



Country Fire Service  
Volunteers Association  
(CFSVA)



## Your Volunteers Association is now on Twitter!

The CFSVA has got with the program, and we encourage all our members to do the same!

That way you can receive information from us on your Iphone or your computer quickly and easily.

To follow us on Twitter, all you have to do is join up (it's easy - step by step instructions follow)

**Our first four tweets sent out are below (to give you a bit of an idea what you will receive)**

Good article in the Stock Journal about the declining numbers of [#CFS](#) volunteers  
<http://t.co/FI0KaAm>

What do you think about budget cuts for emergency service volunteers? Go to <http://t.co/piJO3Ck> and have your say

Did you see today's article about the impact of a \$2m funding cut to SA emergency services? Visit <http://t.co/mJZUyIO> for the article

Pleased to announce that we are now on twitter, so make sure you follow us to find out the latest news from the CFS Volunteers Association!

**So sign on today! (and then you can show your kids how to do it too!)**

**And if you are having trouble, ring Wendy on 8244 6400 or 0427 823 656, and she will ask someone who knows!**



## Twitter – Your questions answered

### What is the Twitter username for CFSVA?

You will need to search under our users-name, which is **@CFSVolunteers** and then click on the “Follow” button. (case sensitive)

### Do I need to have a Twitter account to follow CFSVA?

Yes, you will need to sign up for a twitter account to follow the CFSVA on Twitter.

### How do I set up a Twitter account?

You will need access to the internet and then navigate to [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com)

The Twitter splash page appears:



You will need to click on the yellow “Sign Up” button” to bring up the sign-up page, and you will be prompted to enter your details in the appropriate text boxes.

Twitter requires your full name, username, a password, and your e-mail address where Twitter can contact you for notifications.

### **Do I have to “tweet” as well or can I just follow?**

How you use Twitter is your personal choice. If you want to follow our tweets only then that is your decision. However, after you sign up, you will be taken to your newly created Twitter account, where you can tweet your messages (in 140 characters or less) if you choose.

### **Are there are “rules” for using twitter?**

The Twittersverse doesn't have many rules, but there is such a thing as Twitter etiquette. Writing tweets of 140 characters or less isn't the only guideline. Your experience on Twitter will be a positive one if you keep the following tips in mind:

- Say what you think and are doing.
- In general, try to keep tweets longer than one word so that your followers can understand you.
- Listen to what your Twitter friends are saying.
- Respond to Twitter friends when you can add value to the conversation.
- Update your status at least once a day.
- Fill in your profile and biography so that other people can know more about you.
- Use your own picture as your avatar. If the picture that you use contains more than one person, make sure that people can tell which one is you.
- Whenever you're referencing another Twitter user, use his name with an @ sign in the front so that the user can see you mentioned them and other users can see whom you're talking about.
- Use hashtags to give context to updates that may not make sense otherwise.

### **What should you NOT do on Twitter?**

While you can't really do too much wrong on Twitter, you'll make life easier in the Twittersverse if you follow these guidelines:

- When you first sign up and before you start regularly tweeting, don't follow hundreds of people. If you follow someone, he checks out your profile to see whether he might want to follow you back; if he sees that you've tweeted once or twice and you're following hundreds of people, he may think you're just a spam account.

Start out slowly, following people you know and who know you. Then, as you start tweeting regularly, follow more people based on your interests.

- Avoid using punctuation in your username. Typing punctuation on mobile devices is difficult.
- Don't share information that you might regret making public.

- Don't send an update when a direct message is more appropriate — for example, when the update is meaningless to anyone except one person. If the person doesn't follow you, you can send an update that contains her name, asking her to contact you over another medium.
- Don't feel the need to thank everyone publicly for following you. It's a nice thing to do, but not always necessary.
- Don't think Twitter success has anything to do with your Followers count.