

Attachment 2

NATURAL DISASTERS

EMERGENCY HELP: WHO DO I CALL?

Queensland Police

Service 000

Queensland Ambulance

Service 000

Queensland Fire & Rescue

Service 000

State Emergency Service

3299 5222

Emergency services 13 1962

www.131962.qld.gov.au

Lists of supply 13 6262

www.136262.qld.gov.au

Updates

www.emergency.com.au

97.3 FM & 4KQ

Logan City Hospital

3299 8899

Logan City Council

3412 3412

Logan City Council Pound

3412 5397

Flood info

3412 5222

Department of Communities

3684 7804

Multilingual referrals

3412 3412

For you to fill in:

Insurance company

Web

Out-of-town family contact



LOGAN CITY COUNCIL

[WWW.LOGAN.QLD.GOV.AU](http://www.logan.qld.gov.au)

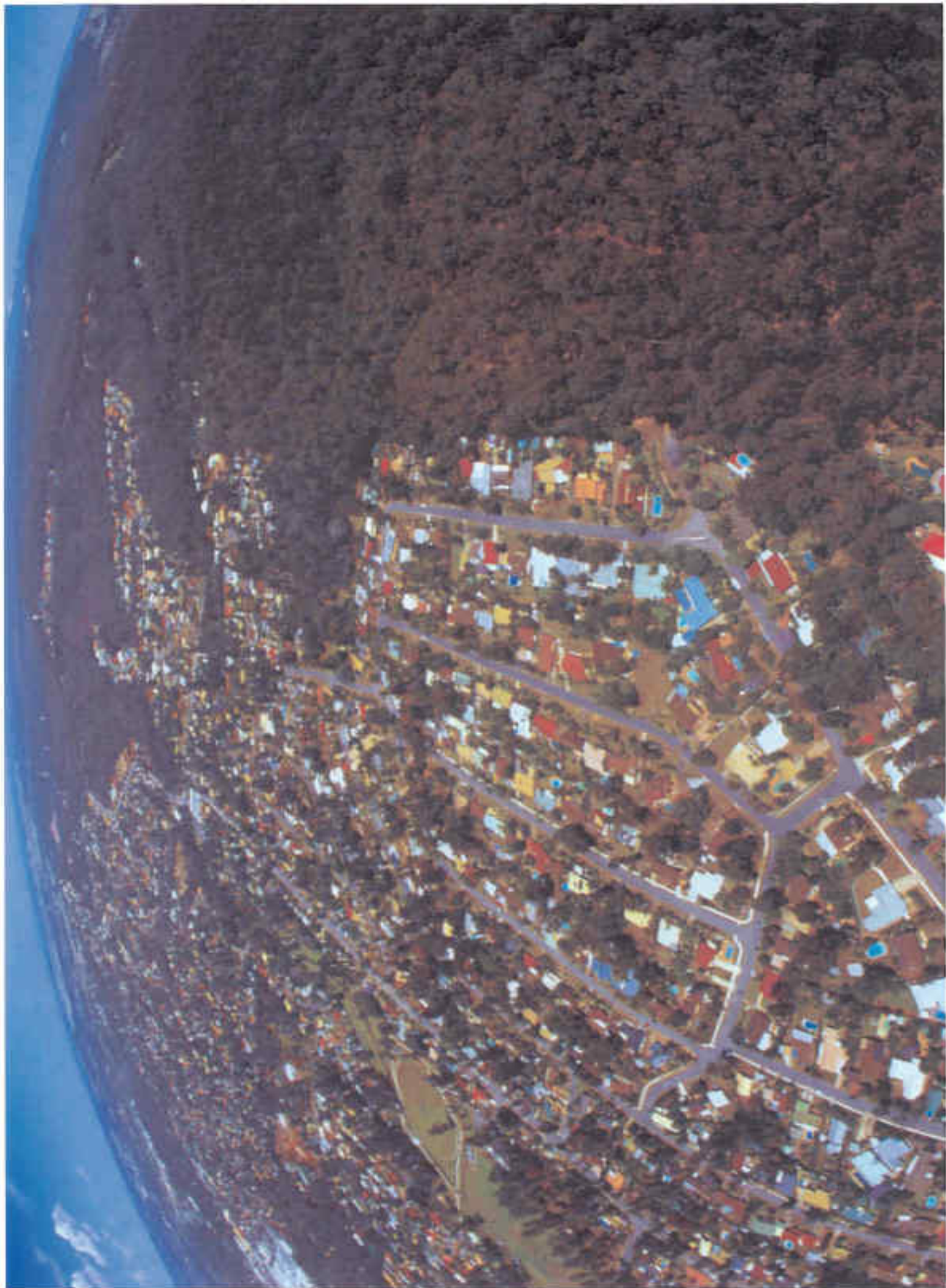
PREPARING
FOR

NATURAL
DISASTERS

a guide for residents
living in
Logan City



LOGAN CITY COUNCIL



INTRODUCTION

Like the rest of Australia, Logan is not immune to the threat of natural disasters such as floods, bushfires and severe storms. However, there are a number of commonsense steps everyone can take to minimise the threat these events pose to people, animals and property.

On the following pages, this brochure outlines how you can prepare for a range of natural disasters:

- Severe storms/cyclones/lightning
- Floods
- Bushfires
- Landslides
- Earthquakes

This brochure provides advice on how you can cope when these natural disasters strike, and what to do - and not to do - afterwards.

It also gives you a guide to what you need in an emergency kit, as well as a list of emergency contact numbers.

By undertaking the steps in this publication, you will be providing valuable assistance to Logan City Council in its own preparation for combating and reducing the consequences of natural disasters within Logan.

A Local Disaster Management Group, comprising representatives from Logan City Council, emergency services and utility providers, meets regularly to ensure that disaster management planning for Logan is on course. This process is very much complemented by the role that each and every individual can play in preparing and responding to disasters, by embracing the steps in this guide.

*Don't be scared -
be prepared!*

This guide was developed from information sourced from and with the permission of Emergency Management Australia. For more information check out the EMA's website at www.ema.gov.au.

AMBULANCE
