



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,  
Regional Development, Communications and the Arts



## Community Bulletin

INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORIES

# Be prepared this fire season

**Number:** D17/23

**Date:** 8 December 2023

**Relevant:** Christmas Island

**Topic:** Emergency Management – fire risk

A recent tree and grass fire in Drumsite is a timely reminder to the Christmas Island community that current weather and environmental conditions increase the risk of fire across the island.

With dry vegetation loads, if a fire starts, it may spread rapidly and quickly get out of control.

Fortunately, the Drumsite fire was contained quickly, but it is vital that all members of the community and businesses are prepared in case a fire breaks out.

Remember, a fire can take hold in minutes, but it takes only seconds to prevent one - your safety and the community's depends on your preparations and the decisions you make.

You can help prevent a fire by:

- Not leaving any fire unattended
- Ensuring camp fires/cooking fires are completely extinguished
- Disposing of cigarette butts carefully
- Watching for sparks when using tools and machinery
- Clearing vegetation from around your property
- Ensuring you have adequate firefighting equipment and water available.

In the event of a fire, remember to contact 000 immediately and get yourself and anyone else in the area to safety.

**Ms Beth Duncan, Acting Assistant Secretary, Indian Ocean Territories Branch**