

# Animal plan readiness checklist

## Have a bushfire plan

It's important to have a plan of action for how you will keep your pets and hobby farm animals safe during a bushfire. Starting to develop your bushfire plan could be as simple as having a conversation with your household, making sure that everyone knows:

- what your triggers are for evacuation (high fire risk days, emergency alerts)
- evacuation routes, planning for fire travelling in several possible directions
- how you will transport different animals (ensuring you know where cages, leads are stored)
- where animals can stay during a fire (family, friends, boarding facility, pet-friendly accommodation)
- how you will protect animals if they are unable to be evacuated, such as moving animals to areas with no vegetation
- how you will maintain containment (fencing) and provision of food and water for your animals after the fire has passed.

## Make an emergency kit

On high fire risk days, assemble essentials to take with you in case you must evacuate, including:

- at least three days of feed
- leads, harnesses/muzzles/halters
- animal carriers
- vaccination records
- any medications.



## Prepare your property

- Ensure your animals always have a water supply that will last them at least five days, even if you expect to return home that evening.
- Ensure your animal trailers are roadworthy and easily accessible at all times.

## Identification

Ensure that all animals identification information is kept with your personal records planned to be evacuated. This should include microchip details brand information, and animal information such as breed/size, description. This information can be vital to emergency support service in the situation you and your animals become separated.

**Remember:** Dogs and cats may hide or flee during fire, so should be brought inside so they can be easily found in case of evacuation.

# Pause for your PAWE

Bushfires are stressful, so it's important to be prepared and ensure you make informed decisions. By writing down a **Plan for Animal Welfare in Emergencies (PAWE)** and including it in your bushfire survival plan, you can help ensure you make the best possible decisions to your own and the safety of your animals.

Ensure all members of your household/workplace are familiar with your bushfire plan at the start of each bushfire season.



## Emergency plan for your animals

### 1. Evacuating animals

Which animals do you plan to evacuate?

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How will you know when it's time to evacuate the animals? For example, high risk days, smell/see smoke, radio or online emergency alerts.)

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How will you transport all of the animals being evacuated?

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Where will you evacuate these animals to?

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How will you ensure the best evacuation route is safe?

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### 2. Safer areas for animals

Which animals are you likely not to evacuate?

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What preparation is needed to keep these animals as safe as possible. For example, open internal gates and water supply.

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### Plan for after the emergency and returning to your property

How will you keep animals contained, and provide them food and water?

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### Emergency contacts

Regular vet \_\_\_\_\_

Animal registration information

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Scan for more information



### Important disclaimer

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