

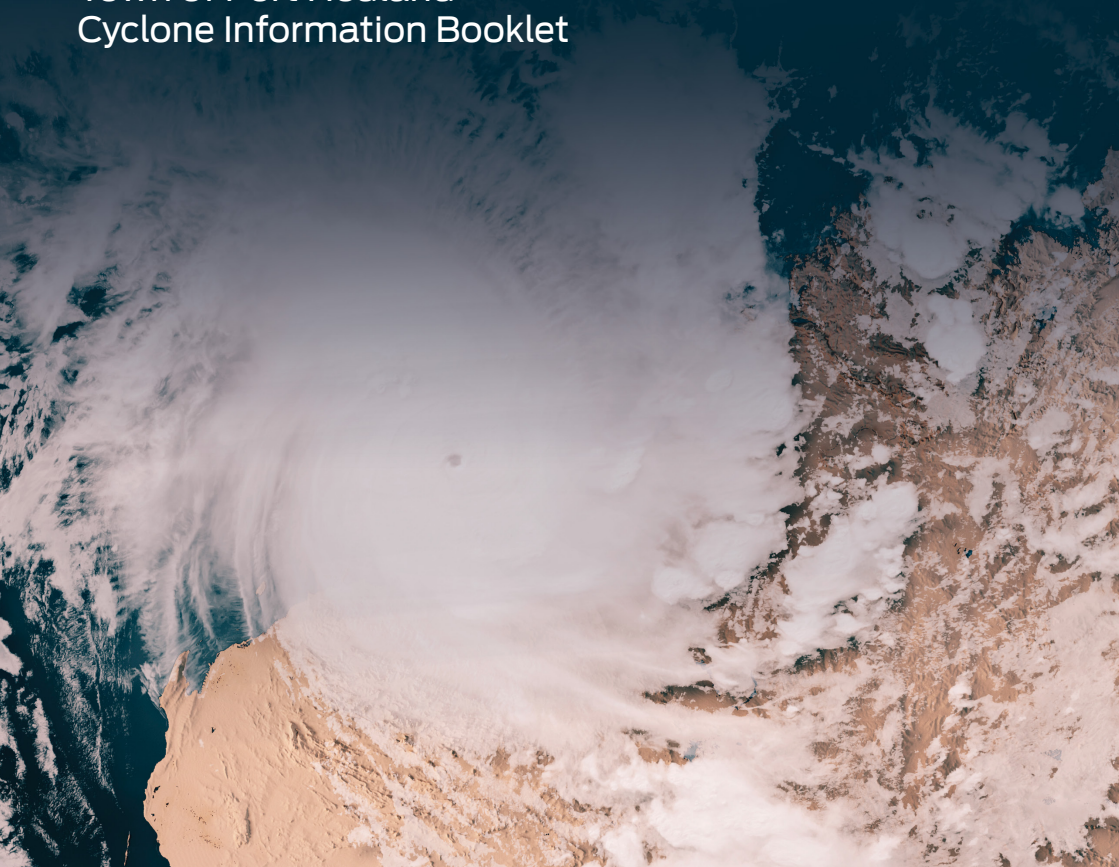


Town of
Port Hedland



Cyclone Information Be Aware and Be Prepared

Town of Port Hedland
Cyclone Information Booklet



Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology




GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



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EMERGENCY CONTACTS AND RESOURCES

Organisation	 Contact number
Police Fire Emergency (only to be called in an emergency)	000
State Emergency Services (SES)	132 500
Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) (Info line)	13 33 37
Police (non-emergency assistance)	13 14 44
Volunteer Marine Rescue (VMR)	0407 476 096
Town of Port Hedland (Civic Centre)	08 9158 9300
Town of Port Hedland (Rangers)	08 9158 9300
Bureau of Meteorology (BoM)	1300 659 210
Horizon Power	13 23 51
Water Corporation	13 13 75
Main Roads WA	138 138
Department of Communities	08 6217 6888

STAY SAFE BE INFORMED

Port Hedland Disaster Dashboard



- Weather alerts
- Fire warnings
- Emergency contacts
- Evacuation centres
- Cyclone advice
- Storm Surge
- Road closures
- Outages

