



# LIVING THROUGH MONSOON SEASON

A PRACTICAL COMMUNITY GUIDE FOR NORTH QUEENSLAND

# WELCOME!

If this is your first wet season in North Queensland welcome. And if you've lived here your whole life, you'll know that no two wet seasons are ever the same.

This guide has been created as a calm, practical resource to help families, travellers, and community members feel prepared without feeling overwhelmed.

We hope this wont be a heavy/complex guide for everyone to read.

It's not about panic or fear. It's about understanding how monsoon weather works, knowing what small steps make a big difference, and helping our communities stay safe together.

Wet season living is simply part of life in the tropics and this is why we emphasise being prepared year round not just when a severe weather event appears.

With preparation and awareness, it becomes something we learn to move through rather than something that controls or consumes us.



***This guide is broken down into 5 key areas***

FLOOD AWARENESS  
CYCLONE MOST COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS  
HOME PREPARATION  
SAFETY  
WEATHER ANXIETY

Please remember preparation is not something you want to leave until you are already in the warning zone.

In the event of an emergency the ones who cope the best are the ones who are confident in their understanding/awareness of what to expect and how to respond.

# FLOOD AWARENESS

## **Flood Behaviour Changes Every Year**

As we move through each wet season, it's important to remember that flood behaviour can change from year to year especially if there has been new housing, road works, or landscaping changes in your area since the previous season.

Many people rely on past experiences to judge flood risk, but in tropical regions this can be unreliable. Even small environmental changes can significantly alter how water moves across land.

Wet season safety isn't just about rainfall totals it's about how the land handles that water.

Things to keep in mind:

- Roads and parks may flood differently to what you're used to
- New developments can change natural water flow
- Major drain ways may have been altered, redirected, or reduced
- Flash flooding can occur in places that didn't previously flood

Even if an area has never flooded before, it does not guarantee it won't in future seasons.

## **Saturated Ground Increases Flood Risk**

One thing often overlooked during wet season is prior soil saturation.

When the ground has already experienced days or weeks of steady rain, it becomes fully saturated meaning it cannot absorb much more water. Once this happens, additional rainfall runs straight across the surface instead of soaking in.

This can lead to:

- Faster runoff into creeks, drains, and rivers
- Flash flooding from rainfall that normally wouldn't cause problems
- Roads going under much quicker than expected
- Water moving through unfamiliar areas

Flood risk can remain high even if rainfall doesn't appear intense on weather radar and if you add in new developments, cleared land, compacted soil, or altered drain ways and water will often take new paths people haven't seen before.

If the ground is already wet, it takes far less rain to cause flooding issues.

## **Flood Evacuation Preparation Timeline**

Unlike cyclones, flooding can develop very quickly. Heavy rainfall, dam releases, saturated ground, or upstream rain can cause water levels to rise in minutes or hours.

This timeline is a general guide. Always follow advice from emergency services and local authorities.

### **⚠️ Early Warning Signs – Awareness Stage**

Flooding may still be avoidable, but conditions are increasing risk.

Common triggers include:

- Heavy or prolonged rainfall
- Flood watches or minor flood warnings issued
- Water levels rising in creeks, rivers, or drains
- Roads or parks beginning to hold water
- Reports of upstream flooding or dam releases
- Saturated ground after days of rain

Helpful actions:

- Begin monitoring official weather and flood warnings closely
- Charge phones, power banks, and mobility or medical equipment
- Discuss evacuation plans with household members
- Check on neighbours or family who may need support
- Consider relocating vehicles or caravans to higher ground early

This stage is about preparing quietly before conditions escalate.

## **Flood Warning Issued – Preparation To Leave Stage**

At this stage, flooding is expected or already occurring in surrounding areas. Water levels may rise quickly and road access can change without notice.

