

Prepare for the Cyclone and Storm season



Report any cyclone damage to the office as soon as possible.

Before a cyclone, prepare an **Emergency Kit** (and keep it somewhere handy in the home) including:



- Portable radio and torch with fresh batteries
- Candles and waterproof matches
- Reasonable stocks of fresh water, canned food, can opener and self-contained cooking gear.
- First Aid Kit and essential medications
- Emergency contact numbers local council, SES, Police, Fire and Ambulance.

Severe Storm or Cyclone Warning

- Listen to your local radio or television station for information and advice.
- If not using the car, fill it with fuel and park it somewhere safe and secure.
- Store all loose items inside.
- Lock up your pets at home.
- Gather some tools which might come in handy for emergency repairs such as a hammer, nails, rope, saw and tarpaulins.
- Batten down the house where practical. Secure doors, tape windows.
- Then remain indoors.
- In the event of lightning, disconnect electrical appliances.
- Freeze water for alternative refrigeration in case of power failure.
- Prepare an **Evacuation Kit**. This should include your emergency kit and:
 - Personal valuables, documents, family mementos, photo albums, placed in a waterproof bag, then secured in a suitcase to avoid damage.
 - Essential spare clothing (warm tough clothes and covered footwear) packed in a waterproof bag.



Evacuation

- Take heed of any warnings or advice given by police or emergency service personnel.
- Switch off electricity, gas and water. Be careful not to touch any wet switches.
- Lock up your home. Remember your evacuation kit.
- If you leave your home before any official evacuation, be sure to let a neighbour, friend, family member or emergency service personnel know when and where you are going.

Cyclone Strikes

- Continue listening to your portable radio.
- Disconnect all electrical appliances.
- Stay inside, clear of windows, and move to the safest, strongest part of the house, usually the bathroom, internal toilet or passageway.
- If your home starts to break up, protect yourself using strong tables or beds, mattresses, blankets or tarpaulins.
- Beware the calm 'eye' of the storm.
- If driving, pull off the road, stopping well clear of trees, power lines, creeks or rivers.



After the Cyclone

- Listen to your portable radio.
- Do not venture outside until advised officially that it is safe. A cyclone can turn back across the same path.
- If you have to evacuate, do not go home until advised that it is safe. Then use the recommended route and remain calm.
- Avoid making unnecessary phone calls, and don't make demands upon emergency services unless there is a serious problem, such as injuries or lost roof.
- Beware of fallen power lines and trees, damaged buildings, sharp debris and flooded water courses.
- Do not turn on power or gas if damaged, unless checked by the authorities. Again, do not touch wet electricity switches.
- Do not go sightseeing - leave the road clear for emergency service vehicles.

Contact our office to report necessary repairs.

