

MEDIA RELEASE



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HEATWAVE SAFETY: SUN PROTECTION TIPS

With south-east Australia gripped by heatwaves, Australians are being urged to stay safe by following some basic sun protection tips.

“With extreme weather comes risk, and we’re reminding people to stay vigilant when it comes to sun protection, pool safety, and bushfire preparedness,” said Dr Bronwyn Evans, Chief Executive Officer, Standards Australia.

- **Skin protection:** If you are going to be outdoors, make sure your sunscreen is up-to-date and reflects the latest Australian Standard (AS/NZS 2604) requirements for SPF 50+ protection.
- **Eye protection:** Not all sunglasses are created equal, so ensure your sunglasses are up to scratch with the Australian Standard (AS/NZS 1067) for maximum assurance.
- **Swimming pool safety:** Swimming pools often go un-used for most of the year, so it’s important to periodically check the safety of fencing and gating. Australian Standards (AS 1926.2 and AS 2818) outline rigorous requirements.
- **Bushfire preparedness:** With every summer comes bushfire season. There are two fundamental Australian Standards (AS 3959 and HB 330) dealing with bushfire prone areas. They cover the construction of buildings in bushfire prone areas, as well as defence measures including fire protection, evacuation plans, and stay-or-go defensible spaces. Consult your local fire authority when deciding upon appropriate action and responses.

“In Australia it’s important we respect our extreme weather environment, and this means taking some extra precautions to ensure consumers and the community stay safe,” said Dr Evans.

ENDS.

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