancelled due to bushfire safety in these conditions. See Cancellation Policy</p> <p>All staff and families to be advised via text message, as well as email and social media outlets.</p>
	Rec activities	<p>All high risk recreation activities (in dangerous areas) will be cancelled.</p> <p>Recreation activities that are already occurring in these areas may be cancelled and returned to IOE, or relocated – whichever is safer. The decision on this will be made by the general manager and/or team leader as soon as a code red warning has been advised. Actions must be taken before the code red day commences – i.e. the night before a code red day.</p> <p>Support workers will not be paid for shifts cancelled due to bushfire safety in these conditions. See Cancellation Policy</p> <p>All staff, volunteers and families to be advised via text message, as well as email and social media outlets.</p>
	Day service activities	<p>All high risk day service sites will be closed.</p> <p>Support workers will not be paid for shifts cancelled due to bushfire safety in these conditions. See Cancellation Policy</p> <p>All staff, volunteers and families to be advised via text message, as well as email and social media outlets.</p>
	Office spaces	<p>All high risk IOE offices (Yarraburn) will be closed.</p> <p>Staff at these sites will be able to work from safer locations – e.g. Lilydale, Ferntree Gully or Boronia; or they may choose to take TIL.</p> <p>All staff, volunteers and families to be advised via text message, as well as email and social media outlets.</p>
	Participants travelling independently	<p>As all IOE programs and day services will be cancelled on a code red day, there will be no need for IOE participants to travel independently to IOE services in these conditions.</p>
	Staff enacting own fire plans	<p>IOE understands that staff living in high fire areas may need to enact their own fire plans for their family on these days, making them unavailable for their scheduled employment.</p> <p>Staff can choose to take leave to enact their family fire plan on a scheduled work day. Office staff can choose to take TIL or annual leave. Support workers can choose to cancel their shifts and will not be paid. Staff intending to enact their family fire plan and not attend scheduled work commitments must contact the IOE pager/line manager to advise.</p> <p>If possible, shifts will be covered with other support workers – otherwise the shift may be cancelled for safety reasons.</p>

Actions to occur for FORECAST fire danger:

EXTREME	1:1 support	<p>Families and Support Workers will be advised via text of the EXTREME fire danger forecast and ask that they make contact with a coordinator and or after hours to discuss and assess if changes to scheduled shifts are required.</p> <p>1:1 In home shifts due to occur within 'high risk' areas, such as Dandenong Ranges and Yarra Valley will be assessed on an individual basis. Things that will assist with determining if changes to the shift are required and or a shift is to be cancelled are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location of the shift • Length of the shift • Time of the shift • Fire activity within the area • Individuals capacity and resources available to evacuate at short notice <p>Coordinators will consult with families and the relevant support worker and make a decision based on the information provided. If coordinators are in doubt they will consult with their team leader and or the general manager.</p> <p>Support workers maintain the right to refuse to enter and or work in high risk areas.</p> <p>Support workers will not be paid for shifts cancelled due to bushfire safety in these conditions. See Cancellation Policy</p> <p>Doing activities in any thick bush areas, going for hikes, bushwalks and similar activities is not permitted on 1:1 shifts.</p>
	Rec activities	<p>Where possible, an alternative activity or location may be offered. Recreation activities heading to high risk areas may be cancelled if IOE is unable to support the activity safely with staff and volunteers, or a safe alternative activity location is not available.</p> <p>Support workers will not be paid for shifts cancelled due to bushfire safety in these conditions. See Cancellation Policy</p>
	Day service activities	<p>Day service sites in high risk areas will be relocated to safer locations. For example, Yarraburn programs will relocate their programs to a safer location – for example, not in the Yarra Valley. Families will be required to drop off and pick up participants at their usual IOE location if it is safe to do so, however the group will then travel to a safer area for their program. Families may opt to drop off/pick up participants at a different IOE location if they prefer. If a family would prefer to drop off/pick up IOE participants from a different IOE location, they should advise the IOE after hours service.</p> <p>Some activity plans may change to include more indoor, cooler activities.</p>

