

QUEENSLAND PEAK PROPERTY BODY'S 5 TIPS FOR APARTMENT, TOWNHOUSE AND STRATA DWELLERS THIS CYCLONE AND STORM SEASON

Strata Community Association (Qld), the state's peak body for strata community living has five tips for people living in strata communities as the threat of La Nina and a damaging storm season in Queensland looms.

The threat of damaging cyclones and storms is at its highest point in a decade in Queensland as La Nina threatens to produce not just a rainy, but potentially dangerous cyclone and storm season.

Strata communities house at least 14 per cent, or 715,000 people of Queensland's total population living in accommodation including apartments, townhouses, retirement living complexes and resorts, with the number potentially as high as 1.2 million people.[\[1\]](#)

Living in strata communities such as these presents particular challenges to storms and cyclones, as facilities and property management are shared responsibilities and come under the responsibility of the body corporate and government regulation and legislation.

Strata Community Association (Qld) President James Nickless said there are five things people living in apartments, townhouses, holiday resorts or retirement complexes can do to minimise their risk and increase their preparedness this cyclone and storm season.

"First, contact your body corporate or strata manager who manages the property to see if there are any outstanding maintenance items, and what information and advice they have in regard to being storm ready in your particular region," said Mr Nickless.

"Second, it's important to understand evacuation procedures, marshalling points and what to do in case of power outage for your particular building. The body corporate or strata manager can help with this information, and there are general guides provided by the [Queensland Government](#).

"Third, check the flood map and storm information supplied by the [Bureau of Meteorology](#), as well as up to date information on their weather watches for specific areas.

"Fourth, try to secure any objects that are not part of the building structure, such as barbeques, bicycles, tables, chairs and plants.

"Finally, make a note of objects on your property or near your property that might cause hazard in the case of a storm or cyclone such as overgrown trees or blocked storm drains and notify your local council if you think there may be an issue," he said.

For more information about strata living, visit the [SCA \(Qld\)](#) website.

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About Strata Community Association (Qld)

[SCA \(Qld\)](#) is the peak association supporting the state's strata sector, with more than 1,200 individual and corporate members who help oversee, advise, and manage a collective sinking fund balance of \$1.02 billion.

The association brings together people who manage strata schemes, own units or live in strata communities, and those who provide products and services for schemes. We also provide education, advice, and advocacy to enable better understanding of the regulations, obligations and owner's rights.

Strata Community Association (Qld) members represent 312,000 of the 500,000 lots in Queensland. SCA (Qld) was founded in 1984 as the Body Corporate Manager's Institute Queensland (BCMIQ), subsequently joining the other leading state and territory strata institutes in creating a national organisation. Aligning branding since 2002 we now are known as Strata Community Association (Qld).

Media inquiries: Contact SCA (Qld) Executive Officer Katrin Watson on 07 3839 3011

[1] Hazel Easthope, Sian Thompson and Alistair Sisson, *Australasian Strata Insights 2020* (p66), City Futures Research Centre, UNSW, Accessed at <https://cityfutures.be.unsw.edu.au/research/projects/2020-australasian-strata-insights>