Helpful actions:

Pack evacuation bags including:

- Identification and important documents
- Medications and medical equipment
- Phone chargers and power banks
- Clothing and personal essentials
- Baby supplies or pet supplies if required
- Comfort items for children

Most of this may already be packed in your cyclone emergency kit for monsoon season.

- Move vehicles to safe higher ground if safe to do so
- Secure or raise household items that could be damaged by water
- Turn off electricity at the main switch if instructed
- Prepare pets for transport or safe containment
- Identify safest evacuation route and alternative routes
- Avoid driving through water or travelling at night during heavy rain

## **Evacuation Advised or Water Rising Rapidly – Leave Immediately Stage**

When evacuation warnings are issued or water begins entering streets, yards, or homes, delays can quickly become dangerous.

Helpful actions:

- Leave immediately if safe evacuation routes remain open
- Take evacuation bags and emergency kits
- Follow official evacuation routes and advice
- Notify family or friends where you are going if possible
- Lock doors if time allows
- Avoid driving through floodwater or around road closure signs

If evacuation becomes unsafe or impossible:

- Move to higher levels inside your home
- Contact emergency services or SES for assistance
- Stay away from floodwater, especially moving water

Important note on pets

This is not the time to make plans on if you should or should not leave with/without your pets this plan needed to be made before the rain even begun. Upon getting a pet you should include them in your emergency plans as routine. Where do you take them, how do you care for them in emergencies... Get familiar with which evacuation centres allow pets and have a crate/leash available near evacuation bags. Do not put SES lives at risk to save you because you refuse to leave without your pet. So many people use this as an excuse to not evacuate because they did not have a plan. Make this a non negotiable to ensure you have a plan ahead of monsoon season for your pets.

## King Tides and Coastal Flooding

King tides are a normal and expected part of the tidal cycle, especially at this time of year. Many coastal and low-lying areas experience water over roads during these higher tides even in fine weather.

North Queensland communities that commonly see impacts during King tides include:

- 📍 Cairns & surrounds
- 📍 Townsville & surrounds
- 📍 Ingham & the Hinchinbrook coast
- 📍 Bowen
- 📍 Proserpine / Whitsundays
- 📍 Mackay coastal areas
- 📍 Low-lying beachside suburbs and boat ramp areas across the region

 17 Tide timing and heights vary by location, so it's worth checking your local tide tables to see when the highest tides fall in your area.

💧 Why we mention it:

While King tides on their own are routine, when they line up with rainfall, storms or onshore winds, they can lead to more water on roads and in low-lying areas than people might expect.

Nothing alarming just something to be aware of if you live, work or travel near the coast. This also means whilst roads may open if flooding goes down they may close again during King tides so make sure you are checking most recent road closure updates as you go.

🌟 A few simple tips:

- Take extra care driving in coastal areas around high tide
- Avoid parking vehicles in low-lying spots
- Keep an eye on local weather and council updates

# CYCLONE FAQ

## **Tropical Cyclone Frequently Asked Questions**

How long do cyclones take to cross?

Unfortunately cyclones don't give us exact timeframes like an appointment this is why it's important to be signed up for your local severe weather alerts so that you can be informed when it is safe to leave your home again.

How much warning do we have of cyclones crossing

Although the media will alert you the second there is any activity in the ocean that could potentially be something realistically you have 4 solid days prior to a cyclone where you will receive the warning zone however generally the actual location of crossing will be reduced to a smaller warning zone within 24 hours of the cyclone crossing. Cyclones wobble as they approach the coastline and so we often don't know the exact crossing path until the final 6-12 hours prior.

Why do we get told to go inside hours before a cyclone crosses?

Your warning zone will issue an alert hours before the winds pick up to begin locking down. The reason for this is that many need time to close businesses, arrange transport, decide if they need to evacuate to a shelter etc and so warnings are best sent hours prior to the impact to reduce how many are on the road during the expected timeframe of crossing as cyclones can speed up and cross earlier than expected.

