ARE YOU DISASTER\ READY?

Frequently Asked Questions



What are the most common disasters in FNQ?

- Bushfires
- Cyclones
- Storms
- Heatwaves
- Floods



How do I prepare for disaster season?

- Understand your risk
- Sign up to the <u>Early Warning Network</u> to receive severe weather emergency alerts by SMS, email or voice to landlines.
- Decide in advance if you'll evacuate or shelter in place.
- Know your evacuation route and prepare an Emergency plan include emergency numbers:

Police, Ambulance or Fire: Phone 000 SES: Phone 132 500

- Clean up your yard, secure loose items and move possessions to high ground if you live in an area prone to flooding.
- Take appropriate steps to <u>protect your</u> <u>property</u>
- If necessary, get sandbags ready early, contact the local SES for location.
- Pack an emergency kit. Have enough supplies to last at least 3 days, locations that are easily isolated should keep supplies for 5 to 7 days.
- Familiarise yourself with the <u>Australian</u> Warning System symbols.
- Get to know your neighbours.



www.msc.qld.gov.au



What do I do during an event?

- Listen to advice from Emergency Services.
- Be aware of your surroundings and action your emergency plan as required.
- Keep informed by visiting MSC Emergency Management Dashboard.
- Keep in contact with your friends or family
- Follow My Police Tablelands on Facebook, QLD Fire Department on Facebook, and Mareeba Shire Council on Facebook
- Monitor the <u>Bureau of Meteorology</u> for updates.
- Listen to local radio stations, 558 AM, 801 AM, 106.7 FM, 95.5 FM, 96.7 FM, 88.7 FM,
- Use <u>Emergency Apps</u> such as SES Assistance QLD, Emergency +, BOM, Red Cross First Aid to keep informed.



What do I do after an event?

- Listen to advice from Emergency Services.
- Stay away from fallen powerlines (they are hard to see!)
- Don't drive in flood waters, there could be hidden dangers.
- Returning to affected buildings? Be mindful of electricity and gas connections, water and food safety, fallen trees.
- To report electric shocks or fallen powerlines 24/7 dial 000 or call 13 16 70.
- Phone Ergon Energy on 13 22 96 If you have lost power or are experiencing electricity supply problems.
- Visit <u>Mareeba Shire Council Emergency</u> <u>Management</u> Dashboard for up-to-date information on road conditions and power outages.



What do I do after an event? Continued...

- <u>Returning Home Safely</u>, consider health risks from flood waters, mosquitos, mould etc. What to do when you return to your property after flood visit: <u>Insurance Council of Australia</u>
- Community Recovery contacts, Mareeba Shire
 <u>Support Services Guide</u>



How does Council respond during a disaster?

Local governments are primarily responsible for co-ordinating disaster events in their local government areas.

MSC is responsible for the development and implementation of a local disaster management plan. Coordinated disaster management is achieved through the LDMG (Local Disaster Management Group).

Membership of the LDMG is comprised of representatives from Council, State Emergency Response Agencies (SES, QLD Police, QLD Fire Dept), Department of Health, Department of Education and Department of Transport & Main Roads

The LDMG has four sub-groups that support different sectors and assets of the community. The Economic Sub-Group, Public Health and Environment Sub-Group, Built, Environment / Infrastructure Sub-Group, and Community Support Sub-Group.

In the event of a disaster, the Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) may establish a Local Disaster Coordination Centre. Requests for assistance will be directed through this centre and escalated as necessary.

Council hosts the <u>Emergency Management</u> <u>Dashboard</u> to provide residents with up-to-date information from multiple state agencies and sources in one place.

Council will keep the community informed of any changes to services during this time, such as water outages or rubbish bin collections, via the MSC website and Facebook Page and broadcast messages via local radio stations.



How does Council respond after a Disaster?

Immediately following an event, Council's primary responsibility is to restore its essential services as soon as possible. This includes:

- Ensuring access to local roads
- Maintaining water and waste services
- Continuing kerbside waste collection

You can help Council by reporting incidents. Please call 1300 308 461 to report any issues.

After addressing immediate needs, Council begins other restorative works such as repairing local roads and restoring public facilities and infrastructure.

State and Federal funding are often required to repair disaster damage. The application process for this funding is lengthy, which means repairs may take many months to commence.

Through the Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) and the sub-groups, Council engages with local and state support agencies, advocating for necessary support and resources.

For current Queensland Government Disaster Support and Recovery options, please visit:

https://www.qld.gov.au/community/disastersemergencies/disasters



This information is available as a digital resource by scanning the QR Code.

To access more information, please visit Council's website.



www.msc.qld.gov.au