

Neighbourhood Safer Places

Neighbourhood Safer Places (NSP) is a new concept that has evolved out of the tragic Victorian 'Black Saturday' bush fires in February 2009. A Neighbourhood Safer Place (NSP) is a place of last resort for people during a bush fire. It can be part of your contingency plan, for a time when your Bush Fire Survival Plan cannot be implemented or has failed.

For off-shore residents the closest NSRs are:

- **Newport Arms**
- **Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club**
- **Royal Motor Yacht Club**

A full list of NSP in Pittwater follows.

(NOTE: It might be appropriate that we identify the Scotland Island Fire Station as the Island NSP, however, discussions with Fire Control and looking at the criteria shows that no places on the Island meet the requirements of the NSP policy. In the event of a catastrophic situation, members of the community would be best to make their way to a mainland NSP. We will be discussing this further with Warringah/Pittwater Fire Control.)

An NSP is an identified building or space within the community that can provide a higher level of protection from the immediate life threatening effects of a bush fire. NSP's still entail some risk, both in moving to them and while sheltering in them and cannot be considered completely safe. They are a place of last resort in emergencies only.

The following limitations of NSP need to be considered within your Bush Fire Survival Plan:

- NSP do not cater for pets
- When using NSP do not always expect emergency services to be present
- NSP do not provide meals, amenity or cater for special needs (e.g. for infants, the elderly, the ill or disabled)
- They may not provide shelter from the elements, particularly flying embers.

If an NSP is part of your contingency plan it should not require extended travel through fire affected areas to get there. If there is not sufficient time or it is unsafe to travel to an NSP you should then consider other pre identified safer locations such as your neighbours' home or a wide open space.

In September 2009, the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS), in conjunction with other NSW emergency service organisations, developed guidelines for the identification of NSPs across the State of NSW. As part of this identification process, potential NSPs are assessed against a set of criteria to determine if the building or open space is suitable. The primary purpose of a NSP is the protection of human life. Local Emergency Management Committees (LEMCs) have been tasked with the responsibility of identifying NSPs in their local area.

The NSW Rural Fire Service has now received recommended NSPs data from LEMCs for the majority of NSW. This data is currently being subject to a validation process to confirm that recommended NSPs satisfy the necessary criteria.

Remember to complete your Bush Fire Survival Plan to ensure that you and your family are prepared and know what to do in the event of a bush fire. If there is a suitable NSP nearby your home, you should note it in you Bush Fire Survival Plan. However, the NSP should only be considered as a place of last resort during a bush fire emergency.

Title	Type	Location
Narrabeen Sports High School	Building	Namona Street Mona Vale
Nelson Heather Centre	Building	4 Jackson Road Warriewood
Pittwater Rugby Park	Building	1472 Pittwater Road Warriewood
Mona Vale Bowling Club	Building	1598 Pittwater Road Mona Vale
Mona Vale golf Club	Building	Golf Avenue Mona Vale
Mona Vale Beach Surf Club	Building	Surfview Road Mona Vale
Pittwater RSL	Building	82 Mona Vale Road Mona Vale
Kitchener Park Sports Centre	Building	1610 Pittwater Road Mona Vale
Mona Vale Public School	Building	Waratah Street Mona Vale
Mona Vale Memorial Hall	Building	1606 Pittwater Road Mona Vale
Coles Supermarket, Pittwater P	Building	10 Park Street Mona Vale
Bayview Golf Club	Building	1825 Pittwater Road Bayview

Newport Arms

Newport Bowling Club
Newport Community Centre

Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club

Newport Beach Surf Club

Royal Motor Yacht Club

Avalon Beach Surf Club
Avalon Beach RSL
North Palm Beach Surf Lifesavi
North Narrabeen Reserve
Kitchener Park
Dearin Reserve
Newport Beach Reserve
Avalon Beach Reserve

Building

Building
Building
Building
Building
Building
Building
Building
Open Space
Open Space
Open Space
Open Space

Kalinya Street Newport

Cnr Palm & Barrenjoey Road Newport
11 - 13 The Boulevarde Newport

16 Mitala Street Newport

394 Barrenjoey Road Newport

46 Prince Alfred Parade Newport Beach

Barrenjoey Road Avalon
1 Bowling Green Lane Avalon Beach
Governor Phillip Park Palm Beach r
1472 Pittwater Road Warriewood
1610 Pittwater Road Mona Vale
Cnr Kalinya & Gladstone Streets Newport
Barrenjoey Road Newport Beach