## Cyclone Warning Timeline

While exact crossing locations can change, most systems give communities several days to monitor, prepare, and make safe decisions.

This timeframe is a general guide to help reduce last-minute stress and panic. Every cyclone behaves differently, so always follow official warnings and advice from emergency services.

### **3-4 Days Prior – Stay Informed**

At this stage, a cyclone system may still be developing or tracking toward the coast. Forecast paths can change, and crossing locations are often unclear.

This is your reminder stage, not your panic stage.

Helpful actions:

- Monitor official weather updates and warning zones
- Check cyclone emergency kits are fully stocked and ready
- Replace any expired food, water, batteries, or medications
- Make sure power banks and devices are charged
- Confirm where important documents are stored
- Discuss emergency plans with household members
- Check on neighbours or family who may need extra support

 Avoid panic buying or large supply runs.

Your emergency preparation should already be mostly completed before monsoon season begins and realistically you should just be checking no one stole the spare milk over christmas without telling you hehe.

## **2 Days Prior – Finalise Property Preparation**

By this stage, warning zones are usually clearer, and preparation should shift toward securing your home and outdoor areas.

Now keep in mind that a cyclone is quite large and impact can and often does affect several towns upon crossing especially those below the eye. Cyclones wobble a lot in the final 2 days prior and this means very quickly you can go from being the edge of the warning to the direct impact zone so don't get complacent and skip this step just because you are on the edge 2 days out.

Helpful actions:

- Secure or store outdoor furniture, trampolines, bins, toys, and loose items
- Trim or remove loose branches if safe to do so
- Check gutters, drains, and downpipes are clear
- Prepare sandbags if your property is flood-prone
- Move vehicles, caravans, or equipment to higher ground if needed
- Fill water containers or bathtubs for emergency water storage
- Check generators are safe, functional, and fuelled (store fuel safely)
- Ensure pets have safe shelter and supplies

This is usually the best time to complete outdoor preparation while conditions are still safe.

## **1 Day Prior – Safety Planning**

Cyclone paths and warning zones are usually much more accurate within 24 hours of crossing. Authorities may begin issuing stronger safety advice or evacuation instructions.

Helpful actions:

- Closely monitor official warning updates
- Confirm if your household is in an evacuation or storm surge risk area
- Fill vehicles with fuel in case evacuation becomes necessary
- Withdraw small amounts of cash if safe to do so
- Fully charge phones, power banks, and medical devices
- Place emergency kits in easy-to-access locations
- Set up safe indoor shelter areas away from windows
- Bring pets indoors or into secure shelter
- Freeze water bottles to help keep fridges and eskies cool if power fails

Try to finalise preparation early in the day, as conditions can deteriorate quickly.

PLEASE avoid travelling in this time frame between towns and keep an eye on road updates.

## **Hours Before Crossing – Stay Indoors & Lock Down**

Emergency services will usually advise communities to stay indoors before winds reach dangerous levels.

Helpful actions:

- Move inside and remain indoors
- Stay away from windows and glass doors
- Keep emergency kits, torches, and communication devices nearby
- Keep children and pets safely contained
- Avoid travelling or going outside once conditions worsen
- Listen to official emergency updates and instructions

Cyclones can speed up or change direction, so once lockdown advice is given, it is safest to remain indoors.

Conditions may calm temporarily during the eye of a cyclone. This does NOT mean the event has ended and please be cautious going outside during the eye as you do not get warning for when those gusts start back up again.

## **After Cyclone Crossing – Wait For Official All Clear**

Helpful actions:

- Watch for fallen powerlines, flooding, debris, and damaged structures
- Only travel if absolutely necessary
- Check on neighbours, family, and pets when safe
- Use generators and BBQs outdoors only and away from enclosed spaces

## **Emergency Kit Checklist**

During cyclone preparation, it's helpful to plan food in two stages  
→ during cyclone impact and after conditions are safe again.