Browns Plains Ambulance Station
Orr Ct, Browns Plains
Springwood Ambulance Station
Vanessa Bld, Springwood
Woodridge Ambulance Station
Macquarie St, Woodridge

FIRE
Browns Plains Fire Station
Orr Ct, Browns Plains
Loganlea Fire Station
cnr Kingston and Logan Reserve Rd, Loganlea
Woodridge Fire Station
Kingston Rd, Woodridge

POLICE
Browns Plains Police Station
3 Orr Ct, Browns Plains
Logan Central Police Station
Civic Pde, Woodridge
Slacks Creek Police Station
62 Winnels Rd, Slacks Creek
Loganholme Police station
Timar Ave, Loganholme

IN AN EMERGENCY, CALL 000

DEVELOP AN EMERGENCY PLAN

- Prepare an emergency kit and keep it handy.
- Make sure you have adequate household and contents' insurance, and know which hazards are not covered.
- Find out how and where to turn off power, gas and water supplies.
- Store important documents (e.g. wills, photos, birth certificates).
- Household members need to agree upon, and share essential tasks, such as contacting each other if not home, collecting school children and checking on elderly neighbours.
- Arrange an out-of-town friend or relative to be a single point of contact (in case people are separated before or during a widespread emergency).

If you have to evacuate your home, remember

- Turn off power, gas, water
- Lock doors and windows etc (You will feel more confident about leaving if you have previously upgraded your home security).
- Take your emergency kit with you
- Listen for official emergency warnings and safety advice on local radio/TV.
- Follow police directions and instructions.

Note: Community centres, school halls and other suitable sites will be utilised by emergency services for emergency evacuation shelters. Listen for official directions about where to evacuate and best traffic routes.

*Don't be scared -
be prepared!*

There are numerous handbooks, action guides and flyers produced by Emergency Management Australia, Bureau of Meteorology, Queensland Fire & Rescue Service, Queensland Ambulance Service, Queensland Police Service, Energen, State Emergency Service and Department of Emergency Services in disaster situations, many of which are available at Logan City Council Administration Centre, (150) Wembley Rd, Logan Central). Obtain copies, study their contents and, together with this guide for residents, you will be better equipped to deal with natural disasters.

