

WESTERN SUBURBS 26 SUN - 2nd SUN 2007

New 'storm safe' warning

STATE Emergency Service volunteers are encouraging residents to get ready for severe winter weather by 'storm safing' their homes and properties.

Northshore SES unit deputy manager Jim Maclean said storms could have a devastating effect.

"As has been seen interstate in the last couple of weeks, we never know

quite what nature is going to throw at us," he said.

"Being ready can help you feel peace of mind, boost your safety and help protect your home and your family from possible hazards."

Mr Maclean gave some tips on being prepared for heavy rain and storms:

■ Check your home's roof and repair loose or damaged materials.

■ Clear gutters and downpipes of leaves and other material. These can overflow and cause serious problems if clogged.

■ Now is a good time to check around the yard. Clear up all rubbish and put away any loose objects.

Mr Maclean said volunteers from the Northshore unit, which covers the western suburbs, were ready for the storm season, but anything that home owners could do to prepare was welcomed.

He said more volunteers were needed.

"If you would like to make a real

difference and are willing and able to offer a few hours every week to becoming an SES member, then we are waiting to hear from you".

If interested in joining, call the Northshore unit on 9444 9440

Alternatively, visit www.geocities.com/northshoreses for further details.