

# HORSES AND BUSHFIRE



**IF YOU ARE A HORSE OWNER YOU NEED TO DEVELOP A BUSHFIRE PLAN THAT INCLUDES WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR HORSE.** You may choose to find a safe area on your property, or you may decide to relocate your horse. If your plan is to relocate your horse you need to make arrangements ahead of time.

**If you cannot take your horse to family or friends, contact your local ranger to get advice on where there may be emergency paddocks or stables in your area.**

Ensure your horse float is roadworthy and ready to make the trip. Make sure your horses are float trained and if the fire is at night you need to be confident that you will be able to move the horses in the dark.



## A SAFE AREA FOR YOUR HORSE SHOULD:

- Be as large as possible. This may be created by opening gates to several paddocks.
- Be closely grazed or a large well fenced sand area that does not have any trees or buildings nearby that will burn easily.
- Have a dam with easy access.
- Identify several routes to get the horse to its safe place from your property, as it will depend where the fire is on the day.

## WHAT TO TAKE

**You should prepare an emergency kit ahead of time. It should include:**

- Wire cutters and a sharp knife.
- Extra lead rope and halter.
- Woollen blanket and towels.
- Horse first aid kit.
- Emergency supply of food.

## SAFETY TIPS

- Do not shut your horse in the stable as that will give it no chance of saving itself in the fire.
- Do not let your horses out of their paddock onto the road. This not only endangers emergency personnel who are fighting fires but also the horse itself.
- Do not leave a rug on the horse if the fire is close. Rugs burn.

For more information visit  
[dfes.wa.gov.au/bushfire](https://dfes.wa.gov.au/bushfire)

or contact DFES Community Preparedness:  
[Community.Preparedness@dfes.wa.gov.au](mailto:Community.Preparedness@dfes.wa.gov.au)

or **9395 9816**

