

Media Release

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Improvements made to Council's SMS alerts to include bushfires

Gladstone Regional Council has made improvements to RegionWatch, its early warning/alert system, to now include bushfire warnings ahead of disaster season.

Subscribers can now select areas in the Gladstone Region for which they would like to receive bushfire warnings. Previously, subscribers could only select locations for weather warnings (issued by the Bureau of Meteorology).

Gladstone Region Mayor and Local Disaster Management Group Chairman, Matt Burnett said Council would also be ceasing the SMS alerts for non-disaster level weather events.

"We know extensive SMS alerts have been issued in the past, so we are reducing the number of SMS alerts that will be issued from now on, so you'll only receive an SMS alert if it's a significant weather event or when the threat changes," Councillor Burnett said.

"If you would like to receive alerts for all other weather events, you can subscribe to email alerts. This is a free service with warning SMS and emails delivered by Gladstone Regional Council."

With summer approaching in a few months, Cr Burnett encouraged residents to stay informed and familiarise themselves with the RegionWatch dashboard and the features it offers.

"RegionWatch includes information on road conditions, weather warnings, power outages, water and sewer interruptions, emergency news and mapping information such as flood cameras and evacuation zones," Councillor Burnett said.

Visit Council's website at www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/regionwatch to view the steps to update your RegionWatch subscription and start receiving alerts for your preferred areas. Alternatively, head directly to RegionWatch at regionwatch.gladstone.qld.gov.au and update your subscription.

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