



6 May 2010

Emergency Services Volunteers Thanked

Dr Mike Nahan, the Member for Riverton said 30,000 fire and emergency services volunteers that help FESA every year have been thanked for their efforts as part of National Volunteer Week.

The week from May 10-16 celebrates the dedication and hard work of more than five million people who volunteer in various ways across Australia.

"Volunteers are the backbone of our communities and all over WA our emergency services volunteers are helping to create safer communities," said Dr Nahan.

"They are everyday people from all walks of life who are professionally trained and equipped and always ready to serve the community."

"In WA, more than 30,000 volunteers assist FESA in roles such as the State Emergency Service, Bush Fire Service, Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service, Volunteer Emergency Service, Volunteer Fire Service, Marine Rescue and FESA's Historical Society."

Dr Nahan said National Volunteer Week was an opportunity to acknowledge the generosity of all WA emergency services volunteers who work tirelessly without payment.

"Our volunteers make themselves available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to respond immediately to emergency situations and all of us who benefit say thank you."

Dr Nahan said events such as the Perth hail storm, rescues at Karijini gorge, bushfires, cyclones, sea rescues, forensic searches and the Kalgoorlie Boulder earthquake were just some of the incidents that highlight the contribution of emergency services volunteers.

"We also thank the employers of volunteers in WA who release their staff from work to allow them to carry out their volunteer duties," said Dr Nahan.

"Equally we acknowledge the families of our emergency services volunteers for the support they provide by allowing their family members to attend training and emergency incidents, and to so ably assist our community."

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