

# Are you prepared for any emergency?

The Australian Red Cross produce an excellent publication, **emergency REDiPlan** available to download from [www.redcross.org.au](http://www.redcross.org.au) which is a good starting point in the preparation of your household for an emergency. If you do not have access to the internet copies are available Jenny Boyer Ph 6293 1113 or from **Red Cross Phone 6231 1250**.

If you don't have a fire emergency plan the **Tasmanian Fire Service** website [www.fire.tas.gov.au](http://www.fire.tas.gov.au) has planning documents available, one titled *STAY* and another *LEAVE*. They also have information about preparing your property for the fire season. These publications are available free if you Phone **1800 000 699**. This number can also be used for general enquires to the Fire Service but the website has easily accessible information about where fires are burning in Tasmania and their current status.

The Bureau of Meteorology provides **weather warnings** by phone on **1300 659 216** and on the web site [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au) . Tsunami threat information is part of a national and international service, also available on the BOM site or by phoning **Tsunami Threat Information 1300 878 626**. There is a lots of interesting information on their site as there is on the Geoscience Australia site for people wanting more information.

The State Emergency Service site [www.ses.tas.gov.au](http://www.ses.tas.gov.au) also has Community Alerts and Public Safety Guides, some of which link to other sites like the road closures on the Tasmanian Police site. For **SES help in Flood and Storm emergencies only, phone 132 500**. For general enquiries the number is **6230 2700**.

What will you do if the power is out? Do you have a wind up or battery radio with fresh batteries? Local ABC radio AM 936 is where to listen for current information for your area in an emergency. Don't delay the purchase of a new radio until digital coverage is here as the ABC advise there are no plans for discontinuing AM/FM services, which will still operate alongside digital transmissions.

Telephone handsets that doesn't need a power point and mobile phones can be useful for communication during power failures. Be aware that telephone warning systems are still being developed and at this stage messages to mobiles only go to mobiles registered to residential addresses in the affected area.

If there is no power for your water pump do you have access to water for domestic and fire fighting purposes?

As individuals, households and communities we have to take responsibility to keep ourselves informed about what each of us, with our varied abilities and skills, can do to be prepared and therefore reduce the effects on us, our neighbours and our communities should an emergency situation arise.

In an emergency the Council's Municipal Coordinator would decide if a Council hall was needed in the short term as an assembly centre depending on the nature and locality of the

emergency. Local groups, while not having any direct responsibilities are likely to be called upon to assist.

Kingborough Council regularly reviews all emergency plans and procedures and the community information for emergency management on the KC website will be updated in the near future.