




WATTLE POINT Community

Local Incident Management Plan

Information Booklet 2022

This document is to assist in the event of an emergency. The community disclaims any liability for loss or damage arising from the use of this booklet or the information contained therein.















This document should be read in conjunction with the Wattle Point Local Incident Management Plan (LIMP)

**LOCAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT PLAN**
THIS LIMP IS TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH WATTLE POINT COMMUNITY INFORMATION BOOKLET








WATTLE POINT

WHAT TO DO DURING A LOCAL INCIDENT: FIRE, FLOOD, STORM, ETC




PLAN EARLY AT THE START OF FIRE SEASON

 Develop a personal incident plan	 Pack woolen blanket and water in your car	 Clear your gutters	 Fill your tanks	 Know your triggers to leave
 Develop a personal boat escape plan	 Pack back / wire cutters in your car	 Clear debris on property	 Check your fire pump and hoses	 Stay informed
 Phone and charger, radio in car / boat	 Prepare your house	 Remove flammables from outside house	 Make sure vehicle and pumps has fuel	




WHAT TO TAKE


 Protective clothing including hat, long sleeve top and pants and sturdy footwear	 Food and water
 Prescriptions, medication and toiletries	 Torch and batteries
 Important documents, photos, insurance, USB sticks, etc.	 Pet needs
	 Prepare your car

WHEN TO LEAVE





 When you hear an incident will impact nearby	 When advised by CFA, SES, DEWIS, Vic Police, Radio or when you FEEL you need to
 DO NOT drive in smoke or flood water you need a long SHELTER IN PLACE	

BEFORE LEAVING

 Close windows, doors, curtains, turn off gas and appliances	 Notify family/friends/ neighbours when you leave LEAVE EARLY before its close
 DO NOT rely on electricity to light fires	

LAST RESORT IF YOUR PERSONAL PLAN HAS FAILED
GATHER AT ROUNDABOUT
END OF WILLIAMSON ROAD
 **THIS IS NOT A REFUGE**

STAY INFORMED

	Police, Fire, Ambulance VicEmergency Hotline Bushfire Info Line (BIL) Regional Roads Victoria State Emergency Service	000 1800 226 226 1800 240 667 13 37 78 132 500
	VicEmergency (Information) www.emergency.vic.gov.au Regional Roads Victoria (Traffic Information) www.regionalroads.vic.gov.au ABC (News/alerts) www.abc.net.au/emergency East Gippsland Shire Council www.east Gippsland.vic.gov.au Bureau of Meteorology (Weather) www.bom.gov.au	
	ABC – 100.7 FM TFRM – 99.9 FM REG – 160.50 FM UNF CB – Channel 40	
	VicEmergency App (Free)	

<i>Information Booklet 2022</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Overview.....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Introduction.....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>What to Expect</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Resources</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Individual Plan Considerations</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Firefighting water</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>First aid and medical considerations.....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Road closures</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Alternative Road Access</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Electricity and fuel</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Telephone.....</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Pets or animals</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Prepare your property including:</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>What To Take.....</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>When To Leave/Trigger Points.....</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Before Leaving.....</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Notes:</i>	<i>17</i>

Overview

The Wattle Point Local Incident Management Plan (LIMP) was developed when it was recognized that there was an immediate need for community emergency planning to be developed, and to serve as a local community and visitor reference in times of emergency.

This LIMP booklet therefore aims to provide local community and visitors to the area, with information on what to expect and how you can best prepare for emergencies.

The booklet aims to provide an overview of the preparation you should undertake to minimize the impacts of an emergency.

While all emergencies differ, it is not the purpose of this LIMP booklet to provide detailed instructions for each scenario; it provides general guidance as well as some specific advice and resources already supplied by emergency response agencies.

The most severe threats for Wattle Point are assessed as bushfire and flood.

This LIMP booklet forms part of the East Gippsland Shire Council's (EGSC) Emergency Response Plan, which in turn sits within State Government emergency response planning protocols. Group and agency emergency plans and protocols exist separately to this plan and are not discussed here. It behoves all residents to accept responsibility for their own circumstances and prepare accordingly.

