



Cyclone Season

Tropical cyclones occur in the Darwin region between October and May. The effects of tropical cyclones include destructive winds, heavy rain, storm surge and flooding.

The Bureau of Meteorology will issue a 'Tropical Cyclone Advice' whenever a tropical cyclone is expected to cause winds in excess of 62 km/h (gale force) over land in Australia.

A tropical cyclone advice will be categorized as a **watch** and/or a **warning**, depending on when and where the gales are expected to develop.

Tropical Cyclone Watch

A **tropical cyclone watch** would be issued for Darwin when a tropical low or tropical cyclone is located within the NT forecasting district with the onset of gale force winds (60km/h) expected within 48 hours, but not within 24 hours.

Tropical Cyclone Warning

A **tropical cyclone warning** would be issued for Darwin when a cyclone is expected to cause gale force winds and expected within 24 hours, or are already occurring.

Updated warnings will be issued every 3 hours and repeatedly broadcast. When the cyclone centre is nearing Darwin, warnings will be updated and issued more frequently.

Act now!

User Group committees should familiarise themselves with the different warnings and ensure that arrangements are in place for the start of the cyclone season (1 October).



User Group areas should be secured so far as is possible prior to a Tropical Cyclone Watch phase so that:

- Minimum measures will need to be undertaken if a **Watch** is notified;
- Minimum measures will need to be undertaken if a Watch is upgraded to a **Warning**.

PRE-CYCLONE CHECKLIST

FACILITIES/AREA	Completed
Check perimeter of buildings for loose items.	
Fire extinguishers stored inside buildings.	
User Group rubbish bins emptied and stored inside buildings.	
All windows closed and locked.	
Close air conditioner vents.	
Refrigerators emptied of perishable food.	
All outside furniture to be placed inside.	
Check drains are free of rubbish and debris	
Close all internal doors.	
All desks cleared and tidied.	
All electrical equipment turned off and power isolated at the main switch box.	
All loose debris bundled and secured.	
All tarps to be securely fixed/lashed to equipment.	
All User Group equipment to be secured.	
Signage to be checked and secured or removed and stored.	
Gas cylinders to be secured.	
Secure all oil/fuel drums.	