

DROUGHT PREPAREDNESS FOR RURAL PROPERTIES

A practical A4 checklist for Australian homes, farms and workplaces

Use this checklist to help protect your family, livestock, water supply and property during prolonged dry conditions.



1) WATER MANAGEMENT

- Check tank, dam and bore levels regularly.
- Fix leaks and reduce unnecessary water use.
- Fence dams to prevent contamination.
- Consider extra storage, lining dams or alternative supply options.
- Keep pumps and pipes in working order.



2) FIRE RISK REDUCTION

- Clear dry grass, leaves and twigs from around buildings.
- Clean gutters and roofs.
- Maintain firebreaks and access for emergency vehicles.
- Keep hoses, pumps and firefighting equipment ready.
- Store firewood and flammable materials away from structures.
- Monitor fire danger warnings and have a bushfire plan.



3) LIVESTOCK AND CROP CARE

- Provide clean water and supplementary feed.
- Rotate grazing and avoid overgrazing.
- Monitor animal health and adjust stocking rates.
- Use mulch or cover crops to retain soil moisture.
- Select drought-tolerant crops or pasture where possible.
- Keep records of feed, water and stock numbers.



HELPFUL REMINDER

Follow official advice from local emergency services and authorities.

Australian Government Drought Hub and your local council may offer support, updates and practical resources.








4) EMERGENCY PLANNING

- Identify safe evacuation routes and muster points.
- Prepare an emergency kit with water, food, medication and important documents.
- Keep phones or radios charged and operational.
- Share emergency contacts and procedures with family, workers and neighbours.
- Register for local alerts and follow official warnings.
- Call 000 in life-threatening emergencies.



IF YOU ONLY DO FIVE THINGS

-  1. Secure your water supply.
-  2. Reduce fire risk near buildings.
-  3. Check livestock and feed supplies.
-  4. Make and share an emergency plan.
-  5. Stay informed and ready to act.



WHO DOES WHAT IN AUSTRALIA?



Fire services / RFS:

Bushfires and fire safety advice.



Police:

Public safety, evacuations and road closures.



SES:

Flood, storm and rescue support.



Ambulance:

Urgent medical care.

In all life-threatening emergencies, call 000.

