



Media Release

Friday 29 May 2015

More than \$1 million of storm damage for Western Australians

The recent storms that hit Perth and South West WA on May 16 and 17 have resulted in more than \$1 million worth of damage to WA homes, according to RAC Insurance claims data.

The weekend of wild weather, which gave Perth two thirds of its monthly rainfall in just two days, has seen RAC Insurance receive water damage claims to the tune of \$1.1 million.

While this type of wild weather is traditionally uncharacteristic for May, RAC Insurance Home Claims Manager Glen Walker says Perth also experienced a spontaneous few days of storminess in May 2014 as well.

“Last year, May was looking fairly typical in terms of weather, and then the city was hit by unexpected storms on May 7 and 8,” Mr Walker says.

“That brief bout of wild weather caused quite a bit of destruction to Perth’s southern suburbs and South West region, including water damage, rooves being taken off and fences knocked down.

“And interestingly enough, this year we have again been suddenly hit with 48 hours of severe storms in May.

“It is unusual given winter isn’t even here, yet we are experiencing weather so destructive that it is causing damage to property. This serves as a timely reminder to West Australians to always be prepared in the event of a storm.

“Our advice is to take a look around your front and back yards for any potential risks and try to minimise them as much as possible.

“Trim tree branches that look like they could fall in heavy wind. Hire a contractor to clear any trees that are surrounding power lines. Secure any loose outdoor objects like furniture. Clear gutter and downpipes and check for blockages to prevent overflowing. And always keep an emergency kit handy.”

For more storm preparation tips, visit rac.com.au/insurance/tips

Media contact: Kirsty Petrides 0402 781 742