

The SES responds to floods and storms. At North Sydney SES we have 30 recruits who train weekly in a range of storm damage and rescue skills. SES recruits are highly trained professional volunteers.

To minimise the impact of floods and storms, there are some simple measures we can all take to prepare for the arrival of bad weather. We can also following some easy steps to stay safe during and after a flood or storm.

Preparing for bad weather

- Keep drains and gutters clear of leaves and any obstructions
- Remove toys and any loose objects from the balcony
- Remove toys and any loose objects from the garden
- Put vehicles, bicycles and all loose items away
- Stay in doors
- Bring pets in doors

Staying safe during a storm

- Again, stay in doors
- Keep a battery-operated radio on and listen to warnings
- Turn off electrical appliances (including computers)
- Stay away from windows
- If outdoors, find shelter and keep clear of storm drains
- If driving, pull over and park until the storm passes
- Beware of wet electrical appliances, fallen powerlines and damaged buildings and trees
- Avoid taking shelter or leaving cars parked under trees

Staying safe during a flood

- Don't drive or walk through floodwater
- Stay away from drains and creek beds
- Avoid using gas or electrical appliances that have been in flood water
- Drink only bottled or boiled water until water supplies have been declared safe
- Don't eat food that has been in flood water
- Listen to your local radio station for warnings and updates

After a severe storm

- Check your home for damage
- Stay well clear of creeks, drains, fallen trees, power lines and damaged buildings
- Make sure your neighbours are safe and well
- Keep listening to the radio for information and advice

For emergency help during a flood or storm, contact the SES on 132 500.