

DFES Warning Levels

More info on Flagging

www.dfes.wa.gov.au

Evacuation Flagging Trial in the Shire of York

ADVICE

Be aware and keep up to date

Issued at 11AM and 4PM unless the situation changes

WATCH AND ACT

Put your preparations into action, do not wait and see.

Issued every two hours unless the situation changes

EMERGENCY WARNING

Take immediate action to survive, You will be impacted by fire.

Issued every hour unless the situation changes

ALL CLEAR

Take care to avoid any dangers and keep up to date.

Issued when the threat has passed.

For more information on when these warnings will be issued, and what to do when they are issued, visit:

www.dfes.wa.gov.au



Department of Parks and Wildlife



ABOUT FLAGGING

In a major emergency, you might be asked, or choose, to evacuate your property. If that happens, the police and other emergency services would like to know if you've got the message about the emergency and chosen to leave.

You can help them by leaving a weighted-down Green Bag at the front of your driveway when you go. That Green Bag indicates to authorities that people at a property have already left for a safe place. Officers can then prioritise checks at other, non-flagged, properties, potentially saving time and lives!



HOW DO I PLACE THE BAG?

Time is critical in evacuations and the authorities may only have a limited period in which to methodically check properties in an at-risk area, to ensure people are safely evacuated. Property-by-property checks are time-consuming and this method allows firefighters, police and other agencies to do it much more quickly and, in this way, potentially save lives. If the emergency authorities are confident you've left for a safer place, they can check other properties first.

HOW DO I GET A GREEN BAG?

Shire of York Office
Joanquina Street, York

OR

Purchase at your local
IGA supermarket.

WHO IS INVOLVED?

All residents within the Shire of York will be taking part in the evacuation flagging trial for 2013-14. It is also being used in Armadale, Bridgetown-Greenbushes, Geraldton, Manjimup, Nannup and Wanneroo. If it is to be extended into other areas the public will be advised. DFES is the hazard management agency for all fires in WA, although DFES, DPaW or the Local Government may be the controlling agency for a particular fire.

HAS THIS BEEN TRIED BEFORE?

Evacuation flagging systems are not new. They have been introduced successfully in Canada and New Zealand and work particularly well in small, semi-rural types of communities. The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes successfully conducted Phase One of this trial in 2012-13 and will continue this season. Previous exercises in Denmark and Mundaring have also been successful.