DURING

- Stay inside. Shelter clear of windows and skylights.
- If power is lost, listen to the portable radio for official updates (tune to your local station).
- If power is lost, turn off your stove, checking all items are off the hot plates.
- If power is lost, turn off and unplug your television, computer and other electrical appliances.
- If outdoors, seek solid, enclosed, shelter (not a tree).
- If driving, stop clear of trees, powerlines or trees.
- In the case of a cyclone, do not assume the cyclone is over if the wind drops. It may just be the "eye" of the storm. Wait for the official all-clear.
- If the building starts to break up, shelter in the strongest part (hallway or built-in robe) under a mattress, doona or strong table/bench.
- Don't use a fixed telephone during a storm (lightning strikes can cause high voltage power surges through the telephone equipment, causing injury to the user).

AFTERWARDS

- Don't ignore official warnings or advice.
- Listen to the local radio station (and/or TV station if power available) for advice, and information on damage and service disruptions.
- In the case of a cyclone, do not go outside until officially advised it is safe to do so.
- Check for damaged windows, walls or roof. Temporarily cover with plastic sheeting and nailed-on wooden strips.
- Check for gas leaks.
- Don't use electrical appliances if wet.
- Once you have checked your own property, help your neighbours.
- Beware of damaged buildings, fallen trees, and flooded watercourses.
- Keep well away from fallen powerlines and alert others to keep away.
- Report fallen powerlines to Energen on 131962.
- Report road obstructions to Logan City Council or Police.



EARTHQUAKE

Any part of Australia could experience an earthquake. Logan does not have a recorded history of earthquakes or tremors, however in 1960, an earthquake registering almost 5 on the richter scale hit Mt Glorious, which no doubt would have been felt throughout south-east Queensland. As with the majority of the rest of the eastern seaboard of Australia, Logan is classified as a low hazard area. You can ask Council about ways to make your house safer and structurally secure in the event of an earthquake.

PREPARING

- Look for warning signs.
- Erratic animal behaviour, such as confused pets running about or bird calls not usually heard at night.
- Ground water levels: watch for sudden water level changes in wells or artesian bores.

DURING

- If indoor, stay there (clear of falling debris outside).
- Keep clear of windows, chimneys and overhead fittings.
- Shelter under and hold a door-frame, table, bench etc.
- In high rise buildings, stay clear of windows and outer walls; get under a desk near a pillar or internal wall.
- Do not use elevators.
- If outside, keep well clear of buildings, overhead structures, walls, bridges, powerlines and trees.
- If driving, stop in an open area and wait until shaking stops.

AFTERWARDS

- Turn off electricity, gas and water.
- Check for broken water, sewerage, gas pipes, or electrical mains.
- Don't light matches until you have checked for gas or fuel leaks.
- Check for cracks/damage in roof, walls, chimneys and foundations.
- Be prepared for aftershocks.
- Don't waste food or water as supplies may be interrupted.
- Listen to your local radio/TV station for official information and advice on damage and service disruptions.
- Keep well away from fallen powerlines and alert others to keep away.
- Report fallen powerlines or loss of power to Emergex on 130262.
- Report road damage and damaged water and sewerage mains to Logan City Council on 3826 5555.

FLOOD

From time to time, certain areas of Logan are subject to flooding. This is often the result of excessive storm water run-off flowing in the Logan and Albert Rivers and in Scrubby Creek and Slacks Creek.

During times of flood, residents can call Logan City Council's flood information line on 3826 5222. This recorded message is regularly updated once an official flood warning is in force.

Flood maps, identifying flood-prone areas in Logan, are available for inspection at Logan City Council's City Works information counter, 2nd Level, Council Administration Centre, 150 Wembley Rd, Logan Central, or by phoning 3826 5108.

PREPARING

- Prepare an emergency kit (see page 13).
- Check your car and fill it with fuel.
- Check that neighbours know of the warning.
- Stack furniture and possessions above the likely flood level (electrical items on top).
- Move garbage, chemicals and poisons to a high place.
- Secure objects that could float and cause damage.
- Protect or re-locate valuable possessions.

DURING

- Phone Council's flood information line on 3826 5222 to find out information on the levels of the Logan and Albert Rivers and Scrubby Creek.
- Listen to your local radio/TV for information.

