

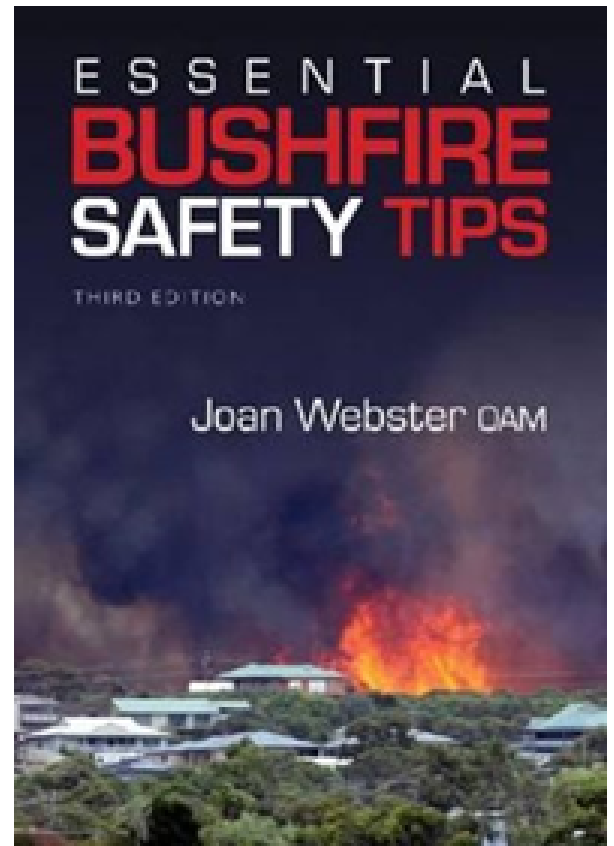


Book Review

by Stephen Tate

Essential Bushfire Safety Tips

Joan Webster OAM



The Bureau of Meteorology advises that there has been a long-term increase in extreme fire weather and in the length of the fire season across large parts of Australia.

Additionally, the CFA believes that climate change is definitely playing a role in producing an earlier start to bushfire seasons and more extreme seasons, particularly in south-eastern Australia.

Joan Webster OAM is an award-winning journalist who has written extensively on bushfire safety for the public. In 2010 she received the Order of Australia 'For service to the community in raising awareness of bushfire safety'.

This book, backed by scientific research, defines the benefits and hazards of home defence, sheltering, and evacuating.



It is set out in easy to read dot points that explain how to prevent a bushfire from destroying houses, details the safe way to act at each stage of the threat, describes weather factors and safe burning-off. The book details the benefits of staying, non-defensive sheltering and evacuating, the protection of animals, how to make a decision that is best for you.

The author discusses the shortcomings and likely repercussions of some of the new safety policies and clarifies some conflicting opinions and misconceptions about fire behaviour and its impacts. It is a very useful guide for all who wish to be fire safe at any time and especially over the bushfire period. The book includes a chapter on protective chores to be considered around your property, many of which should be considered across Winter and Spring.

For more information, visit the BOM and CFA websites below.

<http://www.bom.gov.au/state-of-the-climate/>

<https://news.cfa.vic.gov.au/-/climate-linked-to-earlier-longer-fire-seasons-cfa-and-bom-researchers>