DISASTER DASHBOARD

The Town of Port Hedland has launched an online portal to give the community access to vital information needed during emergencies such as cyclones. The portal includes up-to-date information on:

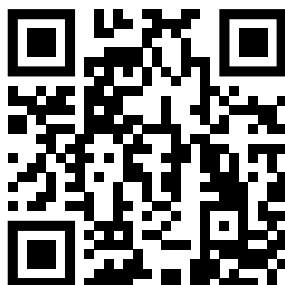
- Interactive maps
- Weather-warnings
- Road closures
- Utilities outage
- Notification opt-ins

To access the Disaster Dashboard visit:

www.disaster.porthedland.wa.gov.au



**Or scan the
QR Code**





INTRODUCTION

The Pilbara coast, extending from Port Hedland to the Exmouth Gulf, is the most cyclone-prone region in Australia and is especially vulnerable to severe cyclone impacts. The cyclone season extends from November 1 to April 30 each year.

This booklet aims to provide the Town of Port Hedland residents and visitors with essential information about cyclone preparedness and the services offered to assist before, during, and after a cyclonic event.

It is crucial for the Town of Port Hedland residents to be both Cyclone Aware and Cyclone Prepared.

WHAT IS A TROPICAL CYCLONE?

Tropical cyclones (cyclones or TCs) are powerful storm systems that form over warm ocean waters in tropical regions. They feature a low-pressure centre, strong winds, and a circular arrangement of thunderstorms. The storm begins as a tropical disturbance and intensifies with warm sea temperatures.

The structure of a tropical cyclone includes an eye, which is the calm, relatively clear centre where the lowest pressure is found. Surrounding the eye is the eye wall, a ring of thunderstorms where the strongest winds and heaviest rains occur. Spiral bands of thunderstorms extend outward from the eye, bringing heavy rains and strong winds.

Cyclones are classified by wind speed into categories ranging from 1 to 5. In severe cyclones, wind gusts exceed 165 km/h and can reach more than 280 km/h for category 5 systems. In 2007 the Town of Port Hedland encountered TC George, it was estimated peak wind gusts reached 200km/h.

Cyclones can persist for many days and cause heavy rain, strong winds, and storm surges, leading to flooding and coastal damage.

DANGERS OF A CYCLONE

Cyclones pose significant hazards, including the risk of fatalities, injuries, and severe damage to infrastructure. They can disrupt essential services such as electricity, water, and gas.

The combination of destructive winds, heavy rainfall, and storm surge often leads to flooding and substantial damage to buildings and outdoor structures, particularly those that are poorly maintained or situated in exposed areas.

The most severe weather conditions occur near the cyclone's centre, or eye, where small objects can become dangerous projectiles, making outdoor activities perilous.

During a cyclone, it is extremely hazardous to be outside, including while driving or navigating by boat.

CYCLONE CATEGORIES

Category	Mean wind strength (Km/h)	Gusts (Km/h)	Potential effects
1	63-88	< 125	Damaging winds, negligible house damage, and possible damage to crops, trees, and vegetation. Caravans, boats, and moorings may also be damaged.
2	89-117	125 – 164	Destructive winds, minor house damage, significant damage to signs, trees, and caravans, heavy damage to some crops, risk of power failure, and small craft may break on moorings.
3	118-159	165 – 224	Very destructive winds, some roof and structural damage, some caravans destroyed, and power failures likely.
4	160-199	225 – 279	Significant roofing loss and structural damage, caravans destroyed or blown away, dangerous airborne debris, and widespread power failures.
5	> 200	> 279	Extremely dangerous with widespread destruction.



HOW ARE CYCLONES NAMED?

Cyclones are given their names by the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM). There is a list of 104 names that are used to name tropical cyclones in the Australian Region. The names are normally chosen in alphabetical order and in a sequence of male to female. Once the list has been exhausted, BOM will return to the beginning of the list.

If a named cyclone moves into the Australian Region from another country's zone of responsibility, the name assigned by that other country will be retained.