<p>Office spaces</p>	<p>The IOE Yarraburn office is located in a high risk area. IOE acknowledges that many office staff based at Yarraburn reside within the area, and may have a preference to work close to home on an extreme day.</p> <p>For this reason it is at the discretion of each staff member if they work from their usual office or move to a safer office such as Lilydale, Boronia or Ferntree Gully.</p> <p>Programs will not run from the Yarraburn office regardless if office staff are working there for the day, the groups may still meet at the office, but will travel to a safer location for the day. See above regarding day service activities.</p>
<p>Participants travelling independently</p>	<p>IOE would encourage participants who live in high risk areas not to travel independently to/from IOE programs, due to the risk of public transport cancellations/alterations, and risk of individuals becoming trapped in unsafe areas.</p> <p>IOE staff to make contact with families if there is an expectation someone will travel home independently to make other arrangements to ensure that person gets to their destination safely.</p>
<p>Staff enacting own fire plans</p>	<p>IOE understands that staff living in high fire areas may need to enact their own fire plans for their family on these days, making them unavailable for their scheduled employment.</p> <p>Staff can choose to take leave to enact their family fire plan on a scheduled work day. Office staff can choose to take TIL or annual leave. Support workers can choose to cancel their shifts and will not be paid. Staff intending to enact their family fire plan and not attend scheduled work commitments must contact the IOE pager/line manager to advise.</p> <p>If possible, shifts will be covered with other support workers – otherwise the shift may be cancelled for safety reasons.</p>

Actions to occur for FORECAST fire danger:

SEVERE	1:1 support	<p>Support Workers will receive text message advising that due to forecast severe fire danger rating all activities in fire danger areas ie: bushwalking, hiking are not permitted.</p> <p>Some staff will need to enact their fire plans. It is unlikely that IOE will be able to cover these shifts, so please ensure you have a back up plan if this is the case.</p>
	Rec activities	<p>Recreation activities heading to high risk areas may be cancelled, or new campsite venues in safer locations sought. Where possible, an alternative activity may be offered.</p> <p>Support workers will not be paid for shifts cancelled due to bushfire safety in these conditions. See Cancellation Policy.</p>
	Day service activities	<p>Day service sites in high risk areas may be relocated to safer locations. For example, Yarraburn programs may be run from Lilydale or Boronia. Families will be required to drop off and pick up participants at the safer location.</p> <p>Some activity plans may change to include more indoor, cooler activities.</p>
	Office spaces	<p>Any IOE offices located in high fire danger areas may either relocate to a safer office or close at the discretion of staff at the office. This may also be impacted by staff choosing to implement their own fire plans instead of attending work.</p> <p>A safer office location may be, for example working out of the Ferntree Gully or Boronia office, instead of the Yarraburn office.</p>
	Participants travelling independently	<p>IOE participants who live in high risk areas may travel independently to/from IOE programs; however families should use discretion and consider the risk of public transport cancellations/alterations, if a fire were to start.</p>
	Staff enacting own fire plans	<p>IOE understands that staff living in high fire areas may need to enact their own fire plans for their family on these days, making them unavailable for their scheduled employment.</p> <p>Staff can choose to take leave to enact their family fire plan on a scheduled work day. Staff intending to enact their family fire plan and not attend scheduled work commitments must contact the IOE pager to advise.</p> <p>If possible, shifts will be covered with other support workers – otherwise the shift may be cancelled for safety reasons.</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">VERY HIGH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HIGH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LOW - MODERATE</p>	<p>1:1 support</p>	<p>All 1:1 support shifts will continue to operate as usual.</p> <p>Staff to be mindful of fire events that may start in the nearby area and refer to actions to take in the event of an actual fire, and/or the pager if a fire starts in their area.</p>
	<p>Rec activities</p>	<p>All IOE recreation services will continue to operate as usual.</p> <p>Staff to be mindful of fire events that may start in the nearby area and refer to actions to take in the event of an actual fire, if a fire starts in their area.</p>
	<p>Day service activities</p>	<p>All IOE day services will continue to operate as usual.</p> <p>Staff to be mindful of fire events that may start in the nearby area and refer to actions to take in the event of an actual fire, if a fire starts in their area.</p>
	<p>Office spaces</p>	<p>All IOE office spaces will continue to operate as usual.</p> <p>Staff to be mindful of fire events that may start in the nearby area and refer to actions to take in the event of an actual fire, if a fire starts in their area.</p>
	<p>Participants travelling independently</p>	<p>IOE participants are permitted to travel to and from programs independently.</p> <p>Staff to be mindful of fire events that may start in the nearby area and refer to actions to take in the event of an actual fire, if a fire starts in their area</p>
	<p>Staff enacting own fire plans</p>	<p>All staff are expected to attend their scheduled employment.</p> <p>Should an IOE staff choose to enact their fire plan, they will not be paid for this shift/activity, and it will be considered as the employee cancelling from the shift.</p> <p>Where an employee lives in a different fire district, refer to the relevant fire danger rating for the area the employee lives in</p>