AFTERWARDS

- Do not eat food that has been in contact with flood water, and boil all tap water until supplies have been declared safe.
- Don't use gas or electrical appliances that have been flood-affected until they have been safety-checked.
- Beware of snakes and spiders (which may have moved to drier areas in your house).
- Avoid wading, even in shallow water, as it may be contaminated. If you have to enter the water, wear solid shoes and check the depth with stick.



WHAT TO DO IF YOU SUFFER HEAT STRESS SYMPTOMS

UNUSUAL DISCOMFORT AND HEAT CRAMPS

Symptoms

Heavy sweating, tired, thirsty

Irritable, loss of appetite

Flicky hot rash, nausea

Muscle spasms/twitching, cramps

Treatment

Drink more water

Cool shower/bath

Lie in a cool place with legs supported and slightly elevated.

Massage muscles gently to ease spasms (or firmly if cramped), then apply ice packs.

Drink glucose (eg cordial).

Do not have salt.

HEAT EXHAUSTION

Symptoms

Fatigue/weakness

Cold, clammy, pale skin

Fatigue, weakness and dizziness

Headache and vomiting

Weak but rapid pulse

Poor circulation

Normal temperature but faintness

Treatment

Lay victim down in a cool place as above and loosen clothing.

Apply wet cloths to head and body

Fans or fans directed to an air-conditioned area.

Give sips of cold water

If vomiting continues, seek medical assistance immediately

HEATSTROKE

Symptoms

Confusion, headache, nausea, dizziness

Skin flushed, hot and unusually dry

Dry, swollen tongue

High body temperature (40 degree C or above)

Rapid strong pulse at first, then weaker

Deep unconsciousness may develop rapidly

Treatment

Seek medical assistance urgently

In the meantime, lay victim in a cool place as above and remove outer clothing.

If unconscious, check airway and breathing.

Cool victim quickly, applying cold water, or wrap in a wet sheet and fan them (keep wet).

When conscious, give sips of water.

BUSHFIRE

Given Logan's leafy areas and large areas of natural bushland, bushfire is a potential threat, particularly in dry years.

PREPARING

- Prepare an emergency kit (see page 13).
- If possible, make a firebreak around your home (use mower, rake, spade), and trim branches well clear of house.
- Clear roof and gutters of leaves, twigs etc.
- Remove all rubbish, leaf litter and native shrubs growing too close to the house.
- Keep grass short and green.
- Fit wire screens to doors, windows, and vents, and enclose all gaps, roof leaves and the area under your house.
- Keep a ladder handy for roof access (inside and out).
- Fit hoses to reach all parts of the house and garden.
- If town water is not connected, keep tanks full and ensure that pumps are in good working order.
- Store wood, fuel, paints etc well clear of the house.
- Decide on a household plan to either leave early or stay to protect your home during a bushfire.

DURING

Unless you have decided to leave early, or are ordered by Police or Fire Service to do so, stay in the house after taking the following precautions:

- Phone the Fire Service - don't assume they know there is a fire.
- Turn off gas and power.
- Close all external windows and doors and block gaps from inside with wet towels.
- Fill baths, sinks and buckets with reserve water.
- Place filled water containers around the house.
- Plug downpipes with rags and fill gutters with water.
- Remove curtains and furniture away from windows.
- Wear long, woollen or heavy cotton clothing, solid boots or shoes, a hat or woollen balaclava and gloves.
- Smoke masks can be made from wet handkerchiefs or wet clothes.
- Hose down walls, garden etc on the sides facing the fire and watch for hot spots from flying sparks and embers; home-made fire extinguishers can be crafted from leafy green tree branches, hessian bags or wet rags.
- Use pool water if available.
- When the main fire front arrives, go inside, away from windows, while it passes.

AFTERWARDS

- Quickly extinguish any fires that may have started in, near, or under the house or roof; check inside the roof too.
- If the house is alight and can't be extinguished, move away onto burnt ground.
- Don't leave - wait for help.
- Listen to your local radio/TV station for official information, as well as advice on damage and service disruptions.



If caught in a fire while driving, shelter in your car after stopping at a clearing or roadside with low vegetation. Keep vents, windows and doors closed. Lie below window level, under a wooden blanket until fire passes. The petrol tank is unlikely to explode in the period you need to stay in the car while being shielded from the heat of the fire front. After the main fire front has passed, if heat or fumes inside the car have become severe, get out of the car and move to already burnt ground, keeping your whole body covered.



