

Summer fire safety checklist

Fire protection equipment

- Ensure smoke alarms are installed and in proper working order
- Equip your home with appropriate fire extinguishers and fire blankets and place them in accessible locations
- Ensure you and your family are familiar with how to operate fire protection equipment.
- Develop and practice a fire escape plan.

Barbecues/outdoors

- Observe any fire restrictions or fire bans issued by the fire department.
- Monitor the barbeque while it is lit. Once finished, turn off the gas cylinder and let the remaining gas in the pipe run through the BBQ before shutting it off.
- If a gas leak should occur, shut off the cylinder immediately and allow any gas to dissipate.
- Allow hot ashes or coals to cool for 48 hours before removing them.
- Keep children away from the barbeque, lighters and matches.
- Take extra care with any chemicals and fuels stored in the garage or shed. Always refuel mowers and motorised garden equipment when they are cold and out in the open.

Grassfires

If your property is bordered by or near grassland or paddocks, even on a suburban block, you are at risk from grassfire. Following these tips to help reduce the risk of grassfire:

- Create and maintain defensible space of at least three metres around your property.
- Inform your local council if public grassland, a paddock or bushland near your home poses a risk.
- Reduce the height and proximity of grass to your property by spraying herbicide and slashing, mowing, and grazing the grass.
- Create fuel breaks by removing all vegetation down to the soil.

Christmas trees

- Locate Christmas trees a safe distance from any potential fire starting sources such as lamps or electrical sockets.
- Keep Christmas trees and decorations away from lights or candle flames.
- Source fairy lights from a reliable supplier, and do not overload electrical sockets with excessive number of lights or other electrical appliances.

For more information contact a Wormald representative on 133 166, sales@wormald.com.au or visit www.wormald.com.au