

# Cyclone Parties

Stay Sober, Stay Safe!



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Cyclones are part of our lives in the North West and we, as a community, have largely learnt to adapt well to the interruptions that these events cause in our lives.

Whilst for many of you an approaching cyclone means time off work, we ask you to spare a thought for the Emergency Service workers, many of them volunteers, who don't get to knock off and go home and 'ride out the storm'.

The excessive consumption of alcohol generally makes you, your family and friends more susceptible to the dangerous effects of cyclones.

Drunk persons are far more prone to the wrong decision at a critical time, putting their lives and the lives of others dear to them at risk.

Intoxicated persons are also more likely to argue against the lawful and logical requirements of Emergency Service workers and instead of protecting lives, police are tied up transporting these people into a secure cyclone shelter – only this one has steel bars.

To help out your community when a cyclone approaches, we ask that you:

- Ensure you, your family and friends are safe.
- See what you can do to help others.
- Switch to low or mid strength alcohol if you are going to have a drink.

It is also worthwhile remembering that the following arrangements apply in your community during a cyclone:

- Licensed premises will close usually within 2 hours of a yellow alert being declared. This includes bar and take-away sales.
- The possession of alcohol is banned at all Evacuation Centres. Don't expect to be given shelter if you are drunk or argumentative.
- Police can and do conduct random breath testing of drivers both before and after cyclones.

For more information about cyclone preparation, contact your local SES Unit, FESA regional office or visit [www.fesa.wa.gov.au](http://www.fesa.wa.gov.au)

