

## It's time to Get Ready, Gladstone Region!

Gladstone Region residents are being urged to prepare for extreme weather as part of Get Ready Queensland Week 2023.

Happening right now, 9-15 October, Get Ready Queensland Week is a time for Queenslanders to take steps to prepare their family and property against natural disasters.

Get Ready Queensland is a year-round, all-hazards, resilience building initiative of the Queensland Government.

Queensland Reconstruction Authority CEO Major General Jake Elwood (Retd) said it was important Gladstone Region communities were prepared for any type of extreme weather.

"Queensland's weather can turn in a flash, and households need to Get Ready to face anything, from floods and bushfires to cyclone and storms," Mr Ellwood said.

"It doesn't matter if you're new to an area or have lived there for years. A homeowner or renting. Preparing for extreme weather is important, so we're asking Queenslanders to understand their risk, make a household emergency plan, and pack an emergency kit."

Gladstone Region Councillor Chris Trevor said Gladstone Regional Council uses its annual Get Ready Queensland funding to support ongoing community preparedness activities and education initiatives.

"Council will step up its disaster preparedness messaging during Get Ready Week by assisting people with tips around how to be prepared for disaster season," Cr Trevor said.

"Our region is not immune to natural disasters and there is a likelihood of increased fire activity leading into, and during, the summer months.

"With this in mind, I encourage every resident to take this opportunity to prepare for the upcoming months by checking out the handy tips on the Get Ready website, in addition to familiarising themselves with the RegionWatch website and registering for early warnings."

Get Ready Queensland Ambassador and rugby league legend Johnathan Thurston said there are basic things Queenslanders can do now to prepare for disaster season.

"Regardless of where you live in Queensland, you are at risk from the effects of extreme weather," Mr Thurston said.

"It's very important to understand what risks you might face and what to do to stay safe in the event of an emergency, and that's what Get Ready Queensland is all about."

For more info visit <u>www.getready.qld.gov.au</u> or <u>www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/regionwatch</u>.

## ENDS



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