If caught in a fire on foot: Cover all exposed skin. Find open, or already burnt ground. If you can't avoid the fire, lie face down under a bank, rock, loose earth, or in a hollow, or if possible get into a dam or river (but not a water tank).

If faced with the dangers of radiant heat from flames, body dehydration or smoke inhalation, wrap yourself in a heavy, pure woolen blanket and carry a flask of water to drink and measure the blanket corner as a smoke mask.

HEATWAVE

South-east Queensland enjoys a long, hot summer, but with our fine weather comes the danger of heatwaves. Heatwaves are perhaps our most under-rated natural hazard. In Australia during the 20th century, they caused more deaths than any other natural hazard.

Every summer people suffer from heat stress when the body absorbs more heat than it can dispel. Prompt action will avoid the potentially fatal effects of fully developed heat stroke. Most at risk are young children, the elderly, people with alcohol, weight or health problems, and people on medication/drugs with a dehydrating effect.

AVOIDING HEAT STRESS

- Wear lightweight, light-coloured, loose porous and natural fibre clothes.
- Avoid strenuous activities
- Drink two to three litres of water per day, even if not thirsty.
- Avoid alcoholic, caffeinated or soft drinks.
- Don't take salt tablets unless prescribed by a doctor.
- Avoid heavy, protein foods (meat, dairy products), which increase body heat and fluid loss.

- Keep your home cool with curtains, shutters or awnings.

- Open windows at night

- Use fans, damp clothing and have frequent cool showers if you don't have air conditioning.

- Spend as much time as

- possible in air-conditioned buildings.

- Wear hat and sunscreen in the sun.

- If you work outside, keep your hat and clothing damp.

- Don't leave children or pets in parked vehicles.

- Keep animals in the shade with plenty of water.



If you feel ill, see a doctor

- Check with Police or RACQ for safe routes before driving anywhere.
- Keep listening to your local radio and TV station and heed all official warnings and advice and listen for information on damage and service disruptions.

LANDSLIDE

Landslides involve the movement of large amounts of either earth, rock, sand or mud, or any combination of these. Landslides are infrequent in Logan, however, they are a reality. They can be caused by a major event such as earthquakes, but also by soil saturation from rainfall or seepage, or construction activity.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

- Before occupying a home or building, check with Logan City Council or neighbours for the area's history of landslides or potential instability
- In steep areas, tell-tale signs for ground movement include:
 - disturbed or lumpy hill slopes
 - trees tilting
 - water seepage
 - breaks in the ground
 - cracks in walls
 - cracks and subsidence in roads and paths.

DURING

- The start of a landslide may be marked by a loud sound such as a crack, an explosion, a roar or a rumble.
- If indoors, shelter at the least-affected end (down slope) of the building under a strong table or bench (if possible, use a mattress for extra protection).
- Hold on and stay put until all land movement has ceased.
- If outdoors, move quickly across the slope away from the likely path of the landslide, trying to keep clear of trees, powerlines and poles.

AFTERWARDS

- Notify the authorities by dialling 000 if it is an emergency, or Council if less urgent (see back page).
- Watch for other landslides.
- Turn off electricity, gas and water.
- Check for broken water, sewerage, gas or electrical mains.
- Check for cracks/damage in roof, walls, chimneys and foundations.
- Evacuate if you feel the building is unsafe.
- Listen to local radio stations (and/or TV stations if power available) and respond to official warnings and advice on damage and service disruptions.
- Be very cautious about removing materials from the lower part of the landslide, or using machinery that creates vibrations, as these activities may cause further movement.



WHAT ABOUT LIGHTNING?

- If you hear thunder 10 seconds after a lightning flash, it is only about three kilometres away.
- If outside, seek shelter in a hard-top vehicle or solid building. Avoid small structures or fabric tents.
- Never shelter under a tree or small groups of trees.
- If nowhere near shelter, crouch (alone, feet together), preferably in a hollow. Remove metal objects from your body and don't lie down.
- Don't fly kites or model planes, or handle items like fishing rods, umbrellas or golf sticks.
- Stay away from metal poles, fences or clotheslines.
- Lightning can, and often does, strike more than once in the same place.