BOM receives many requests from the public to have a tropical cyclone named after themselves or dedicated to friends. The Bureau is unable to grant all requests as the number of requests outnumbers the number of tropical cyclones that occur in the Australian Region.

STORM SURGES AND STORM TIDES

Storm surge refers to the rapid rise in sea level above normal tide levels, driven by strong onshore winds from an approaching cyclone. It has historically caused more fatalities during cyclones than the strong winds themselves.

The impact of storm surge is most severe when it coincides with high tide, creating what is known as a “storm tide.” For example, a three-metre storm surge added to a high tide of two metres above mean sea level results in a storm tide that is five metres above the mean sea level.

A severe storm surge can inflict significant damage, including destroying buildings and washing away roads. The resulting sea-water flooding can persist for several hours, potentially extending up to 100 kilometres along the coast and several kilometres inland in low-lying areas.



Quick fact: The greatest number of tropical cyclones in the Australian region in any one year was 20 in 1983. Since 1950, the lowest number of tropical cyclones in any season was just five in 1987.

CYCLONE DETECTION AND ADVICE

The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) will issue Tropical Cyclone Advice when a tropical cyclone is likely to cause winds at 63 km/h or greater (gale force) over Australian communities within the next 48 hours. This lets people know when and how they may be affected.

For each coastal community in the forecast path, the Tropical Cyclone Advice includes:

- a Tropical Cyclone Watch updated every 6 hours when gales are expected to start within 24–48 hours.
- a Tropical Cyclone Warning every 3 hours when gales are expected within 24 hours or already happening.

AUSTRALIAN WARNING SYSTEM

The Australian Warning System (AWS), introduced in July 2024 aims to deliver clear and consistent alerts for various emergencies, including cyclones, bushfires, floods, storms, extreme heat, and severe weather across the country.

Previously, Australia had different warning systems for different types of hazards, which could be confusing. The AWS now provides a unified approach, ensuring consistent messaging no matter where you are or what kind of emergency you're facing. It features three distinct warning levels and a set of easy-to-understand icons that appear on websites and apps, along with actionable advice to help you stay safe.

EXPLAINING THE WARNING LEVELS



ADVICE

Yellow: Advice

What does it mean?

You're not in danger, but you need to take some early actions, like staying informed.



**WATCH
AND ACT**

Orange: Watch and Act

What does it mean?

Conditions are changing and you need to start acting now to be safe, like preparing to take shelter, preparing to leave or moving to higher ground.



**EMERGENCY
WARNING**

Red: Emergency

What does it mean?

Your life could be in danger. You need to act immediately to be safe, like leave immediately, seek shelter now, or in some cases, you might be told it's too dangerous to leave.

WARNING LEVELS CALLS TO ACTION

Each warning level has a set of action statements to give clearer advice about what to do. Calls to Action can be used flexibly across all three warning levels.

ADVICE	WATCH AND ACT	EMERGENCY WARNING
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepare now• Monitor conditions• Stay informed• Avoid the area• Threat is reduced• Return with caution	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepare to leave/evacuate• Prepare to take shelter• Move/stay indoors• Stay near shelter• Walk two or more streets back• Monitor conditions as they are changing• Move to higher ground (away from creeks/rivers/coast)• Limit time outside• Avoid the area• Stay away from damaged buildings and other hazards• Prepare for isolation• Do not enter flood water• Not safe to return• Prepare your property	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leave/evacuate (immediately, by am/pm/hazard timing)• Seek/take shelter now• Shelter indoors now• Too late/dangerous to leave



IMPORTANCE OF EARLY DECISION-MAKING

When a tropical cyclone threatens your area, making the decision early on whether to evacuate or shelter in place is critical for your safety and that of your family. Timely decisions allow for more effective preparation and reduce the risks associated with last-minute actions.

LEAVING EARLY / EVACUATING

Leaving early is the safest option. Evacuating ahead of the cyclone's arrival gives you time to avoid traffic, flooded roads, and other hazards. Waiting too long can lead to dangerous conditions, including impassable roads and the risk of being stranded.

Plan early: Have a clear evacuation plan that includes routes, shelter locations, and supplies. Consider seeking shelter with friends or co-workers who live on higher ground.