Definition of Wattle Point Area

Wattle Point area is defined as:

- Wattle Point Road
- Waddy Point Road
- Williamson Road
- Crawfords Road

Introduction

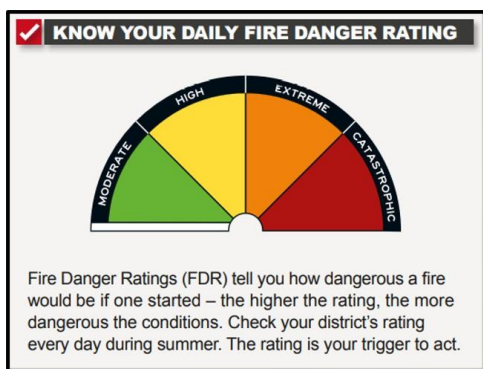
The more prepared you are the greater your chance of survival when any type of emergency arises. For accurate updates on emergency situations, you should monitor your local emergency information broadcasters (radio, internet).

Be mindful that verbal information may not be accurate.

What to Expect

- Limited visibility during fires or storms
- Limited access into and out of Wattle Point area
- Loss of power and communications
- Falling trees and powerlines
- ❖ **Do not rely on electricity supply for firefighting purposes**
- ❖ **Do not drive in smoke or flood waters**
- ❖ **Do not rely on emergency response services for assistance as access to the Wattle Point area may be restricted**

NOTE: the Australian fire danger rating systems have changed to simplify and standardise the systems across Australia. It is important that we understand these ratings as they will indicate what actions to take at each level, so you will know what to do to protect your life, family, and property.



There are now four ratings categories across Australia

- ❖ **MODERATE** – Plan and prepare
- ❖ **HIGH** – Be ready to act
- ❖ **EXTREME** – Take action now to protect your life and property
- ❖ **CATASTROPHIC** – For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas

PLAN EARLY AT THE START OF THE FIRE SEASON

Individual Personal Preparedness Plans

Remember the more prepared you are the greater your chance of survival when an emergency arises. Some things you should consider doing are:

- Develop a Personal Incident Plan.
 - Develop a personal boat escape plan.
- Assess what is the risk for you.
- Do you stay or go if there is a threat of fire or flood?
- Protection of your property and possessions.
- Essential equipment and/or supplies you will need.
- What your requirements after the emergency are – for a week duration at minimum.

In the event of a bushfire, you need to decide whether you will stay and actively defend your home or whether you will leave before the fire threatens.

If you decide to leave – LEAVE EARLY!

Resources

There are several resources available for your use and reference.

[Plan & Prepare | CFA \(Country Fire Authority\)](#)

If you require assistance with a fire plan or how to prepare your property go to CFA website

[Your Bushfire Plan | CFA \(Country Fire Authority\)](#)

[How to Prepare Your Property | CFA \(Country Fire Authority\)](#)

The CFA Fire Ready Kit booklet is an excellent source of information and available from CFA online: [Fire Ready Kit | CFA \(Country Fire](#)

Or contact your local CFA, or the VicEmergency Hotline

Likewise, the VICSES has developed local FloodSafe Guides (available from SES online). This, in addition to advice on extreme heat, can be found on the EGSC and VicHealth websites. All documents are highly recommended and contain additional information for your consideration and planning.

Individual Plan Considerations

These considerations are regardless of whether the event is fire, flood, storm, or severe heat.

Drinking water and food:

- Deliveries of fresh food may not occur – have supplies on hand for an emergency.
- Electricity may be cut during or after a major emergency – foods may well spoil.

Tank water supply

- you may need to clean out your tanks before refilling them with clean water as the tank may be contaminated.

Firefighting water

For residents on **tank water** – to enable the CFA to obtain water if fighting a fire on your property, you may need to have a CFA compatible water coupling to your tank.

Note: All water taken by the CFA or Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic) will be replaced.

First aid and medical considerations

Access to health services may not be possible. If there is advanced warning of a likely emergency, order medications ahead of time.

Ensure you pack and have adequate supplies of medication.