Exceptional circumstances

Interchange Outer East recognises that there are some circumstances where the above actions may not be the safest option for IOE participants. Examples of these scenarios are as follows:

When an IOE family is overseas/interstate and the person is being wholly supported by IOE at the time:

In planning to support a person/s for a period of time while their parents/caregivers are away, IOE staff must ask the family how a severe, extreme or code red day should be managed. The family are required to nominate emergency contacts who are capable of supporting the individual in these times if IOE is unable to. This may include an arrangement for the person to stay with, and fit into, a known support workers own emergency fire plans. This must all be discussed and agreed upon before the family leave for the planned holiday.

Vulnerable families and participants living independently

IOE should identify people living in high risk areas that are more vulnerable and unlikely to have a fire safety plan in place. IOE is to refer such individuals/families into supports that can assist them to create such a plan.

IOE will contact identified people on code red and extreme fire danger days, as well as their emergency contacts to ensure they are aware of the fire danger rating, and what this means for IOE services. Emergency contacts will be made aware of any changes or gaps in support and a plan to cover an individual's support is to be implemented.

Host and Specialised Care

Host and specialised care arrangements are voluntary arrangements, and should follow the same safety guidelines within this policy for other areas of IOE.

- If the arrangement is due to occur in an area where there is risk of, or actual bushfire, the arrangement should be cancelled for safety reasons
- Host and spec care shifts should not travel to, through or into any thick bush areas, or undertake activities like going for hikes, bushwalks and similar activities when this could be a safety concern due to actual, or risk of bushfire.
- Host / spec carers and families with a host / spec care arrangement should share their fire plans with each other, so that both families have an idea of the others' fire plan.
- Host / Spec care arrangements should follow all other safety guidelines mentioned in this policy
- For further information, please speak with the family support coordinator.

Bushfire warnings

The Country Fire Authority (CFA) issues warnings when a fire has started and you need to take action. These warnings are published through the Vic Emergency website www.emergency.vic.gov.au

You should **never** wait to receive official warning before you leave. Fires can start quickly and threaten homes and lives within minutes. This is why the above actions for forecast fire danger are in place. With the guidance of this policy, IOE services should not be in a position where they are under the below bushfire warnings.

There is a possibility, however, that this may occur during camps, as forecasted warnings may change/increase while the group is away.

There are three different levels of warnings; however they do not need to be issued in any particular order. The first warning issued could be an emergency warning.

The three warnings are:

ADVICE

- An incident is occurring or has occurred in the area
- Access information and monitor conditions.

WATCH AND ACT

- An emergency is developing nearby.
- You need to take action now to protect yourself and others.

EMERGENCY WARNING

- You are in imminent danger and need to take action now.
- You will be impacted.


Additional messages that may be issued by the CFA include:

 **ALL CLEAR**

- Emergency activity in the area has subsided and is no longer a danger to you.

 **COMMUNITY INFORMATION**

- A newsletter containing updates for communities affected by an emergency.
- Can also be used as notification that an incident has occurred but there is no threat to community.

 **PREPARE TO EVACUATE / EVACUATE NOW**

- An evacuation is recommended or procedures are in place to evacuate.