Avoid Last-Minute Risks: Evacuating while conditions are still safe minimises the chance of being caught in the storm's path. If you are advised to evacuate, follow the directions from emergency services. Be prepared/know how to:

- Lock your house.
- Switch off electricity, gas, and water.
- Take your emergency kit.

If you are relocated to a welfare centre, remember to bring clothing, bedding, food, and personal items for your comfort.

The Town of Port Hedland designates the following buildings as welfare centres for those without suitable accommodation or transient:



Port Hedland: Port Hedland Community Centre, McGregor Street



South Hedland: JD Hardie Centre, Cottier Drive

Welfare centres will open based on advice from DFES and will be staffed by the Department for Child Protection and Family Support.

For more information about welfare centres, please contact the Department of Communities at (08) 9160 2800.

SHELTERING IN PLACE

In situations where evacuation isn't necessary or feasible, sheltering in place may be the only option. However, this decision must be made well in advance to ensure your home is adequately prepared to withstand high winds, flooding, and flying debris.

- **Prepare Your Home:** Secure windows, doors, and any loose items around your property. Ensure you have the appropriate emergency kits prepared. Turn off all electricity, gas, and water, and unplug all appliances.
- **Safe Zones:** Identify the safest areas in your home, such as interior rooms away from windows, where you can shelter during the storm. If your house starts to break up, protect yourself with mattresses or get under a strong table or bed.

During a cyclone, it is essential to stay informed by regularly monitoring alerts and advice from authorities. Keep a battery-operated radio nearby to ensure you receive important updates, even if power is lost.

Be cautious of the cyclone's eye—a period of calm that may occur during the storm. Remain indoors until official communication confirms it is safe to go outside. Although the eye may bring temporary light winds and clear weather, severe gusts can still occur unexpectedly. Surrounding the eye is the eye wall, the most dangerous part of the cyclone, characterised by intense winds and heavy rainfall.

Ensure you provide comfort and reassurance to children and pets during the event, as they may be particularly affected by the stress and noise of the storm.

By deciding early, you give yourself the best chance to either evacuate safely or adequately prepare your home for the impact of the cyclone.

CARAVANS

Port Hedland features several caravan parks that provide temporary housing for both visitors and residents. Given that caravans are built from lightweight materials, they can be particularly vulnerable to strong winds and severe weather conditions associated with cyclones. Therefore, it is crucial to take specific precautions to protect your caravan and ensure your safety.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

- 1 Consult with the caravan park management:** Understand the Policy: Contact the caravan park management well before the cyclone season starts to understand their cyclone policies. Some parks may require you to leave the premises in advance of a cyclonic event due to safety concerns.
- 2 Prepare your caravan:**
 - **Chassis tie-down:** Before the cyclone season begins, make sure your caravan is securely anchored by completing a chassis tie-down to suitable anchor points. Many caravan parks in cyclone-prone areas provide designated ground anchor points specifically for this purpose. Regularly inspect the tie-downs to ensure they remain secure and in good condition.
 - **Roof tie-down:** As soon as a cyclone warning is issued, immediately complete a roof tie-down. This will help prevent the caravan from overturning or swaying off its chassis during strong winds. Ensure that all tie-downs are tight and properly secured.
 - **Secure loose items:** Move items such as the annex, awnings, bicycles, toys, chairs, BBQs, and garbage bins inside the caravan. These items can become dangerous projectiles in high winds.

For heavy or bulky items that cannot be stored inside the caravan, lay them on their side, tie them together with strong rope or straps, and secure them to sturdy anchor points. This will help prevent them from being tossed around or causing damage.

SEEK ALTERNATIVE SHELTER

Even if you have taken all precautions to secure your caravan, seeking alternative shelter during a cyclone is advisable. Arrange to stay with family or friends who live in more secure locations or make arrangements to stay at one of the designated welfare centres if required.

Plan ahead and ensure you have a place to go before a cyclone approaches. Familiarise yourself with the locations of welfare centres and how to get there.

