# ARE YOU BUSHFIRE READY?

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

Bushfires are dangerous and common in Western Australia. They can start without warning throughout the year and can spread rapidly on hot and windy days.

If conditions are too dangerous, rescuers will not be able to check the trail and campsite.

## PREPARE - Make a plan

• Plan a route within your capabilities: Where will you go to? How far is it? How fast can you travel? Be certain you can reach your goal.

## **ACT - Don't delay**

- Leave the trail if the forecast Fire Danger Rating is *Extreme* or *Catastrophic*.
- If you see signs of a bushfire assess your situation: How close it is? Is the wind blowing it towards you?
- If the way is clear, *escape* to safer ground.
- If the way is not clear, prepare to *shelter*.

## **SURVIVE - Stay alert**

#### Escape

- Use existing tracks and roads.
- Move to clear or burnt ground.
- Do not try to outrun the fire or escape uphill.
- Avoid the tops of hills and densely vegetated gullies.

#### Shelter

- Stay low and seek shelter behind a log or rocky outcrop, on a beach, or in a sufficiently large body of water to fully submerge (including a running river but not a water tank).
- Campsite buildings are not designed as a fire refuge, but it may be a safer place to stay than outside.
- Prepare your surroundings by removing leaves and branches.
- Cover yourself with wool or cotton. Avoid synthetics.
- Once the main fire front has passed, move to burnt ground.

