

What is inclement weather

Inclement weather is severe weather conditions that make it unsafe or unreasonable for workers to work due to the conditions, including but not limited to:

- Extreme high temperatures/humidity
- Heavy rain, storms and/or hail
- High winds
- Severe dust or electrical storm

Procedure

The decision to cancel a shift or modify the duration of a shift due to inclement weather is based on the overall concern for the health and safety of our volunteers and friends. Orange Sky's practice is to continue operating during periods of 'bad' weather, except as noted below. Unless otherwise instructed, volunteers are to attend shift as normal. If a volunteer believes they cannot commute safely to and from shift during periods of 'bad' weather, they should elect not to travel. The volunteer should notify their Team Leader at the earliest convenience before the start of shift.

When is it Unsafe?

Inclement weather	Example	Action Required
Extreme heat	Heatwave conditions or temperatures that are considered unusually high and the chance of experiencing heat stress is possible.	pre-shift: cancel shift. During shift: cease shift.
Extreme cold	A period of unusually cold weather for the region and for the time of year. It may last one or more days.	pre-shift: cancel shift. During shift: cease shift
High winds	When wind or wind gusts are within or exceed 40-49kph (called strong winds or a strong breeze) or when there is a risk of high winds causing belongings and or equipment to become airborne projectiles.	pre-shift: cancel shift During shift: cease shift
Lightning	When you see lightning, count the time until you hear thunder. If that time is 30 seconds or less, the thunderstorm is within ten kilometres of you and is dangerous.	pre-shift: cancel shift if a thunderstorm is forecast to pass within 10km of the shift. During shift: cease shift and seek shelter immediately inside a structure with four walls and a roof or an enclosed vehicle.
Heavy Rain	When moderate or heavy rainfall has the potential to impact the safety of a shift, from the possibility of the van becoming bogged or an increase in possible slip hazards on shift.	pre-shift: cancel shift During shift: monitor, if conditions become hazardous or people are unable to remain dry cease shift.

To access weather information visit:

- AUS - **www.bom.gov.au** or down the BOM app on you Android or iPhone.
- NZ - **www.metservice.com** or down the app on you Android or iPhone.

For further information on Orange Sky's Inclement Weather Procedures, read the following:

- *Inclement Weather Procedure*