GETTING PREPARED

It is crucial to mentally prepare for the experience of a severe tropical cyclone, as it can be highly stressful, frightening, and traumatic for some individuals. Visualise yourself in such a situation and consider how you, your family, and other household members would manage the stress of a cyclone.

DURING A CYCLONE

- You may be confined indoors for several hours.
- The noise may be overwhelming, making communication difficult.
- Structural elements of your home, such as walls and windows, may shift, and cladding or roofing could be torn off.
- Loose debris may collide with your home, potentially piercing walls, roofs, or windows.
- Windows may shatter due to the pressure.
- Horizontal rain may enter your home through doors and building joints.
- Emergency services may be delayed for hours during the peak of the storm.
- Identifying potential risks to your home and property, and taking preparedness actions, will significantly enhance safety and well-being.



AFTER A CYCLONE

- You and your family may be separated, with one or more members possibly sheltering elsewhere, such as at work.
- Communication systems may be disrupted or entirely inoperative.
- Power outages may occur.
- You or others could be injured.
- Hazards such as fires or gas leaks may be present.
- Information about the situation may be limited in the initial stages.

Discuss these possibilities with your family, household members, and neighbours to ensure preparedness. Basic first aid knowledge can be highly beneficial, and it is recommended that you complete an accredited first aid course, such as those offered by St John Ambulance at the South Hedland Branch, contactable at (08) 9172 1333.



Remember: In any medical emergency, health professionals are the best people to handle the situation.

ACT RESPONSIBILITY

Maintaining a clear mind is essential for staying safe during a cyclone. Consuming alcohol can impair your judgment at a time when your family, friends, or community may rely on you. Excessive alcohol use can increase vulnerability to the dangerous effects of a cyclone and diminish your ability to make sound decisions.

Individuals under the influence of alcohol are more likely to make critical errors that put themselves and others at risk. They may also resist instructions from Emergency Service workers, diverting valuable resources away from rescue efforts and requiring police intervention to transport them to secure cyclone shelters.

To support your community and ensure everyone's safety during a cyclone, it is important to:

- Prioritise the safety of yourself, your family, and your friends.
- Offer assistance to others where possible.
- Stay sober to remain alert and capable of protecting your loved ones.

Additionally, keep in mind the following community regulations during a cyclone:

- Licensed premises will close during a cyclone event, including bars and take-away alcohol sales.
- Alcohol is prohibited at evacuation centres. If you are intoxicated or argumentative, you may be refused shelter.
- Police will conduct random breath testing of drivers both before and after the cyclone.
- By staying sober, you protect your family and contribute to your community's overall safety.

REMOTE COMMUNITIES

The Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) collaborates with remote communities to promote cyclone preparedness and advise on stocking sufficient food, water, and fuel before each cyclone season. Flooding is one of the primary risks faced by these communities, often leading to isolation for several weeks after a cyclone.

By ensuring that adequate supplies are secured in advance, residents can maintain their daily lives comfortably until floodwaters recede. Following a cyclonic event, DFES conducts aerial inspections of these remote areas to assess any damage and deliver additional supplies if necessary.

In some instances, DFES may advise communities to relocate to regional centres if remaining in place is deemed too dangerous during a cyclone. This proactive approach helps safeguard the well-being of remote communities throughout the cyclone season.

STORMWATER DANGER

Residents should be aware of the significant dangers posed by children playing near flooded stormwater systems during and after a cyclone.

- Children should never play near floodwaters, storm drains, ditches, ravines, or culverts, as fast-moving water can easily sweep them away.
- The surface of the water may hide its speed, depth, or submerged debris, increasing the risk of injury.
- Flooding can happen quickly, and stormwater drains can rapidly transform into fast-moving streams.

While flooded storm drains may seem like an appealing place to swim or play, they are extremely dangerous. Even strong swimmers can be pulled into the stormwater system, which can result in drowning.

Parents should have discussions with their children about water safety, emphasising the hidden dangers that can arise during a cyclone.



PRE-CYCLONE SEASON

One of the most important things that any individual can do is to prepare their property for the cyclone season. Preparing your property means that damage from a cyclone impact is minimised. This may contribute to the saving of both life and property.

