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MEDIA RELEASE



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For immediate release

Cyclone preparedness urged ahead of Christmas

Broome residents are being urged to ensure final preparations are in place with the potential for cyclones around Christmas and into the New Year.

Shire of Broome Manager Health, Emergency and Rangers, Ty Matson, said preparation included having emergency kits ready and ensuring homes and yards were cleared of items that could become dangerous in strong wind.

“Most preparations should already be in place or well underway, but it’s important not to become complacent,” Mr Matson said.

“Shire of Broome Rangers have been patrolling neighbourhoods and speaking to residents with quantities of unsecured materials out in the open.

“People need to prepare early and not rely on heading to the Waste Management Facility at the last minute, and the Shire’s free pre-cyclone rubbish collection in November was the time for residents to dispose of unwanted items around their homes.

“With heavy rain usually preceding a cyclone, the Waste Management Facility can become inaccessible, and once we go to Blue Alert the facility will close so that staff can prepare it for a cyclone.

“Other preparations such as stocking up on dry or canned food and water, refuelling vehicles and withdrawing money, as well as ensuring you have portable radios and torches with extra batteries, should also be done well ahead of time.”

For detailed information on cyclones and cyclone preparation visit the Bureau of Meteorology website at www.bom.gov.au and the WA Department of Fire and Emergency Services at www.dfes.wa.gov.au.

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