

## **CYCLONE INFORMATION**

The following terminology will be used.

### **Cyclone advice**

This is a "watch" or "warning" that advises the location of a cyclone, its movement and strength, and identifies areas that could be affected.

### **Cyclone watch**

A watch is issued 48 hours before the cyclone is predicted to cross the coast and is updated every six hours in terms of location, movement and strength, and areas that could be affected.

### **Cyclone warning**

A warning is issued if winds are expected to affect coastal or island areas within 24 hours.

The warning is updated every three hours, and then every hour if the cyclone poses a major threat.

The warning includes information on location, movement and strength of the cyclone, areas that are threatened, as well as anticipated rainfall, flooding and storm surge.

Use the Cyclone Warning as the trigger to activate your household emergency plan.

Local information is broadcast by local radio stations before, during and after severe weather events.

When power, phone and internet communication goes down, the radio will be your main source of information and could save you or someone else's life.

## WHAT'S YOUR PLAN IF YOU NEED TO GO?

If you live in a location that is at risk of flooding, or being impacted by cyclones or bushfires, preparing for evacuation now could save you time and stress in the event of a major disaster.

To prepare for evacuation, ensure you know where you will evacuate to and how you will get there. Don't forget about your pets. Ensure your destination is able to accommodate your pets too and you have a way of transporting them.

You should have an evacuation kit prepared and ready to leave with immediately. Your evacuation kit should be contained in a sturdy, easy to carry bag or waterproof storage box and be stored in a safe place that is easy to access. You should also ensure your vehicle is full of fuel well before you make the decision to evacuate.

Your evacuation kit should contain clothing, essential medications and prescriptions, first aid supplies and toiletry items. You should also include pillows and sleeping bags, valuables and spare batteries and chargers for phones and other devices.

Also include some cash (ATMs and banks may not be open and EFTPOS may not be working) and any mementos such as precious photos and important documents.

Remember that public cyclone shelters should not be your primary option and are a last resort only. The Cassowary Coast region has only two designated shelters with limited space and facilities. They will reach capacity quickly so should not be relied upon as the first sheltering option. You will be much more comfortable sheltering with family or friends in safer location.

Alternatively you may choose to leave the region and stay in alternative accommodation in a safer location.

Remember to plan and act early. Don't wait until it's too late. Checklist for evacuation

- Has official advice been given to evacuate?
- Do you know where you will be evacuating to?
- Do you know the preferred route to this point?
- Is your vehicle fueled up?
- Have you packed essential medication- if needed?
- Have you checked on your neighbours who are elderly or disabled? For more information, download the free fact sheets from [cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au](http://cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au)

**KEEP tuned** to the radio for updates before, during and after a cyclone or storm event. If a cyclone or heavy rain are expected the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) issues a series of advices that are relayed through its own website, [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au), radio and social media.

You may also receive an emergency alert through your landline or mobile phone, or hear instructions from emergency services in your street through door knocking or loud hailer.

## EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Life Threatening Emergencies (Police, Fire, Ambulance, Fallen Powerlines)	000
State Emergency Service – flood or storm damage	132 500
Non Emergency:	
• Police Link	131 444
• Ambulance	131 233
• Innisfail Fire Station	4061 0600
• Ergon	132 296
QLD Traffic and Road Conditions	131940 Website: <a href="http://www.qldtraffic.qld.gov.au">www.qldtraffic.qld.gov.au</a>
Cassowary Coast Council	1300 763 903
Disaster Coordination Centre (when activated)	1300 188 505
QLD Health 13 HEALTH	13 43 25 84
Innisfail Hospital	4016 1411
Tully Hospital	4068 4144
Bureau of Meteorology	Website: <a href="http://www.bom.gov.au">www.bom.gov.au</a>
QLD General Warnings	1300 659 210
QLD Northern Districts Forecasts	1300 934 034
Australian Tsunami Threat Information (1300 TSUNAMI)	1300 878 626
Maritime Safety Queensland Cairns Regional Office	4052 7400 After hours incidents 1300 551 899 Website : <a href="http://www.msq.qld.gov.au">www.msq.qld.gov.au</a>
Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services	137 468
Lifeline	131 114
Red Cross	1300 554 419
Cassowary Coast Wildlife Rescue	0447 970 668
Radio Stations	ABC Far North Innisfail 106.7FM 801AM Babinda 95.7FM  ABC North Cardwell 100.1FM  4KZ / Kool FM Innisfail 98.3FM 531AM Babinda 94.9FM 102.5FM Tully 88.5FM 693AM Cardwell 91.9FM 94.7FM