The State Emergency Service (SES) and the Town of Port Hedland recommend that the following be undertaken before the season commences:

- Clear your residence or work area of unwanted materials and rubbish
- Trim trees of excess height and growth to enable them to withstand high winds.
- Clear drains of rubbish or obstructions.
- Prepare or review your Family Cyclone Plan.
- Prepare and have available your family emergency kit including adequate drinking water containers. (see page 15 for more information)
- Decide where best to shelter your pets.
- Organise tie-down areas and obtain tie-down equipment for securing caravans, boats, trailers, and other large loose or bulky items.

ANNUAL PRE-CYCLONE CLEAN-UP

The Town of Port Hedland conducts a free annual pre-cyclone clean-up from September to October. The clean-up is for green waste only - all other waste disposal is the responsibility of the property owner/tenant. The pre-cyclone clean-up is advertised in advance in the paper, on the Town's website and social media channels to ensure residents have time to clean their property and place their green waste on the verge ready for collection.

A post-cyclone clean-up may occur as the need arises and further information will be provided to the community before the clean-up starts. Residents can also dispose of residential household refuse or debris following a cyclone at the South Hedland Landfill free of charge.

The Town of Port Hedland landfill is located on North Circular Road, South Hedland, and is open every day except for Good Friday, Christmas Day and New Year's Day. For further information on the free annual pre-cyclone clean up or to enquire about the South Hedland Landfill opening hours please contact the Town of Port Hedland Depot on 9158 9700.

CYCLONE SCREENS

Cyclone screens are essential for protecting windows and doors—key openings in buildings — from being breached by airborne debris during a cyclone. If a dominant opening, such as a window or door, is compromised, internal pressure in the building can increase. Combined with the external wind forces, this can cause significant damage to the structure, potentially creating more debris or leading to structural failure.

To mitigate these risks, it is strongly recommended to install and securely pin cyclone screens in place to protect against debris impact. This precaution greatly enhances the safety and comfort of occupants during a cyclone.



Important Warning: Cyclone screens are not designed to function as security screens and should never be padlocked or permanently fixed. In the event of a fire or other emergency, residents may need to exit through a window, so the screens should only be pinned in place during a cyclonic event and removed afterward.



RESPONSIBILITIES OF FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS

Families and individuals hold the primary responsibility for preparing themselves and protecting their property from the dangers of cyclones. The actions, or inaction, taken by households can greatly influence the impact of an emergency. Emergency Service Officers have limited capacity to assist every individual or family during large-scale emergencies, making self-preparation critical.

Families and individuals must be well-prepared, protected, and financially self-sufficient before, during, and after a cyclone.

Key Responsibilities for families and individuals:

- **Understand the Risks:** Be fully aware of how potential hazards from cyclones may affect your daily activities, including work and schooling.
- **Insurance:** Ensure you have adequate personal insurance for vehicles, home, contents, and other assets.
- **Emergency Planning:** Develop a clear cyclone plan and ensure all household members, including children, know their roles and responsibilities in the event of a cyclone.
- **Know Local Plans:** Familiarise yourself with local emergency arrangements, including community risks, the locations of welfare centres, and guidelines for preparing your home and family for a cyclone.
- **Access Information:** Learn emergency procedures for cyclones and take advantage of resources available through the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) website: www.dfes.wa.gov.au



PREPARING A CYCLONE PLAN

A family plan helps you prepare for a cyclone. Try to include the whole family or members of the household in the plan and assign specific tasks. Your family plan should be written before the start of the cyclone season and be reviewed annually so you can avoid last-minute decisions at a stressful time.