ADVICE

<p>1:1 support</p>	<p>If this warning is in place in an area where an IOE 1:1 shift is occurring, all persons are to be relocated to a safer location – most likely a more urban IOE office, or the agreed safe drop off/pick up location.</p> <p>Families will be advised regarding pick up arrangements. This may include earlier pick up time if the SW needs to leave the shift to enact their own family fire plan.</p> <p>Staff to monitor conditions and liaise with pager, team leader, and/or general manager.</p>
<p>Recreation services</p>	<p>If this warning is in place in an area where IOE recreational activities are located, the activity is to be ceased and all persons are to be relocated to a safer location where appropriate. Families will be advised of any changes and possible earlier time for pick up.</p> <p>Staff to monitor conditions and liaise with pager. team leader, and/or general manager.</p> <p>Where warnings are received regarding areas surrounding occurring camps information and direction will be taken from the local CFA and the campsite being used.</p>
<p>Day services</p>	<p>If this warning is in place in an area where IOE day services are located, the service is to be closed and all persons on site to be relocated to a safer location.</p> <p>Families will be advised of the new, safer location for pick up.</p> <p>Staff to monitor conditions and liaise with pager, team leader, and/or general manager.</p>
<p>Office spaces</p>	<p>Any IOE offices located in high fire danger areas may either relocate to a safer office or close at the discretion of staff at the office. This may also be impacted by staff choosing to implement their own fire plans instead of attending work.</p> <p>A safer office location may be, for example working out of the Ferntree Gully or Boronia office, instead of the Yarraburn office.</p>
<p>Participants travelling independently</p>	<p>If this warning is place in either the area that an IOE participant lives, or an area they would need to travel through to get home, IOE will contact the person’s family to discuss whether or not the person should travel home independently. Considerations should include the possibility of public transport cancellations, and the person’s ability to make contact with family members if they need assistance.</p>

WATCH AND ACT

<p>1:1 support</p>	<p>If this warning is in place in an area where an IOE 1:1 shift is occurring, all persons are to be relocated to a safer location – most likely a more urban IOE office, or the agreed safe drop off/pick up location.</p> <p>Families will be advised of the earlier time for pick up.</p> <p>Staff to monitor conditions and liaise with pager, team leader and/or general manager.</p> <p>IOE acknowledges that in this situation staff that live in the area may need to enact their own family fire plan in this instance in which case advice should be sought from their line manager.</p>
<p>Recreation services</p>	<p>If this warning is in place in an area where IOE recreational activities are located, the activity is to be ceased and all persons are to be relocated to a safer location – most likely the IOE office that the group departed from.</p> <p>Families will be advised of the earlier time for pick up.</p> <p>Staff to monitor conditions and liaise with pager, team leader and/or general manager.</p>
<p>Day services</p>	<p>If this warning is in place in an area where IOE day services are located, the service is to be closed immediately. All persons on site are to be relocated to a safer location if they have not already been, and families will be advised of the new, safer location for pick up. IOE acknowledges that in this situation staff from this site may need to enact their own family fire plan in this instance and office staff should seek support from IOE in notifying all relevant families of office closure.</p> <p>Staff to monitor conditions and liaise with pager, team leader and/or general manager.</p>
<p>Office spaces</p>	<p>If this warning is in place in an area where IOE office spaces are located, the office space is to be closed immediately. All persons on site are to be relocated to a safer location if they have not already been. IOE acknowledges that in this situation staff from this site may need to enact their own family fire plan in this instance and office staff should seek support from Interchange in notifying all relevant families of office closure.</p> <p>Staff to monitor conditions and liaise with pager, team leader and/or general manager.</p>
<p>Participants travelling independently</p>	<p>If this warning is in place in either the area that an IOE participant lives, or an area they would need to travel through to get home, IOE will not allow the person to travel home independently.</p> <p>IOE staff to make contact with the family to make other arrangements for the person to be picked up and taken to an appropriate safe location. As it is likely that staff supporting these participants may also live in the watch and act area, support in contacting families and transport options will be provided from staff at another IOE office</p>

