

Have you been affected by the storm?

The majority of Moorabool was affected by the major storm event that hit Victoria on Wednesday 9 June. Compounding this event was the loss of power, communications, landlines and mobiles and network coverage.

More than 1000 homes were without power after the first 24 hours and more than half the Shire did not have landlines, mobiles or network coverage. Given the scale of the event across the region an Incident Control Centre was established in Ballarat on Thursday to coordinate the response across many local government areas with major impacts occurring in both Moorabool and Hepburn.

Council has staff and contractors on the ground in many areas of the Shire, who are continuing to work on the significant clean up task ahead. Council has been coordinating meetings with emergency services, with several meetings held in Blackwood where communications and power were down until Monday night.

The relief and recovery team has been making phone calls to the majority of the Korweinguboorra, Spargo Creek and Blackwood areas and will then move to Colbrook, Blakeville, Gordon North and Dales Creek/Greendale where homes have been destroyed and damaged.

A Council Emergency Recovery Number has been activated. The community can call 5366 1323 to talk to a Recovery Officer. Please use this number if you need to speak to a staff member relating to issues on your property. Any other enquiries or requests for trees over roads that are still falling or have not been cleared for initial access please phone 5366 7100 to report to our teams to attend.

Pop-Up Hubs

Did you know we have set up Pop Up Community Hubs at Korweinguboorra and Blackwood? Come along and talk to staff from the emergency management, infrastructure, building, planning and environmental health teams. Relief and Recovery agencies are also being invited to attend the hubs to provide assistance.

The next Pop Up Hubs will be set up at:

Korweinguboorra Recreation Reserve:
Wednesday 23 June 2pm – 7pm

Blackwood Hall:
Thursday 24 June 2pm – 7pm

Moorabool Shire Council

MOORABOOL STORM EVENT 2021 – COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER NO 1



Greenwaste and Skips

Skips will be located at the following areas for greenwaste. Exact locations will be advertised on Council's Facebook page, our website and future newsletters but are looking at locations including:

- a. Korweinguboora Recreation Reserve
- b. Gordon
- c. Mt Egerton Transfer Station
- d. Lal Lal
- e. Coimadai
- f. Dales Creek at the Acacia Ave Reserve
- g. Blackwood

Council is also allowing free disposal of greenwaste at all our transfer stations until 5.00pm on Sunday 11 July. You will need to provide proof of being a resident of Moorabool Shire to access the free service.

Trees

Trees are continuing to fall across the Shire post-storm. If you are worried about trees that are threatening to fall please call 5366 7100. If after hours, follow the prompts to reach our After Hours Emergency contact person.

Park closures

Please keep up to date on State Park closures at Forest Fire Management Victoria:
www.ffm.vic.gov.au/visiting-state-forests/forest-and-road-closures

Powercor claims

Powercor is waiving reconnection fees to homes and businesses impacted by the storm event. Information about compensation claims is available at www.powercor.com.au/contact-us/customer-claims/

The State Government has announced a Prolonged Power Outage Payment of \$1680 per week for up to three weeks will be extended to all eligible households without power as at Thursday 17 June. The payment will be assessed on a weekly basis and administered by Ausnet, and help families buy basics and find alternative accommodation.

Ausnet has established a dedicated claims process for customers impacted by the storm, which can be accessed on its website or by calling 13 17 99.

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Agriculture Victoria assistance

Anyone with critical animal welfare issues, such as lack of access to feed, deceased animals or animals who have escaped into State Parks, should contact Agriculture Victoria on 1800 226 226.

Septic Tanks

If you are still experiencing issues from power outages, please phone our Recovery Number: 5366 1323 and our Environmental Health team will arrange pumping.

Building Inspections

Council is continuing building inspections across the hard-hit parts of the Shire to assist with insurance claims. Phone our Recovery Number 5366 1323 for information.

Trauma and mental support

If you need mental and emotional support after the vent, these agencies can assist:
VCC Emergency Ministries – www.vccem.org.au/services/outreach/
Better Health Victoria – www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/

Red Cross

As always in an emergency event, The Red Cross have been on the ground in Blackwood, Korweinguboorra, Spargo Creek, Barkstead and surrounds to help and support residents. They will continue to be out in affected areas in the coming weeks and at the Pop-Up Community Hubs.

Personal Hardship Assistance Program and Emergency Re-establishment Payments

The Personal Hardship Assistance Program (PHAP) assists people experiencing financial hardship because of an emergency. A needs assessment is carried out by a Personal Hardship Assistance Officer to determine eligibility. Payments are up to \$560 per adult and \$280 per child (up to a maximum of \$1960 per eligible family). Find out how to apply and more:
www.moorabool.vic.gov.au/Emergencies/Storm-emergency/Personal-hardship-assistance-program

Emergency Re-establishment Payment assistance is available to households of limited financial means, whose principal place of residence (their home) is uninhabitable (damaged or destroyed) or is inaccessible due to the June 2021 flood and storm emergency. Find out how to apply and more:
www.moorabool.vic.gov.au/Emergencies/Storm-emergency/Emergency-re-establishment-payments

Find our more information at www.moorabool.vic.gov.au/Emergencies/Storm-emergency