This guide will help you write a plan to suit your family or household and situation. Practice your plan so you know what to do if you need to use it. It is suggested your Family Cyclone Plan include the following:

FAMILY CONSIDERATIONS

- Who will the family cyclone plan cover (list all household members)
- Who will collect the children from school?
- Who will get cash out (banking services may not be available)
- Who will you inform about your plan or contact in case you lose touch with each other?
- If you cannot make it home or contact each other, where will you meet or leave a message?
- Who will be responsible for checking and stocking the emergency kit?
- Where will it be stored?
- Neighbours may need your help or who can help you (list possible assistance)




PREPARING YOUR PROPERTY

- List the potential risks around your home
- List any actions you need to take and when
- Build an emergency kit (See page 24)
- Fuel the car
- Tie down the boat or caravan
- Secure the outdoor furniture
- Fill water containers etc.
- List any equipment you need and where you will store it
- Tie down material
- Anchor points
- Tape for windows
- Sandbags for flooding – create your own by using plastic bags or pillowcases filled with sand
- On the day of the cyclone
- List any actions you will take to keep your pets and livestock safe
- Our pets will shelter – where?
- If you plan to relocate some family members, pets or livestock and then return home, when will this be done, by whom, and how, long will this take?

WE WILL NOW

- Secure our home
- Collect our emergency kit
- Place all important documents, valuables, and photos with our emergency kit onto a waterproof plastic bag or containers
- Listen to the radio for advice and information

In the event of a cyclone, if you remain in your home, unless advised otherwise, consider preparing to look after yourselves for four (4) days. Use the box on the following page to draw a plan of your house showing:

-  Places to shelter
-  Assembly area
-  Where to turn off the gas, electricity and water

DRAW YOUR CYCLONE PLAN HERE

EMERGENCY KIT

Having an emergency kit is essential for cyclone preparedness as it ensures immediate access to critical supplies during and after a disaster. Cyclones can cause widespread damage, leading to power outages, communication disruptions, and restricted access to essential services. A well-prepared kit allows for:

- **Immediate Availability of Essentials:** Ensures access to necessary items such as food, water, and medical supplies when resources are unavailable.
- **Sustained Communication and Power:** Provides backup items like flashlights, batteries, and radios to maintain access to critical updates during outages.
- **Sheltering in Place:** Supplies comfort and safety if required to stay indoors for extended periods.
- **Evacuation Readiness:** Ensures essential documents, medications, and resources are ready for quick evacuation, avoiding last-minute preparations.
- **Emergency Medical Aid:** Enables immediate treatment of minor injuries, reducing the risk of complications when medical assistance may be delayed.
- **Peace of Mind:** Enhances confidence and control by knowing you are prepared, reducing stress during the cyclone season.



EMERGENCY KIT CHECKLIST

We have provided a basic emergency kit checklist, use this as a foundation for building your own kit. Personalise to suit your household.

- ☐ Water for 3 days (10 litres of drinking water per person at a minimum)
- ☐ Canned, or dry foods
- ☐ Mobile phones, chargers, and power-banks
- ☐ Spare car and house keys
- ☐ Medications, tissues, toiletry, and sanitary products
- ☐ Strong plastic bags (heavy-duty rubbish bags, or plastic document holders) for important belongings such as wills, passports, ID, birth certificates, marriage certificates, insurance policies etc.
- ☐ Toilet paper, soap, detergent, and person hygiene items
- ☐ Books, playing cards or games
- ☐ Torch – with spare batteries for at least 3 days
- ☐ Battery powered radio – with spare batteries for at least 3 days
- ☐ Bedding – sleeping bags, warm blankets and a camping mattress
- ☐ Spare cash – in case online payment systems are down
- ☐ Safety knife
- ☐ Spare clothes, underwear, shoes, hats etc. for the whole family
- ☐ A full tank of fuel
- ☐ First aid kit

SIX KEY STEPS TO FIRST AID

If someone is injured, follow these six key steps to ensure the safety of everyone at the scene while waiting for professional help:

- 1 Ensure Safety:** First, make sure the environment is safe for everyone. Avoid hazards such as power lines, gas leaks, smoke, or fire.
- 2 Check for a Response:** Assess the injured person's responsiveness. If they are unconscious and not responding, call 000 immediately. If they are responsive, make them comfortable, call 000 and monitor their condition.
- 3 Check Airway and Breathing:** If the person is not breathing, check for any blockages in the airway. If trained, start cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).
- 4 Control Bleeding and Treat Injuries:** Address severe bleeding, shock, and injuries to muscles, bones, and joints. Use gloves if available to prevent infection.
- 5 Monitor Condition:** Continuously monitor the injured person's condition until professional help arrives.
- 6 Provide Comfort and Reassurance:** Keep the injured person calm, comfortable, and reassured while waiting for assistance.





