

State Emergency Service

Media Release



Monday, 16 November, 2015

Upcoming hot weather prompts warning from SES

With hot weather forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) over the next three days, the State Emergency Service (SES) is encouraging South Australians to think about their health and how they can stay cool.

Simple, common-sense measures, such as staying well hydrated, using fans and airconditioners and wearing a hat, sunscreen, sunglasses and light, loose-fitting clothing if outside, are among ways people can protect their health.

However, SES Chief Officer Chris Beattie is also urging South Australians to consider those who are most vulnerable to the heat and make sure that they will be able to cope during the heat.

“Identify family, friends and neighbours who are elderly or have special needs and may require additional care and attention during times of extreme heat. Ensure they have access to working airconditioners and fans and their home is equipped to cope with hot weather,” Mr Beattie said.

“Keep in mind that large, old trees can suffer from heat stress, making them potentially dangerous. They can drop branches without warning, so it is important that people do not camp or park their cars underneath them.

“Extreme heat also brings with it the risk of power outages, so people should be prepared and have a battery powered radio and good quality torch. It’s also a good idea to keep your mobile phone fully charged,” Mr Beattie said.

With the BoM forecasting extremely high temperatures in northern parts of the state, Mr Beattie advised motorists in these areas to be particularly vigilant.

“Motorists in these areas should make sure they are carrying plenty of food, water, fuel and up-to-date maps,” Mr Beattie said.

“Regularly keeping in touch with family and friends is also important. Outback motorists should let them know where they are, what their travel plans are and when they expect to arrive at their destination.

“If motorists do become stranded because of mechanical failure it’s always the best option to stay with their vehicle rather than walking in the heat to try and get help,” Mr Beattie said.

For more information on extreme heat visit www.ses.sa.gov.au.

Weather information can be found at www.bom.gov.au.

For media enquires telephone the SES Media Line on (08) 8211 6176

For SES response in floods or storms telephone 132 500. If the matter is life threatening telephone 000
www.ses.sa.gov.au