### **During Cyclone Impact (No Cooking Required)**

When strong winds begin and authorities advise staying indoors, cooking outside or using BBQs is unsafe. Power outages are also common, so focus on foods that can be eaten cold and require little to no preparation.

Recommended options:

- Drinking water
- Sandwich supplies (bread, wraps, spreads, deli meats, cheese)
- Ready to eat snack foods (crackers, muesli bars, dried fruit, nuts)
- Shelf-stable foods that don't require heating
- Long-life milk or alternative milks
- Baby food or formula if required
- Pet food that does not require preparation

A note towards dishes/washing etc. With heavy rain events water restrictions often apply to dishwashers/washing machines etc. Because of this it may be helpful to have packets of paper plates etc to preserve your bottled water for drinking especially if water lines are cut off.

## **Emergency Kit Checklist**

After The Cyclone Has Passed (When Safe To Go Outside and use BBQs)

Once authorities advise it is safe and winds have eased, cooking outdoors may become an option if power remains out.

At this stage, foods that can be cooked using BBQs or gas cooktops can be useful.

Examples include:

- Tinned meals
- Canned vegetables or soups
- Rice or pasta cooked using camping or BBQ equipment
- Frozen foods that need to be cooked quickly before spoiling

Always follow safety advice before using outdoor cooking equipment and never use BBQs or generators inside enclosed spaces.

Note: Electricity providers ask for solar power systems to be switched off prior to cyclones so do not rely on these for power source even if you have a battery backup as you can not switch them back on until advised safe to do so.

## **Generators and Power Outages**

During cyclone season, power outages can happen suddenly and last longer than we expect. Having a generator ready can help keep things going like fridges, lights, fans, phone charging, or essential medical equipment.

A generator switch allows a generator to connect safely to your home, so you can power what matters most without messy extension cords or safety risks.

Reminder never to turn fuel operated generators on inside your home or an enclosed space like a garage as this is toxic and unsafe.

# HOME PREPARATION

## **Moving Vehicles and Valuables to High Ground**

Many areas in Townsville and other Queensland Coastal towns sit low and can flood with King Tides or heavy rain events.

If you have a car, caravan, or other items that could be affected, decide now where you'll move them if water rises before the rain is too heavy. Get to know what amount of MM rain forecasted typically floods your street so you know anything above that needs urgent attention vs calm observation.

Planning ahead keeps you safe and prevents last minute chaos on the roads. Let's make this a routine step in your home. What we don't want to be seeing is a sudden influx of cars on the road during heavy rain trying to relocate.

Talk to your neighbours if new to the area to ask for realistic expectations around flooding as flood maps may not always show accurate expectations for what to expect during the monsoon season and may focus on severe disaster only. For example you may not be aware that the last property owner had significant issues with water drainage from the back of your yard that your neighbour is aware of or that sewerage issues often become a problem requiring you to move valuables and vehicles from under your home in heavy rain.

## **Insurance Check-In**

Before each wet season, or when you have spare time, consider:

- Reviewing home and contents insurance
- Checking storm cover versus flood cover (they are often separate)
- Taking photos of your home and belongings
- Backing up important documents

Preparation helps reduce stress if a claim is ever needed.

Remember people always come first. Property can be replaced.

## **Sandbag Preparation**

Sandbags can help slow or redirect shallow, slow-moving water away from:

- Doorways and entrances
- Low vents or drains
- Garages and sheds

Sandbags work best when placed early, using a staggered brick-style pattern with plastic sheeting underneath if possible.

Sandbags are not designed to:

- Stop fast-moving floodwater
- Hold back deep flooding
- Protect homes already surrounded by rising water

If floodwater is expected to rise significantly, sandbags alone will not keep you safe. Always have an evacuation plan prepared.

When To Collect Sandbags

- Before heavy rain peaks
- Do not wait until roads are cut
- Councils often announce sandbag locations ahead of major events
- If you live in a known flood-prone area, storing sandbags early can help

## **Sandbag Safety and Disposal**

Floodwater can contain sewerage overflow, bacteria, chemicals, and debris. Used sandbags may carry contamination.

