

BE PREPARED FOR

**CYCLONE
SEASON**

WHAT IS A PLACE OF REFUGE?

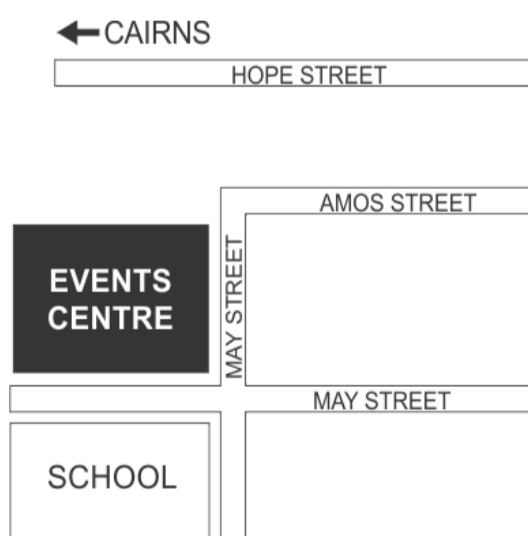
A place of refuge is somewhere community members can go if they have been evacuated, have no friends or family to go to, or feel unsafe in their home during a disaster such as a flood, bushfire or cyclone.

Cook Shire's official Place of Refuge is the Cooktown PCYC Events Centre, located at 3 May Street, Cooktown.

The opening of the Refuge will be announced by the Local Disaster Management Group, and will be advertised as widely as possible, such as on community noticeboards, in letterboxes, on Council's website, Facebook and Twitter and via the ABC radio.

WHERE IS COOK SHIRE'S OFFICIAL PLACE OF REFUGE?

The Cook Shire's official place of refuge is in Cooktown at the PCYC Events Centre at 3 May Street.



CAN I BRING MY PETS TO THE PLACE OF REFUGE?

The best place for your pet is in your own home, however the place of refuge will accept caged domestic pets.

Domestic pets are dogs, cats, caged birds and small caged animals such as guinea pigs. Dogs and cats must be registered.

Other animals such as livestock, chickens, reptiles and wallabies are not allowed. Owners must ensure their pets have water and food and clean up any waste.

WHO CAN GO TO THE PLACE OF REFUGE?

A place of refuge is for those who have been evacuated, have no friends or family to go to, or feel unsafe in their home.

The refuge provides a short term safe place during a disaster event, toilet facilities and drinking water. It does not provide food, personal care or bedding.

HOW DO I KNOW WHEN THE PLACE OF REFUGE IS OPEN?

There are a number of ways you can find out this information.

- Phone Cook Shire Council on 4069 5444.
- Check Council's Facebook page.
- Check Council's website.
- Listen to your local ABC radio station, 105.7FM.

WHAT CAN I TAKE TO THE REFUGE?

- Emergency and evacuation kits
- Swag and chair
- Esky under 50L
- Laptop, tablet, mobile phone
- Overnight bag
- Pram/stroller
- Pre-prepared food
- Non alcoholic drinks
- Motorised scooters
- Wheelchair or walking aid

WHAT CAN'T I TAKE TO THE REFUGE?

- Generator
- Cooking equipment
- Gas appliances
- Alcohol
- Unregistered cats and dogs
- Uncaged pets
- Furniture and household goods

ARE YOU ABLE TO VOLUNTEER?

In the event of a disaster, the successful operation of the refuge will depend on the number of available skilled volunteers. Once the refuge has been opened, volunteers will be required to carry out various roles, including:

- Registration of people;
- Allocation of space;
- Distributing resources;
- Administration and record keeping;
- First Aid, health and wellbeing services;
- Communications; and
- Social and emotional support.

If you are able to volunteer either pre or post disaster, contact Cook Shire Council on 4069 5444.