

BE PREPARED TO STAY AND DEFEND PLAN



**Fire is frightening; it roars as loud as a jet engine
and the smoke plunges day into night.**

Everyone in your household must be 100% comfortable with the decision to Be Prepared to Stay and Defend. Read this carefully so that you and your family understand what it takes to be completely prepared.

If you are unsure about your decision, you must Be Safe and Leave Early.

1

MANY HOURS BEFORE THE FIRE FRONT ARRIVES

INSIDE

- Relocate other family members especially children and older people
- Turn air conditioner off but leave water running through the system if possible
- Fill all containers/basins with water - check all water supplies
- Soak blankets for protection against radiant heat
- Soak towels and rugs in water and lay alongside the inside of external doorways
- Take down curtains and move furniture away from windows
- Place ladder and torch close to manhole to check ceiling for embers

OUTSIDE

- Bring any loose burnable material inside
- Wet down side of house and garden that faces the fire front
- Block downpipes and fill gutters with water
- Regularly patrol around the home for spot fires
- Turn off gas supply

I understand fully what is required and still want to stay

2

AS THE FRONT APPROACHES AND DURING THE FIRE

- Bring all hoses, hose fittings (including plastic tap attachments) and all equipment inside
- Move everyone into the house when you see flames or it becomes too hot
- Frequently check the roof cavity for spot fires
- Stay inside the house until the front passes - usually 10 to 15 minutes
- Have access to drinking water to stay hydrated

I understand fully what is required and still want to stay

3

AFTER THE FRONT HAS PASSED

- When it is safe, check inside and outside for spot fires, including all cavities and gaps
- Patrol your house for several hours checking for small fires and burning embers - embers can travel many kilometres
- DO NOT leave immediately after the front has passed - it can be extremely dangerous
- Listen to the radio or check with local police for when it is safe to leave

I understand fully what is required and still want to stay

4 DON'T WAIT AND SEE!

Waiting to see flames before acting is too late. You must be aware of warning systems and put your plan into action early. And with only a limited number of fire trucks, you cannot depend on one being there to defend you and your family. You need to make your own decisions.



5 WHEN will we put our plan into action?

[Empty rounded rectangular box for answer]



6 IF WE'RE TRAPPED

where can we shelter safely?
The best place to seek shelter is a room/area with two entry/exit points, like a laundry.

[Empty rounded rectangular box for answer]



IF THERE IS A CATASTROPHIC DANGER RATING THE ONLY OPTION IS TO LEAVE.

When you've answered these questions, and everyone in your household is 100% comfortable with the decision to Be Prepared to

Stay and Defend, continue to download **2B B**.