Before handling sandbags:

- Wear gloves, closed shoes and long sleeves
- Avoid touching your face
- Keep children and pets away
- Wash hands thoroughly afterwards

Do not reuse submerged sandbags.

Dispose of sandbags according to local council advice and never dump sand into drains, creeks, or beaches as this can increase future flooding risk.

SAFETY

Have you recently had a huge influx of rain? It's time to do a check

With saturated ground and ongoing rain, it's important to do a slow walk-around of your property once it's safe. Some issues aren't obvious straight away.

## WHAT TO CHECK AROUND YOUR HOME & YARD

### Fence lines & boundaries

Look for erosion under fences where soil may have washed away

Check for gaps where pets could escape

Pay attention to fence posts that may now be loose or leaning

### Foundations & slabs

Check for pooling water near the house

Look for new cracks or soil pulling away from footings

Ensure water is draining away from the home

### Gutters & drains

Clear leaves, mud and debris

Check downpipes are still connected and flowing freely

Make sure stormwater drains aren't blocked or backing up

### Retaining walls & garden edges

Watch for bulging, leaning or collapsed sections

Saturated soil can cause sudden failure days after rain stops

### Trees & branches

Look for leaning trees or exposed roots

Be cautious of heavy branches that may drop once winds pick up

### Sheds, carports & outdoor structures

Check anchoring points

Look for water damage, shifting or sinking

Damage can continue to develop after rain has stopped, especially with soft ground. If something doesn't look right trust your gut and keep people & pets clear.

👂 An important reminder during the monsoon season in regards to the disability and elderly community members

Severe weather hits everyone differently and for people living with disability, chronic illness, mobility challenges, or for many elderly folks, it can add an extra layer of stress that others don't always see.

Preparation often takes more time, more energy, and sometimes comes with real physical limits. Things like making sure meds are nearby, having food that's easy to prepare, or planning for power outages can be a lot when your body already has its own challenges.

And something that I really want to highlight having lived experience with disability 🙋

please don't assume someone "has a carer" during events like this.

Support workers may need to stay home with their own families, shifts aren't always scheduled in the lead-up to weather events, and some people only receive support once a week not daily. Many people are navigating these moments completely on their own.

If you're able-bodied or have a bit of spare capacity, this is where community care shows up. A check-in message, helping secure loose items, or offering a hand with clean-ups after the weather passes can mean more than you realise.

Needing help doesn't mean someone didn't prepare and in a lot of cases they may have had a plan that has fallen through. Many disabilities, chronic illnesses and physical challenges are not physically visible to others and not everyone has mobility aids.

If you can help, please do. Not everyone is comfortable asking for help

## **Melioidosis Awareness**

Melioidosis is a bacteria naturally found in soil and muddy water in North Queensland. During heavy rainfall, it can be brought to the surface and spread more easily.

Reduce risk by:

- Staying out of floodwater and muddy areas
- Wearing closed shoes and gloves when gardening or cleaning
- Covering cuts or broken skin
- Washing hands and skin thoroughly after contact

People with weakened immune systems should take extra care.

Floodwater may also contain sewerage contamination. If you feel unwell after exposure, seek medical advice and mention recent soil or floodwater contact.

## **If You Become Stranded Between Towns**

If travelling during wet season and roads close:

Consider checking:

- Evacuation centres
- Visitor information centres
- Community hubs or neighbourhood centres
- Food banks or pantries
- Local councils
- Showgrounds or halls
- Service stations

Helpful resources include:

Queensland Disaster Management

QLD Traffic

SES Queensland

Lifeline (13 11 14)

Avoid waiting on flooded roads and avoid travelling at night during heavy rain.

## **Driving Consideration During Flooding**

Driving too fast through water creates bow waves which can push water into homes, businesses and storage areas.

