



KEEPING SAFE IN STORMS AND CYCLONES

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This term at school your child has been learning about electricity and electrical safety through our Safety Heroes program. You can find out more about the program at:

ergon.com.au/safetyheroes

energex.com.au/safetyheroes

BE PREPARED:

- Tidy up unsecured objects around your home and yard.
- Trim loose branches, but call a professional tree trimmer if they're near powerlines.
- Have extra cash on hand – ATMs and banks may not be operating.
- Check your Storm Kit and ensure you have water containers and a BBQ, or other gas or coal cooking facilities.
- Pack spare clothing, shoes, sturdy gloves and hats in waterproof containers.
- Freeze water for alternative refrigeration should there be a power failure.
- Make sure your pet's registration and tags are current.
- Stock up on food, water and medicines for each pet, plus newspapers for their sanitary needs.
- Identify a safe place to evacuate to should a storm surge or flood threaten.
- Install a surge protector in your home to protect sensitive electronic equipment.
- If you or someone else in your household depends on life support equipment, check if you're eligible for our Life Support program, which provides members with valuable information on power supply interruptions.

*Read these tips
to keep you and
your family safe
in storms and
cyclones*



BEFORE A STORM:

- Ensure mobile phone batteries are fully charged and have a landline phone ready, as cordless phone base stations don't work without electricity.
- Board or tape glass on exposed windows and secure all doors.
- Fill containers with water, including bath and sink, in case water supplies are cut.
- Ensure your car has a full tank of fuel.
- Store your important documents, medical prescriptions, mementos, photos and valuables in a waterproof container in a secure location like your car boot.
- Heed evacuation warnings if you're in caravans, tents or low lying areas.
- Stay indoors as the storm approaches and ensure pets are secured safely under shelter.
- Turn off and unplug sensitive electrical appliances and also unplug TV, DVD and VCR aerial cables.

DURING A STORM:

- Stay inside and away from windows and doors.
- Listen to battery operated radios for weather updates and don't go outside until you know it's safe.
- Use a torch to find your way around.
- Don't use a landline phone during a storm. Use a mobile, but only in emergencies.



AFTER A STORM:

- Warn others and stay well away from fallen powerlines.
- Always assume they're 'live' and dangerous. Report them immediately to triple zero (000).
- Listen to a battery operated radio for official advice and power restoration information.
- If you experience tingles or shocks from an electrical appliance or water taps, call your electricity distributor immediately. Also call your licensed electrical contractor to check your electrical wiring immediately.
- Take care around your switchboard if it's outdoors and wear synthetic or rubber soled shoes. If you're in any doubt about the switchboard's safety, stay clear and call your licensed electrical contractor.
- Don't use any appliances that have been wet or damaged. Have them checked by a licensed electrical contractor.
- Alert neighbours if you think there may be any danger and don't go sight-seeing.

STORM KIT CHECKLIST

Every home should have a fully stocked Storm Kit ready and stored for the summer storm season.

You'll need:

ESSENTIAL ITEMS

- Battery operated radio
- Battery operated torch
- Spare batteries
- Mobile phone
- Portable mobile charger
- First aid kit
- Can opener
- Tinned and other non-perishable food
- Bottled water
- Essential medications

OTHER USEFUL ITEMS

- A tin of paint and a brush - in remote areas, if there's a chance that your property could become isolated, painting your property name on the roof will assist emergency services
- Sturdy gloves, heavy duty waterproof plastic bags and masking tape can prove useful during the clean up

OTHER IMPORTANT ITEMS

- Copies of important documents (e.g. insurance details, birth certificates, prescription refills in sealable plastic bags)
- Waterproof matches
- Self-contained cooking facilities including gas cylinders or coals and firelighters
- Supplies for infants including formula, baby food, nappies and wipes if required
- Filled water containers
- Special food for elderly or disabled members of the family if required
- Warm dry clothing and shoes
- Toiletries including toilet paper, toothpaste, soap, sun screen and insect repellent
- Food and medications for your pets and newspapers for their sanitary needs

More safety information available at:

ergon.com.au/safetyheroes | energex.com.au/safetyheroes



Part of Energy Queensland