

Cyclone alerts

Blue Alert

A cyclone has formed and may affect the area within 48 hours. Check that all preparation activities have been undertaken:

- o Clear your area of all loose material and rubbish.
- o Check that cyclone screens are available or securely fitted in place.
- o Ensure emergency supplies are to hand.
- o Check that caravan, boat, trailer and other cyclone tie-down equipment is available.
- o Limit water use.

Yellow Alert

A cyclone is moving closer to the area and appears inevitable. Timing will be calculated by time, place and circumstances. A risk assessment needs to be undertaken by employers and employees to determine when to close business and send employees home. The SES will advise as to when they believe businesses should close but it will ultimately be the employer's decision. Remember employers have a duty of care and could be held responsible. Carry out the following activities:

- o Ensure that all loose material and objects around residences, commercial and industrial buildings and work areas are safely stowed or secured.
- o Check that all cyclone screens are securely fastened into position.
- o Secure caravans, boats, trailers, etc, to their tie-down positions.
- o Prepare safe shelter for pets or animals.
- o Top up vehicle fuel tanks.
- o Fill emergency containers with water and make sure all other emergency supplies are to hand.

Red Alert

A cyclone is imminent.

- o Make arrangements to be in your residence and/or shelter areas when the cyclone arrives.
- o Ensure pets and animals are safely sheltered.
- o When parking up vehicles, select the best available sheltered area, apply handbrake and engage park or reverse gear.
- o As wind velocities increase, shut all windows.
- o During the height of the cyclone, keep clear of windows and stay in the most sheltered part of your residence.
- o Should the eye of the cyclone pass immediately over the area, be aware that the wind will temporarily drop, then blow in the opposite direction.
- o Except in extreme emergencies, stay indoors until the cyclone All Clear is announced.
- o If you are unavoidably caught in the cyclone in an unprotected area, make your way, stooping or crawling if necessary, to shelter. Otherwise lie down and hang on.
- o Continue to listen to your ABC radio for up-to-date instructions affecting the area.

All Clear

The cyclone has passed the area but there may still be high winds and heavy rain.

- o Only venture outdoors with caution.
- o Check for fallen trees, broken power lines, broken water and drain lines, loose sheeting and debris.
- o Commence cleanup activities as soon as practical.
- o Report dangerous situations to the authorities.

Cyclone severity categories

Category	Average wind (km/h)	Strongest gust (km/h)	General pressure (hPc)	Typical effects (indicative only)
1	63 – 90	> 125	> 985	Negligible house damage, damage to some crops, trees and caravans, craft may drag moorings.
2	90 – 120	125 – 170	985 – 970	Minor house damage/risk of power failure, significant damage to signs, trees and caravans, heavy damage to some crops, small craft may break moorings.
3	120 – 160	170 – 225	970 – 945	Some roof and structural damage, some caravans destroyed, power failures likely.
4	160 – 200	225 – 280	945 – 920	Significant roofing loss and structural damage, many caravans destroyed and blown away, dangerous airborne debris, widespread power failures.
5	> 200	> 280	< 920	Extremely dangerous with widespread destruction.



Proudly compiled and provided by the Shire of Roebourne as a service to the community. With thanks to the State Emergency Service for information