Sheltering in Your Home

Sheltering in your home during a bushfire should be your last option, when all other plans fail and you are unable to leave.

Bushfires are very unpredictable and you need to be well prepared to change your plans if you can no longer leave your property.

Even if you do not intend to stay and actively defend your property, you need to be physically and mentally prepared if sheltering in your home becomes your only option.

When the fire front passes, the heat will be extreme and you must shelter at this time whether you planned to or not.

If it is too late to leave the property

• Stay in the house when the fire front is passing.
• If people are expecting you to leave, let them know you are now staying.
• Take shelter inside in the room furthest from the fire front.
• Make sure all doors and windows are sealed as best as possible.
• Soak towels and rugs in water, and lay them along the inside of external doorways.
• Soak woollen blankets and keep them handy for protection against radiant heat.
• Take down curtains and push furniture away from windows.
• Get down low to limit your exposure to smoke.
• Actively defend your property by putting out spot fires.
• Remember to check the roof cavity through the manhole for any spot fires.
• Drink plenty of water to avoid becoming dehydrated.

For more information visit dfes.wa.gov.au or contact DFES Community Engagement – 9395 9816

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