Slowing down can prevent significant property damage and helps protect lost pets or wildlife that may be harder to see during heavy rain.

WEATHER  
ANXIETY

## **Managing Weather Anxiety**

Weather anxiety is real, especially during severe weather events.

Helpful strategies include:

- Limiting social media and news exposure
- Following only trusted weather sources
- Checking on loved ones and pets
- Doing grounding activities such as reading, tea, or quiet rest
- Keeping essential supplies prepared to reduce stress

Preparation supports calm decision-making.

## **Choosing Reliable Weather Information**

We don't participate here in weather politics but for those who are finding their home pages overwhelming from following too many pages at once here's a little help.

Not all weather pages are created equal. The best weather info helps you prepare and not panic. This often looks like getting you prepared before severe events occur not just during an event when you are less likely to make well grounded calm decisions.

When choosing who to trust, look for pages that:

- \*Share facts clearly, without hype or scare tactics
- \*Explain what's likely versus what's possible
- \*Use calm, steady language instead of fear-based headlines
- \*Acknowledge uncertainty (because weather changes!)
- \*Focus on practical impacts and simple preparation
- \*Update responsibly and safely (aka not providing you their weather report standing knee deep in flood waters against safety advice)

Weather info should help you make good decisions, feel informed, and stay grounded not anxious or overwhelmed.

## **Community and Family Support**

It's natural to feel anxious when friends or family are in the path of a storm, flood, or other natural disaster.

While you may not be able to be there in person, there are simple ways you can support them.

Ways to Help:

Gift cards – for groceries, fuel, or supplies so they can stock up on essentials.

Check-ins – a quick message or call to let them know you're thinking of them.

Share reliable information – send official weather updates or emergency contacts.

Offer practical help for after the event – help with clean-up or organizing donations if needed.

Emotional support – listen, validate feelings, and reassure them that they're not alone.

Protect your own wellbeing – it's okay to switch off the news or social media if updates are making you anxious.

Even small gestures can make a big difference when someone is facing uncertainty.

## **Supporting Children During Severe Weather Events**

Severe weather events can feel confusing and frightening for children, especially when routines change or adults around them are feeling stressed.

Children often notice more than we realise. They pick up on tone, conversations, and emotions, even if they don't fully understand what is happening.

One of the most helpful things we can do is control how much overwhelming information they are exposed to.

### Limiting News Exposure

While it's important for adults to stay informed, continuous news coverage can be distressing for children. Media often repeats dramatic footage, worst-case scenarios, and urgent language that can create fear or confusion.

Helpful strategies include:

- Avoid leaving live news or weather coverage playing constantly around children
  - Check updates privately where possible
  - Give children simple, calm explanations rather than detailed or graphic information
  - Reassure them that adults and emergency services are working to keep everyone safe

Children do not need to carry the full emotional weight of severe weather preparation.

## Helping Children Feel Safe

During severe weather events, children often feel safer when they understand what is happening in an age-appropriate way.

You may like to:

- Explain what is happening using simple, honest language
- Let them know the family has a plan to stay safe
- Show them emergency kits so they understand preparation is already in place
- Encourage them to ask questions and express feelings
- Maintain familiar comfort items such as favourite toys, blankets, or books

Calm, predictable reassurance from trusted adults helps children regulate their emotions during uncertain situations.

### Keeping Routine Where Possible

Storm events and warnings can disrupt normal routines, which can increase anxiety for children.

Keeping small parts of normal routine can help children feel secure, such as:

- Keeping regular meal times where possible
- Maintaining bedtime routines
- Continuing quiet activities like reading, drawing, or games
- Creating a simple “storm day” routine if normal plans are disrupted

Structure helps children feel grounded even when the weather outside feels unpredictable.

### Giving Children a Sense of Control

Children often cope better when they feel included rather than powerless.