During an emergency Ambulance service may be delayed due to road blockages or excessive demand. Considerations include:

- Seeking assistance early and do not “wait and see” if a medical condition deteriorates and becomes an emergency.
- If you have an existing condition
 - make sure your family and friends are aware of your situation,
 - leave isolated areas for the duration of an emergency.

For mental health please be aware of your own and your family’s mental health status.

Contact appropriate health care providers such as Bairnsdale Regional Health Service or Gippsland Lakes Complete Health for assistance as required.

Road closures

If a road is closed obey the directions provided. Check the VICROADS website or listen to local ABC Radio for closures.

Depending on what has occurred, roads may be reopened for local access as soon as safe.

Carry a copy of identification or keep a copy of your rates notice in your glove box which enables manned roadblocks to assess your entry (if safe), into a restricted road that you live on or access to your property.

Please be aware that at any time the road closure access level classification may change which means if you are out, you may not be able to get back home.

Access levels are determined by the Incident Controller, and the traffic management point/road closure is usually staffed by police or other emergency services (like CFA, DELWP, VICSES), VicRoads or council staff.

During an incident, emergency services will continually review the need for road closures and the appropriate access levels as detailed in table on next page:

Responsibility and authority	Road Access level	Who Will Have Access
Control Agency	No Entry	Emergency Services Only
	Restricted – Level B <i>Essential services assessment</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Services • Safety assessment teams • Residents and business owners (at the discretion of the Incident Controller)
	Authorised – Level C <i>Residents, Media, Recovery Services, B Access</i>	Level B plus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residents • Business owners • Recovery and relief services • Council/VicRoads • Accredited media
Road Authority	Authorised – Level D <i>C Access, others authorised</i>	Levels B & C plus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road owners • Employees • Persons bringing supplies for people/animals
	Road Open	Open to all

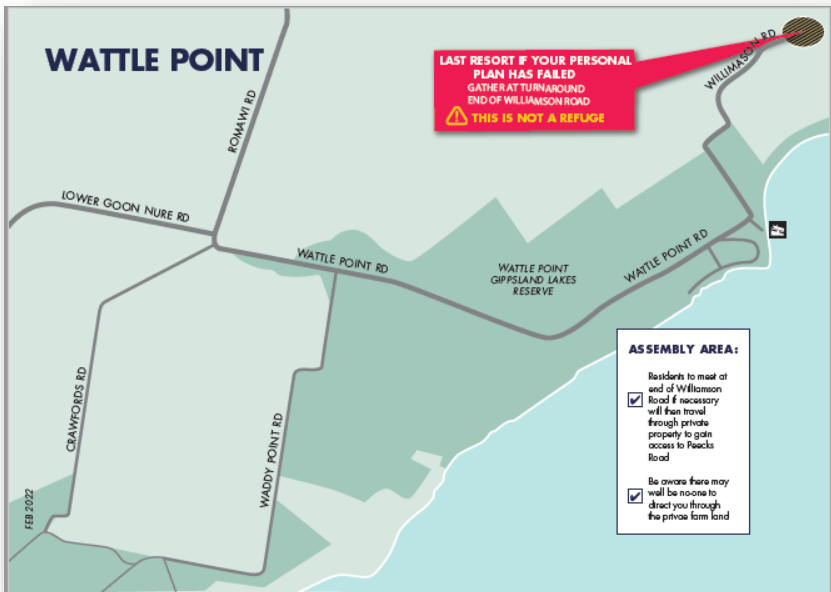
Alternative Road Access

AS A LAST RESORT and in the event of Romawi and Lower Goon Nure Road closures, residents may be able to access an alternative exit from the turnaround at end of Williamson Road.

This requires driving through private farmland to reach Barkhill Road and onto Peecks Road.

It is important that you familiarise yourself with the location of the turnaround and the topography of the private land you would be driving through.

Please note: that it will be highly unlikely that there would be anyone at the turnaround to guide you.



Electricity and fuel

Expect and plan for disruption. Grid connected solar systems may automatically disconnect. *Consider generator* (diesel preferred) power alternatives to run key home services (fridge) and water pumps if on tank water.

