

State Emergency Service **Media Release**



Thursday, 23 August, 2012

BoM extends severe weather warning

The SA State Emergency Service (SES) advises that the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) has extended a severe weather warning today for damaging winds for wide areas of the state, including the Adelaide Metropolitan and Mount Lofty Ranges districts.

People living in the Adelaide Metropolitan, Mount Lofty Ranges, West Coast, Lower Eyre Peninsula, Eastern Eyre Peninsula, Yorke Peninsula, Kangaroo Island, Lower South East and parts of the Mid North, Murraylands and Upper South East districts may be affected.

Since midnight last night, the SES has responded to around 25 calls for assistance from the general public.

The bureau advises that a deep low pressure system will move across the state today, producing a strong to gale force northwest to southwest airstream over western and southern South Australia.

Damaging winds, averaging 55-65km/h, with peak gusts in excess of 90km/h, are forecast in the warning area.

Squally showers and thunderstorms with possible small hail are being forecast.

Locations which may be affected include Adelaide, Port Lincoln, Maitland, Mount Gambier, Ceduna and Kingscote. A wind gust of 87km/h was recorded near Ceduna earlier this morning.

Up-to-date warnings and further information on the expected weather can be found on the BoM website www.bom.gov.au

During severe weather, the SES advises the following precautions:

- ensure loose items such as outdoor furniture, garden tools and children's play equipment (such as trampolines and cubby houses) are put away or secured
- park vehicles undercover and away from trees
- stay indoors and away from windows and skylights when weather conditions are severe
- stay away from fallen powerlines (always assume fallen powerlines are live – they should be reported to ETSA Utilities on 131 366)
- never walk, ride or drive through floodwaters
- shelter and secure pets and other animals
- check weather forecasts regularly and listen to local radio for updates.

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