

GET READY MORETON BAY

get
ready
QUEENSLAND

Moreton Bay
Regional Council



Queensland is a beautiful place to live but the weather isn't always perfect.

Floods, fires, heatwaves, drought and cyclones are a part of life and while we can't prevent them, we can prepare for them.

Knowing about the risks that could affect your family and property will help you plan for disasters.

Being prepared could even save a life!

This booklet includes information on what disasters are most common in the Moreton Bay Region and tips to ensure your family stays safe. Further information is on council's website mbrc.qld.gov.au/disaster



Bushfire

The Australian climate is generally hot, dry and prone to drought. At any time of the year, some parts of Australia are prone to bushfires.

Bushfire season usually occurs between August and November but bushfires can happen anytime.

'Fire weather' is usually a hot and windy day that feels like the inside of a hot oven. The closer your home is to the bush, the more at risk you are.

Houses on slopes are at particularly high risk during bushfires because fire travels faster uphill.

To minimise the impact of bushfires, it's important to:

- **Know your bushfire risk:** Check your postcode's fire risk at ruralfire.qld.gov.au and the My Property Look Up tool on council's website
- **Create a Bushfire Survival Plan:** Discuss what you will do if a bushfire threatens your home. What's your back up plan if a road is blocked?
- **Prepare your property:** refer to tips page
- **Prepare an emergency kit:** refer to tips page
- **Prepare a Bushfire Evacuation Kit:** Ensure your family has important items packed



Learn more about bushfire safety and preparing for bushfire season at the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services' website ruralfire.qld.gov.au

Heatwave

A heatwave is when there are three or more days of unusually high maximum and minimum temperatures - they are most common between October and March. While the very young and the elderly are most at risk, anyone can be affected.



- Drink two or three litres of water per day, even if you are not thirsty
- Stay inside where possible
- Wear lightweight, light coloured and loose clothes. If in the sun, wear a hat and sunscreen
- Avoid physically demanding activities and intense exercise
- Monitor animals and pets for heat stress
- Never leave children or pets in parked vehicles, even for a short period of time
- See a doctor if you feel ill as heat-related illness can be fatal

Severe weather and floods

Severe storms and weather can include damaging winds, hail, lightning, flash floods and above normal tidal events (storm surge).

Storms are more common than any other natural hazard in the Moreton Bay Region and occur regularly between September and March.

Storms are unpredictable and can cause major damage to property, as well as serious injury and even loss of life.

It's important to be prepared to minimise potential impacts.

- Understand your flood risk by downloading a flood check property report at mbrc.qld.gov.au/flood
- Sign up to MoretonAlert to receive emergency warnings and advice to your mobile at mbrc.qld.gov.au/moretonalert
- Prepare your property: refer to tips page
- Prepare an emergency kit: refer to tips page
- Prepare an emergency plan for your family and pets: refer to tips page
- Prepare a plan for your business: refer to checklists at business.qld.gov.au/disaster



It's important to prepare your home and family before a disaster strikes to minimise any potential impacts.

Prepare your home

- Keep gutters and drainpipes clear
- Trim overhanging branches, mow lawn and clear yard of debris
- In preparation for a fire, remove firewood and fuel containers from around your house and ensure your water tanks are filled
- Identify loose objects around your home that should be put away or secured
- Check insurance policy for home, contents and other property
- Learn how to turn off mains supply to electricity, gas and water



Get to know your neighbours: Your neighbour might be there first to help you during an emergency. Talk to your neighbours to identify those who may need assistance.

Get the family involved: Talk to your kids about severe weather safety and risks. There are a number of resources available for school aged kids including council's interactive video game! Visit mbrc.qld.gov.au/disaster

Prepare an emergency kit

- Non-perishable food items and bottled water
- First aid kit, essential medications and toiletries
- Torch and battery-operated radio with spare batteries
- Mobile phone charger
- Pet food and other pet needs
- Important documentation (mortgage, bank account, insurance policy) and family photos scanned to USB



Prepare an emergency plan

- Discuss possible disaster scenarios and responses with your household
- Depending on the type of emergency, decide how you would keep in touch and where you would meet
- Identify where to go if unable to return home. Consider family and friends
- Nominate two family members or friends who do not live with you to be household emergency contacts in case you need to evacuate
- Identify where and how to turn off mains supply for water, power and gas and identify safest room in the house for shelter
- Discuss medical needs of household members
- Discuss preparations for your pets and livestock

Access emergency checklists and planning templates at getready.qld.gov.au/get-prepared/3-steps-get-ready

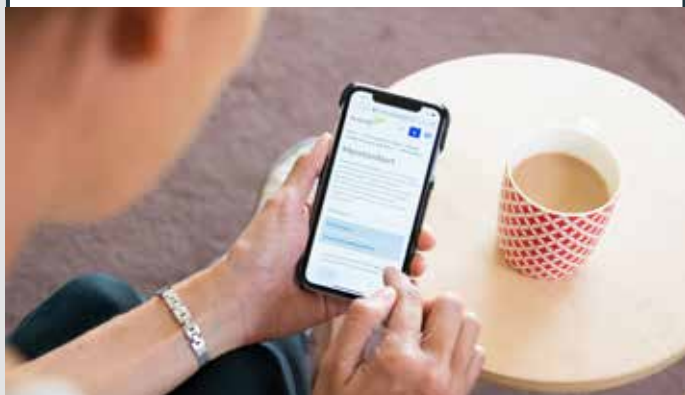


MoretonAlert

Every household should have someone registered for MoretonAlert, council's FREE SMS, email and voice alerting system to receive the following information:

- severe weather and bushfire warnings
- council planned burn notifications
- potential flash flooding incidents
- planned dam releases within the region.

Register now at mbrc.qld.gov.au/moretonalert



Disaster Dashboard

When severe weather is taking place, the Moreton Bay Disaster Dashboard is a one-stop shop for reliable emergency information to help you make quick but informed decisions during cyclones, floods, fires and other disasters.

- sandbag locations
- warnings and flood maps
- emergency contacts
- information about evacuation centres
- information about power outages and road closures



Bookmark the link mbrc.qld.gov.au/disaster-portal to your web browser for quick and easy access

Stay safe, keep informed



Tune into warnings

- Monitor emergency information on radio ABC 612AM, 101.5FM or 99.7FM
- Like and follow updates on the Moreton Bay Regional Council Facebook page



Safety first

- Travel to and from your destination only when it is safe to do so
- Never enter floodwater. This includes driving, riding and walking through floodwater, and children playing in floodwater
- Don't use gas or electrical appliances that have been flood-affected



MoretonAlert



Sign-up for free severe weather
and bushfire alerts

mbrc.qld.gov.au/moretonalert