EMERGENCY WARNING

<p>1:1 support</p>	<p>If there are still any people on 1:1 services that are in a location under an emergency warning, it is TOO LATE TO LEAVE.</p> <p>There may be a community fire refuge or neighbourhood safer place available, depending on the location. Other last resort options could include a ploughed paddock or reserve, body of water, (not in a water tank) or stationary car in a cleared area.</p> <p>Travelling to or sheltering in these locations does not guarantee your safety.</p> <p>Refer to guidelines below on ‘sheltering in a building during a bushfire’ and ‘sheltering in a car during a bushfire’</p>
<p>Recreation services</p>	<p>If there are still any people on a recreational activity that are in a location under an emergency warning, it is TOO LATE TO LEAVE.</p> <p>There may be a community fire refuge or neighbourhood safer place available, depending on the location. Other last resort options could include a ploughed paddock or reserve, body of water, (not in a water tank) or stationary car in a cleared area.</p> <p>Travelling to or sheltering in these locations does not guarantee your safety.</p> <p>Refer to guidelines below on ‘sheltering in a building during a bushfire’ and ‘sheltering in a car during a bushfire’</p>
<p>Day services</p>	<p>If there are still any people in day services that are under an emergency warning, it is TOO LATE TO LEAVE.</p> <p>There may be a community fire refuge or neighbourhood safer place available, depending on the location. Other last resort options could include a ploughed paddock or reserve, body of water, (not in a water tank) or stationary car in a cleared area.</p> <p>Travelling to or sheltering in these locations does not guarantee your safety.</p> <p>Refer to guidelines below on ‘sheltering in a building during a bushfire’ and ‘sheltering in a car during a bushfire’</p>
<p>Office spaces</p>	<p>If there are still any people in office spaces that are under an emergency warning, it is TOO LATE TO LEAVE.</p> <p>The Yarraburn office is located adjacent to the Yarra Junction Recreation Reserve, which is a designated Neighbourhood Safer Place, or ‘place of last resort’.</p> <p>Staff should take the IOE fire safety bag from Yarraburn office and ensure all persons are accounted for, as they move quickly to the oval.</p> <p>IOE’s general manager or CEO needs to be informed how many people have been evacuated to the place of last resort, together with their names. Staff must follow direction from any emergency services personnel to protect themselves and the people they are with</p>
<p>Participants travelling independently</p>	<p>If this warning is place in either the area that an IOE participant lives, or an area they would need to travel through to get home, IOE will not allow the person to travel home independently.</p> <p>IOE staff to make contact with families to make other arrangements to for the person to be picked up and taken to an appropriate safe location</p>

Last resort – protecting yourself

Given the high likelihood of death or serious injury in such situations, it is critical that you understand the need to do everything possible to avoid having to use these last resort options.

Sheltering in a building during a bushfire:

- Actively monitor and defend the house while inside during this time. Check for embers in the roof space and elsewhere in the house.
- Make sure you have a point of exit to the outside in every room used as a shelter. Do not shelter in the bathroom as it typically has only one door and a small window that is often frosted, minimising the view to the outside.
- Remain alert and maintain visibility with the outside to know what is happening with the fire.
- Keep hydrated. Drink water even if you don't feel thirsty.
- If the house catches fire, move through the house away from the rooms on fire, closing doors behind you.
- Plan an exit strategy for when the fire front has passed or it is no longer safe to shelter in the house.
 - Move outside to burnt ground as soon as you can.
 - If it is no longer safe to shelter in the house but still too hot outside in the open, seek another shelter option.

Sheltering in a car during a bushfire:

- **Position the car to minimise exposure to radiant heat:**
 - Park away from dense bush – try to find a clearing.
 - If possible, park behind a barrier such as a wall or rocky outcrop.
 - The car should ideally face towards the oncoming fire front.
 - Park off the roadway and turn hazard lights on. Car crashes are common in bushfires due to poor visibility
- **To increase your chances of survival**
 - Stay in the car, and tightly close windows and doors.
 - Cover up with woollen blankets and get down below window level – this is your highest priority.
 - Drink water to prevent dehydration.
- **As soon as you become aware that the fire front is close by:**
 - Shut all vents and turn the air conditioning off.
 - Turn the engine off.

Be prepared: If you drive in bushfire-prone areas, keep woollen blankets in your car. This is an essential precaution during the warmer months.

Protecting yourself from radiant heat:

- Cover up exposed skin - Wear protective clothing and sturdy shoes such as boots (not sandals or runners). Cover yourself with a dry woollen blanket.
- Distance is the best protection. Move as far away as you can from the fire.
- Get behind a solid object or barrier such as a brick wall.