Safe ways to involve them include:

- Letting them help check emergency kits
- Allowing them to pack a small comfort bag with toys or activities
- Giving them simple preparation jobs suited to their age
- Helping care for pets during preparation

Being part of preparation can help reduce fear and build confidence.

### Watching For Signs Of Anxiety

Every child responds differently to severe weather. Some may appear calm but show stress in other ways such as:

- Difficulty sleeping
- Clinginess or separation anxiety
- Increased irritability or emotional outbursts
- Asking repeated questions about safety

Children may continue processing the experience after weather has passed. Allow time for conversations, questions, and emotional reassurance.

Remind them:

- They were safe
- The event has passed
- It is okay to feel worried sometimes
- They can talk to you anytime

Thank you for taking the time to move through this guide and learn more about living safely through monsoon season in North Queensland.

Preparation is one of the most powerful tools our communities have. When we understand weather, plan ahead, and support each other, we reduce panic, increase safety, and help families feel more confident during severe weather events.

Wally's Weather was created to provide calm, practical weather education and community resources. To help continue providing free forecasts, safety guides, and educational support, we also create weather-themed books, games, and preparation resources designed for families and communities across Australia.

#### Featured Resource — Cyclone Activity Kit

Our Cyclone Activity Kit has been created to support families with both education and practical preparation during cyclone season. This kit helps households build confidence, understanding, and readiness in a calm, family-friendly way. It is especially helpful for families wanting to introduce children to cyclone safety in a way that feels empowering rather than frightening.

The kit is a great way to keep everyone entertained during severe weather events with the card game being perfectly portable for evacuation.

These games are designed to bring families together while building knowledge and confidence around Australia's weather patterns.

The following page has a break down of what is currently available in the gift shop! Thank you for your support

## **Books for Curious Minds**

Is Your Sky Noisy Too?!

A fun introduction to weather in the tropics.

Coming Soon → How to Build a Cyclone

Later this year we're releasing a brand new kids book all about cyclones. It's designed to be age-appropriate, empowering, and curious rather than scary.

## **Board Games & Puzzles**

Our weather themed games are designed to be fun, strategic, and educational perfect for family game nights or homeschooling.

Cyclone Chaser™ — The Board Game

Plot cyclones, learn geography, make strategic decisions this game brings weather patterns to life in a way the whole family can enjoy.

Dam Filler — Board Game

Work together to fill the dam and explore how rain systems and terrain interact great for ages 5+ and weather lovers of all ages. Makes an excellent drinking game too we are told!

500-Piece Jigsaw Puzzle

A relaxing way to enjoy weather art with family and friends.

Head to [wallysweather.com.au](http://wallysweather.com.au) to check out the gift shop. If you wish you can donate items from the gift shop to our local schools through selecting pay it forward!

## **Community Sponsorship & Support**

Community partnerships allow resources like this guide to remain free, accessible, and available to everyone who may need it during severe weather seasons.

We would like to give a heartfelt thank you to our 2026 Iconic Major Sponsors for their support, trust, and commitment to helping keep our communities safe and informed.

### **2026 Wet Season Iconic Major Sponsor Genesis Industries**

Genesis Industries is a locally owned and operated electrical, air conditioning, and construction specialist based right here in Townsville. Known for responsive service, high-quality workmanship, and a dedication to customer experience, they support homes and businesses with solutions for electrical installations, air conditioning systems and more.

### **2026 Dry Season Iconic Major Sponsor Garry Thyer's Betta - Townsville**

Garry Thyer's Betta is a beloved local appliance and home living store serving the Townsville region with decades of experience and a personal, community-focused touch. Whether you're shopping for kitchen appliances, TVs and audio, refrigerators and freezers, bedding, or climate comfort solutions like air conditioning, the expert team at Garry Thyer's Betta offers friendly advice, quality products, and great value from leading brands

We encourage you to support the businesses that support your community – and to thank them for helping make guides like this available.