# **Cyclone Seroja WA**April 2021



As a contractor or trade you may be assisting AJ Grant Building with a make safe as part of Cyclone Seroja, meaning we have been appointed to make customers property safe and not at risk of further damage. Assessing the damages and categorised the varying levels of damage and will provide overview of the make safe process

High gusts of wind and heavy rain can cause a range of serious hazards associated with the cyclone

- Objects in obscure positions and/or areas
- Objects falling from height, such as hanging tree branches, loose roof tiles,
- Increased risk of collapsed structures,
- Downed powerlines

#### Hazards that should be considered, include

- Ground could be unstable and slippery,
- Fallen trees.
- Live overhead powerlines,
- Asbestos debris or damaged asbestos,
- Damaged pool fencing
- Falls from height if assessing roofs

Please take **extra precautions** when entering buildings, completing emergency make safes or accessing customer's homes that have been damaged by floods and winds.



All contractors should be talking with their workers and conducting a site-specific risk assessment and ensure adequate planning and preparation is in place so these identified hazards are managed.

It is also important to ensure that any loose equipment can't be lifted by the wind, such as

- Roof sheets
- Ladders
- Tools

# When working in gusty winds & wet conditions:

- Wear appropriate PPE, Hi-Vis safety vests, safety boots, eve protection, hard hats etc
- Examine and strengthen structures to ensure they will remain standing during strong winds
- Secure objects that can become airborne
- Wear full fall arrest protection if assessing roofs
- Secure ladders at the top and bottom prior to use.
- Avoid slippery surfaces in high winds
- Assess if work can be postponed until dry weathe

## **AJ Grant Directive**

- DO NOT attempt to drive into ANY flood waters
- Tie down all materials on job site:
- Check all tarps on sites are secured properly
- DO NOT attempt to get up on a roof or work at heights in high winds
- If you are unsure about the risk/hazard DO NOT attempt it

If you have any concerns or questions, please call your Manager to discuss.





# **Pool Fencing**

High winds can cause damage to many structures on a building; however, pool fences are a priority to make safe.

If you are attending a home that has pool fence damage, it must be made safe immediately. Pool fencing is essential to stop children drowning or being seriously injured.

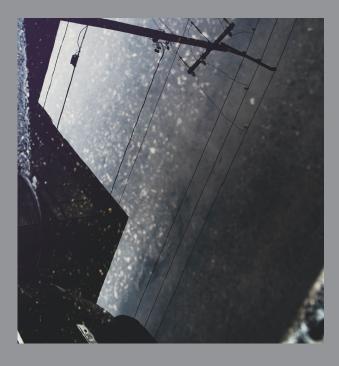


#### **Asbestos**

Asbestos is an additional high priority when high winds are imminent. An important consideration to assess in windy & wet conditions is the Dust Management of Asbestos.

#### Hazards to assess may include:

- Poor weather conditions
- Immediate removal of stockpiles from site
- Application of 'Glue' to encapsulate damaged asbestos to ensure fibres do not become airborne
- Assess if removal work can be postponed until dry weather & a Make Safe will suffice
- Add extra precautions such as Air Monitoring if immediate removal is needed



## **Downed Power Lines**

Never approach or touch power lines. Always let a highly trained professional deal with fallen or sagging power lines.

- Leave the area immediately if you see fallen/sagging power lines.

  Promptly call the energy provider

  Alert police by calling 000 if you are concerned about road and public safety
- Stay clear of fallen tree limbs, power lines and anything they may be