

# Be SharkSmart

Shark attacks in Victoria are uncommon and there have been no fatalities in this state since 1987.

While the risk of a shark attack is extremely low, it is important to be mindful of sharks when entering the water.



*Following a few simple shark smart tips will keep you safer this summer.*



*Sharks are a part of a healthy marine environment.*

## Be SharkSmart

There are a number of things you can do to reduce the risk of encountering sharks:

1. Always swim, dive or surf with a friend.
2. Keep informed of the latest sightings at [www.emergency.vic.gov.au](http://www.emergency.vic.gov.au).
3. Swim between the red and yellow flags on patrolled beaches where possible.
4. Avoid areas that attract sharks such as:
  - a. where natural food sources of sharks live, e.g. seals
  - b. where fishing waste is being disposed of
  - c. places where human and animal waste enters the water.
5. Watch for signs of unusual behaviour in wildlife or fish. This can indicate a shark is in the area.
6. Help others be informed. Learn more at [www.vfa.vic.gov.au/shark-smart](http://www.vfa.vic.gov.au/shark-smart).

## Report a shark sighting

You should report shark sightings of concern to '000' or notify lifesavers immediately if you are at a patrolled beach.

Please provide the following information:

- Date & time of sighting
- Location, be as specific as possible
- The type of shark and size, if known
- Your details so the report can be followed up.

In the event of an attack, call '000' immediately and ask for the ambulance service.