PETS AND LIVESTOCK

PETS

Emergency planning for pets is a crucial component of household preparedness. Proper planning ensures that your pets can be appropriately cared for during emergencies. Within the Town of Port Hedland, public facilities for both pets and owners to evacuate are not available (unless it's a support animal (Blind or Deaf), which makes it even more important for pet owners to plan ahead.

IDENTIFICATION AND MICROCHIPPING

Before cyclone season starts, make sure your pet is microchipped, as this offers a permanent form of identification. Check that your contact details linked to the microchip are current.

Additionally, equip your pet with a collar and tag that includes your current contact information. These steps are crucial in helping reunite you with your pet if you become separated during a cyclone.

EMERGENCY PET KIT

Creating an emergency kit for your pet is essential to ensure their safety and comfort during a crisis. This kit is appropriate for both sheltering at home and evacuation. Keep your pet's emergency kit in an easily accessible location and review its contents regularly to ensure everything is there, up-to-date, and in good condition.

EMERGENCY PET KIT CHECKLIST

- ☐ **Food and water:** At least 1 weeks supply of non-refrigerated food
- ☐ **Medications:** If required and in case of an emergency
- ☐ **Important documents:** Registration details, vaccination documents and current photos for identification
- ☐ **Transportation equipment:** If required (crates, horse floats, cages and carriers), leads and collars
- ☐ **Sanitation:** Waste bags, cleaning products, litter and trays
- ☐ **Comfort:** Toys and/or favourite items

IDENTIFYING SAFE SHELTER

When evacuation is necessary, it is important to pre-plan multiple suitable locations for your animal's safety. Ensure that the chosen facility is appropriate for your pet's needs, minimising the risk of escape or injury in a high-stress environment. Additionally, select locations that are outside the area affected by the threat you are evacuating from to ensure their safety is not compromised.

LIVESTOCK

Cyclone season poses significant risks to livestock, so proper preparation and response are essential to ensure their safety and minimise damage. All livestock owners have a responsibility to make sure their animals are prepared for emergencies.

PREPARATION BEFORE CYCLONE SEASON

- *Emergency plan*
Develop an evacuation plan and identify safe shelters for livestock. Stockpile feed, water, and supplies.
- *Property preparation*
Inspect and reinforce structures. Clear debris and ensure proper drainage.
- *Identify livestock*
Tag or brand animals for identification, and secure important documents.
- *Monitor weather*
Stay updated on cyclone alerts and have contacts for emergency support.
- *During a cyclone*
Evacuate early.
- *Relocate livestock to higher ground if necessary*
Secure Shelter.
- *House animals in safe, wind-resistant areas with food and water*
Minimise Confinement.
- *Let livestock move freely to safer areas if confinement is unsafe*
Stay Indoors.
- *Overall*
Prioritise your own safety.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

DFES and the BoM work together to inform the community when there is a cyclone risk. It's important you know how to access different information sources to stay up to date because power and communications are likely to be lost during a cyclone.

For comprehensive information on cyclones, flooding, and storm surge, please refer to the following resources:

- **Department of Fire & Emergency Services:**
www.dfes.wa.gov.au/hazard-information/cyclone
- **Bureau of Meteorology:**
www.bom.gov.au/cyclone
- **Emergency WA:**
www.emergency.wa.gov.au
- **Emergency information hotline:** Call 13 33 37
- **Town of Port Hedland:**
www.disaster.porthedland.wa.gov.au
- **Town of Port Hedland Facebook:**
www.facebook.com/townofporthedland

Radio tends to be a reliable source of information during outages, so ensure you have a battery-operated radio.

- **Local ABC Radio (On Air):** 603 AM
- **ABC Radio online:**
www.abc.net.au/listen/live/pilbara or the ABC Listen app

Please ensure that this booklet is stored in a safe and easily accessible location. It should be an integral part of your family or household's cyclone emergency kit. Please be aware that certain details, such as telephone numbers, may change over time.



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