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Complacency could cost Queensland lives

Queenslanders have been urged to use the long weekend to prepare for the upcoming storm season as new RACQ data revealed much of the State was not ready for potential wild weather.

RACQ spokesperson Kirsty Clinton said a recent survey revealed 70 percent of Queenslanders had not considered an emergency plan ahead of next week's official start to the storm season.

"The last decade has really proven how unpredictable and brutal Queensland weather can be and we're disappointed so many Queenslanders haven't taken action," Ms Clinton said.

"Now's the time to prepare your emergency kit and emergency plan ahead of summer – once a storm is bearing down on you, it's too late.

"Look online to see what should be in your emergency kit or, if you've got one already, check the contents are still in date and put it somewhere easy to access in an emergency.

"Then have a quick chat to your family to decide where you will go in an emergency, who'll pick up the kids, pets, the emergency kit and make sure everyone is aware of the plan. It's that easy."

Ms Clinton said the survey revealed three quarters of respondents planned to take steps to prepare their homes and property.

"It's great to see many people plan to clean gutters, trim back trees, secure outdoor items and check the condition of their roof – but they need to do this now," she said.

"This coming long weekend is the perfect opportunity to get started.

"Good intentions are wonderful but if you don't do it soon, it could be too late."

Media inquiries: RACQ spokesperson Kirsty Clinton 0438 987 158.

RACQ is Queensland's largest club and peak independent motoring organisation. We were formed in 1905 to represent the interests of the State's first motorists and today campaign for safer drivers, vehicles and roads on behalf of the 1.7 million members who own the Club. We offer those members a vast range of motoring, insurance, banking, entertainment and travel services and benefits, and each year respond to more than a million calls for roadside assistance.