

Policy Guidelines 02 – Bushfires/Extreme Weather

Introduction

Whilst Hepburn Shire enjoys a beautiful bush environment, it is within a designated bushfire Zone and faces a real possibility of bush and/or grass fires.

Purpose

To effectively plan for and respond to bush/grass fire emergencies and periods of extreme weather in order to ensure a safe environment for our members.

Policy

1. All U3A activities, including bushwalking, will be automatically cancelled on days declared Code Red.
2. All bushwalking, excursions and other planned outdoor activities will be cancelled on days declared a Total Fire Ban.
3. On days when extreme weather conditions are forecast, including a fire danger rating of High to Extreme and/or high winds and/or torrential rain, the continuation of classes will be determined at the discretion of the relevant tutors.
4. If a bush or grass fire occurs in the vicinity of a U3A activity, tutors should;
 - a. Identify the location of the fire
 - b. Ring 000
 - c. If safe, evacuate the facility/home
 - d. If the fire is too close, activate facility/home fire plan.
5. On days when the temperature is predicted to be 35°C or above, bushwalking and other outdoor activities will be automatically cancelled.
6. If an activity is cancelled due to adverse weather conditions, the relevant tutor should make every effort to advise their students/walkers.

Authorisation

7. This Policy was adopted by the Committee of Management of U3A Hepburn Shire on 11 February 2019 and duly recorded in the minutes.



8. This policy will be published by the Committee of Management of U3A Hepburn Shire on its website within 4 weeks of the date of this authorisation.

Related Policies

05 Risk Management