



Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating Bridgewater Uniting Church - Policy

On days where the CFS has issued a “Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating” for the Mt. Lofty Ranges church services and any other gatherings at the Church or the Oak are cancelled.

There are two main reasons for this:

1. We cannot require people who are involved in taking church services (there are lots of them including worship leaders, preachers, musicians, Sunday Club and Youth Leaders, welcomers, morning tea, etc. ...), or in running any other groups or activities at the Church or the Oak, to travel from their homes which may not be in high risk areas, to our church site, which is in a high risk area. Everyone must be free to either stay in a safe place, or alternatively if they live in a high risk place, to follow their own bushfire preparedness/action plan.
2. There are no locations in Bridgewater that are designated by the CFS as “Safer Precincts” or “Last Resort Refuges” – so should the unthinkable happen and a gathering be happening at the church when a fire is approaching, there is nowhere close by where people can be directed to go to take refuge. Details of CFS designated Safer Places can be found on the CFS website at http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/site/prepare_for_bushfire/know_your_area/bushfire_safer_places.jsp

Groups are directed to consider their own group activities, and decide if any action should be taken when a “Severe Fire Danger Rating” or “Extreme Fire Danger Rating” are issued, and prepare accordingly.

Current fire danger ratings can be found on the CFS website at http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/site/fire_bans_and_ratings.jsp