FIRST AID

If a person is struck by lightning, apply immediate heart massage and mouth-to-mouth resuscitation until medical help arrives. (You won't receive a shock from the victim).

YOUR EMERGENCY KIT: WHAT SHOULD BE IN IT?

- Portable, battery-operated radio (to hear news reports)
- Torch and spare batteries
- Fresh water in sealed containers (at least 10 litres per person for three days)
- Canned food (with can opener and utensils) for three days
- Any special need items for elderly or infant family members
- First aid kit (with manual)
- Combination pocket knife
- Medications, toiletry supplies
- Insurance documents, etc
- List of emergency numbers, including insurance details (pet owners should have the number of their vet)
- Pet food (if necessary) and other animal needs
- Portable stove with fuel
- Money, including change for phone calls
- Tent or tarpaulin
- Woolen and thermal blankets
- Strong plastic bags (for clothing, valuables, documents and photographs)
- Preparing for natural disasters: A guide for residents

It's ideal to have these items together, but if this is not possible, you should have a list of where you can easily find them.

FIRST AID KIT:

Queensland Ambulance Service recommends a first aid kit include:

- Pair of scissors
- Packet of safety pins
- Bottle or sachet of antiseptic wipes (do not store open bottles)
- Packet of antiseptic wipes
- Roll sticking plaster 2.5cm
- Packet of plaster dressing strips
- 2x5cm bandages
- 2x2.5cm bandages (useful for fingers)
- 2x7.5cm crepe bandages
- 2x10cm roll of combine dressing
- 2 packets of sterile non-stick dressings
- Packet of tulle gras (tulle impregnated with vaseline, ideal for gravel rash etc)
- Bottle of vinegar
- 3 triangular bandages
- Packet of sterile gauze squares 5cmx5 cm
- Large plaster strip

IN THE EVENT OF A DISASTER OR MAJOR EMERGENCY

- Listen for the Standard Emergency Warning System (SEWS). *This is a siren that may be broadcast on radio or television anywhere in Australia to draw attention to the fact that an urgent message is about to be made. You should stop and listen, then act immediately on the official advice given. Keep listening for further messages.*
- Don't move injured people unless they are in immediate danger.
- Once you have checked your own family and property, don't go sightseeing.
- However do not make unnecessary phone calls (to prevent network jam).
- For information on matters such as public health, welfare or building safety, phone Logan City Council on 3826 5555.

PETS:

- Bring pets inside early, as they have instincts about dangerous situations and may run away. Keep them indoors and separated in a quiet room with small or preferably no windows. Provide food and water but do not try and comfort them as you may transfer your anxiety.
- Make sure they are properly identified (eg registration tag, name tag, microchip or brand/tattoo).
- In the event of an evacuation, check with Council if pets are allowed at evacuation centres, and, if not, whether temporary animal shelters have been established.
- Do not leave pets in vehicles.

- If you lose your pet during an emergency, call Logan City Council's Pound on 3826 5397.



SEVERE STORMS/CYCLONES/LIGHTNING

Like many areas of south-east Queensland, Logan is subject to severe storms, particular those involving lightning. Cyclones are more infrequent, but are nevertheless a real threat during the tropical storm season (November to March).

PREPARING – IN ADVANCE

- Prepare an emergency kit (see page 13).
- Trim trees and branches well clear of your home (keep trees under or near powerlines to a height less than 4m).
- Check/secure roofing.
- Clear gutting and downpipes.
- Clear yard of loose materials that may become wind-blown hazards.
- If possible, fit window shutters or, at least, metal screens.
- Energex prefers that trees not be planted under powerlines. It publishes a planting guide with suggested "powerline-friendly" trees. For more information, check out the Energex website at www.energex.com.au

PREPARING – WHEN STORM OR CYCLONE IS APPROACHING

- Listen to your local radio/TV station for official advice and warnings.
- Shelter and secure pets and animals.
- Store loose items inside (if possible, put outdoor furniture in your pool) or cover with tied tarpaulins/blankets.
- Secure doors and windows and draw curtains.
- Put valuables, medications, spare warm clothing in plastic bags with your emergency kit.
- Disconnect electrical items and outside TV aerials and turn off gas.
- Fill bins and boats with water.
- In the case of a cyclone, fuel your car and park it under cover.
- Keep timber strips, hammer and nails handy.