Likewise, a petrol/diesel driven water/ firefighting pump may be a consideration for your property if you assess this is required. In a lead up to any event, try to ensure your vehicles are fully fueled and you have adequate fuel for water pumps and generators.

Telephone

Plan for disruptions. Ensure your mobile phone is fully charged. Telstra or other service providers can assist with diversions. When a phone service fails emergency calls can be made via satellite phones. Consider UHF radio application if this suits your personal circumstances. Keep a mobile phone charging kit in your vehicle.

Pets or animals

For domestic pets have their leads, travel cages, drinking/food bowls and small amount of dried food. For larger stock (e.g., horses), ensure livestock can roam across paddocks, that there is access to water and sufficient feed for 3-4 days.

If you are concerned about the safety of livestock or smaller pets, move them to safe ground or a different property.

The key is to prepare **as early as possible**.

Prepare your property including:

- rubbish removal,
- grass cutting,
- gutter cleaning,
- check fire pump and hoses
- remove flammables away from buildings (CFA website)

What To Take

What to wear

Fire

- Natural Fibre
- Long sleeves/pants
- Covered footwear
- Wide brimmed hat, smoke mask, goggles, leather gloves and a towel

Flood

- Solid Footwear (leather), wet weather clothing

Essential Supplies – Clothing, woollen blanket, food and drinking water

Prescriptions and medications for 7 days/toiletries for at least 3 days

Documents – passports, titles, bank accounts, birth marriage and insurance certificates, rates notice etc.

Gadgets – Mobile phone and charger, portable radio, torch and batteries, laptop, iPad etc.

Pets – food, leads, cages, bowls, medications etc.

When To Leave/Trigger Points

Know your triggers when to leave

- STAY INFORMED
- When you hear that an incident is impacting or will impact on the Wattle Point area
- When advised by CFA, DELWP, SES, Vic Police, or local radio

Special consideration should be given to evacuating anyone under 16 years or over 70 years and those who have a medical condition and require care.

Do not leave evacuation to the last moment.

For your survival you should leave bushfire risk areas when fire danger warning is **Catastrophic**

Know your triggers when to leave

72 Hours – Trigger Point – Prior to an emergency

If you do not have an emergency plan there is still time to make one. If you do have one:

- Check your key equipment.
- Check other arrangements, such as:
 - Availability of alternate accommodation.
 - Supplies or alternate housing for pets or other animals.
- Purchase anything required, e.g., drinking water, non-perishable food, etc.

Practice your plan

48 Hours – Trigger Point – Prior to an emergency

The preparation required is the same as for the 72-hour trigger point.

- Also monitor weather conditions and warning updates.
- Be prepared to change you plan if conditions

worsen. Note: All preparatory work such as rubbish removal, grass cutting,

gutter cleaning, firefighting pump serviceability, emergency kit boxes

(the long-term projects) – **should already be completed.**

When you enact your plan, it should be more about confirming that all preparatory jobs (including the little things) that you assessed needed to be done, **have been done.**

36 Hours and less – Trigger Point – Community members enact your plan now

Listen to emergency stations

- Listen to emergency broadcaster radio stations.
- Check the Vic Emergency website.
- Check your neighbours.
- Notify family or friends and neighbours of your intentions.
- Check neighbours via the WP Community chat Group in WhatsApp Messenger

8 Hours and less – Trigger Point – Snap short notice fire threat

- Activate your emergency plan immediately
- If safe to do so, check neighbours and notify family or friends of your intentions.
- Listen to emergency broadcaster radio stations and check the VicEmergency website.
- Stay informed, listen, and follow the emergency warning instructions carefully.
- Do not wait and see.
- Leaving late means you will be on the road when conditions are at their most dangerous or you may not be able to get out at all.
- The longer you wait to leave, the greater the risk to your life.
- If it has become unsafe to leave you must “shelter in place”

Follow guidelines in your personal fire plan

<i>Before Leaving</i>
When leaving your home <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Close all windows and doors• Close curtains and blinds• Turn off lights, gas, and appliances
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check neighbours and send WhatsApp message to “WP Community Chat Group” notifying your intentions.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Let family or friends of your intentions
Stay Safe