VICTORIAN - Key information services for designated pager/ fire watch person

Organisation	Contact	Description
Triple Zero	000	To report a fire or emergency
Emergency Management (warnings, incidents and planned burns)	www.emergency.vic.gov.au	Warnings, incidents and planned burns are all displayed on the VicEmergency website - the single location for all emergency information in Victoria. An app is also available for Apple and Android phones.
VicEmergency Hotline	1800 226 226	The VicEmergency Hotline provides information during and after major bushfire incidents. It also offers information to help householders, landowners and small businesses reduce bushfire risk.
National Relay Service	1800 555 677	Callers who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech/communication impairment can contact VicEmergency Hotline via the National Relay Service
Emergency broadcasters include ABC Local Radio , UGFM – Radio Murrindindi, Stereo 974, Plenty Valley FM and	A complete list of official emergency broadcasters can be downloaded from the Emergency Management Victoria website.	During significant fires in Victoria, stay tuned to your emergency broadcasters to hear fire updates, community alerts and other important messages.

commercial radio stations across Victoria and SkyNews television.		
Facebook	www.facebook.com/cfavic	CFA warnings are posted automatically 24/7 on their Facebook and Twitter channels.
Twitter	@CFA_Updates	CFA warnings are posted automatically 24/7 on their Facebook and Twitter channels.
Emergency Management Victoria	https://apps.apple.com/au/app/vicemergency/id356559665 or https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.naturallybeing.fireready	The VicEmergency app is the official Victorian Government app for access to community information and warnings for all types of emergencies in Victoria.
VicRoads - road closures	www.alerts.vicroads.vic.gov.au	On this website you will find information about unplanned (emergency) road closures and traffic alerts. It is Victoria's official source of information about roads and traffic during incidents and emergencies that may impact road users.
Emergency Alert (telephone warnings)	www.emergencyalert.gov.au	Emergency Alert is the national telephone warning system used by emergency services.
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)	www.delwp.vic.gov.au	Latest information on current fires on public land, including threat alerts, warnings and community meetings

Parks Victoria	www.parkweb.vic.gov.au	This site includes information about closures to roads, tracks, visitor sites and picnic areas
Victoria Police	www.police.vic.gov.au	Information for motorists travelling in a bush fire environment - access during road closures. Note: The term 'roadblock' or 'road block' is no longer in use. Instead the correct term is 'road closure'.
Victorian Local Government (Local Councils)	www.cfa.vic.gov.au/links	Provides a list within CFA's website of all Local Councils
Bureau of Meteorology	www.bom.gov.au/vic/	Victorian weather and warnings
Wildlife Victoria OR Help for Wildlife	www.wildlifelife.vic.gov.au	Wildlife rescue teams are on standby to assist in fire-affected areas to treat wildlife in need of help. For those close to fire affected areas, surviving wildlife will be disorientated, smoke affected, very likely suffering burns to some degree, hungry and severely dehydrated.
Department of Health	www.health.vic.gov.au/emergency	This site has important information for the bushfire season from the Department of Health and Human Services.
Department of Education and Early Childhood Development	www.education.vic.gov.au/bushfires	Information about code red day closures, the Bushfire At-Risk Register and support resources.

State Emergency Service (SES)	www.ses.vic.gov.au	Floods, severe storms, earthquakes, road accident rescue, search and rescue and other emergency support.
Ambulance Victoria	www.ambulance.vic.gov.au	
Australian Red Cross	www.redcross.org.au	Includes information about relief centres, registering and comforting evacuees and first aid care.
Energy Safe Victoria	www.esv.vic.gov.au	Includes information on electricity and gas safety advice during fires and incidents
Emergency Management Victoria	www.emv.vic.gov.au/	Find out about emergency management in Victoria.

INTERSTATE - Key Warning and information services for designated pager/ fire watch person

Organisation	Contact	Description
Triple Zero	000	To report a fire or emergency
Government on WA Department of Fire & Emergency Services	www.emergency.wa.gov.au	Western Australia
Queensland Government Disasters and Alerts	https://www.qld.gov.au/alerts	Queensland
Emergency NSW	https://www.emergency.nsw.gov.au/	New South Wales
TASalert	http://alert.tas.gov.au/	Tasmania
ACT Emergency Services Agency	https://esa.act.gov.au/	Australian Capital Territory
Northern Territory Emergency Service	https://www.pfes.nt.gov.au/emergency-service	Northern Territory