

Council Storm Recovery Number: 5366 1323

Moorabool June 9-10 Storm Event 2021 – Community Newsletter No. 15

Free Storm Recovery Habitat Kits

Thanks to funding from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, we are offering storm impacted residents free Storm Recovery Habitat Kits.

These kits aim to support our local wildlife and vegetation to recover from the June 2021 storm. The kits come in various sizes depending on the size of your property, and will include:

- Up to 50 native plants
- Up to 10 tree samplings
- Up to 3 nest boxes
- A bee hotel

We will assess your eligibility based on where you live and the impact the storm had on your area. We have a limited number of kits available, so we want to make sure we are helping the areas most in need.

Many animals who rely on tree hollows lost their homes during the storm. These nest boxes will give them a safe place to live while the natural environment recovers.

Moorabool's Storm Recovery Team and Landcare will host a habitat and vegetation workshop in July where successful applicants will be able to pick up their kits.

Thanks to the Ballan Men's Shed and the Rotary Club of Bacchus Marsh for building the nest boxes from timber collected during the storm clean up. Thank you to Rowsley Nursery for propagating the plants and saplings.

Find out more and apply: <https://bit.ly/habitat-kits>



The first prototype of a nest box made from storm debris by the Ballan Men's Shed,



Greater sugar glider



Native Bee Hotel and native bees

One Year On Catch Up & Book Launch

You're invited to join us for two community get togethers to acknowledge one year since the June 2021 storm.

This is a chance for the community to catch up with emergency service responders and recovery agencies one year on.

We will also be launching our Storm Recovery Book, put together by Council's Storm Recovery Team to acknowledge one year since this devastating event hit our Shire. It includes a collection of community stories about the night of the storm and the recovery journey since. This book was jointly funded by the Commonwealth and Victoria under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements. You'll be able to grab a copy for free. Thank you to everyone who contributed words, photos and personal stories for the book.

The Mayor of Moorabool Shire Council, Cr Tom Sullivan will launch the book at midday, at both events.

- Book launch at 12noon
- Spit roast for lunch at 12.30
- Coffee van
- Fairy floss/popcorn/slurpies
- Kids activities & face painting
- BYO chair & coat
- Free copy of the Storm Recovery book

Join us:

Blackwood Recreation Reserve
Sunday 19 June
11am-3pm

Korweinguboorra Recreation Reserve
Sunday 26 June
11am-3pm

Please RSVP by emailing info@moorabool.vic.gov.au or call 5366 7100 by Sunday 12 June for Blackwood and Sunday 19 June for Korweinguboorra, to allow final numbers to be provided to the caterer.



Moorabool's Storm Recovery Team invite you to:

One Year On: Catch Up & Book Launch



Front cover of the Moorabool Storm Recovery Book.

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Storm Recovery update from DELWP

DELWP are continuing works in the Wombat State Forest to remove storm debris.

Forest Fire Management Victoria is working with forest contractors to re-establish safe access for the public and firefighters and reduce longer-term bushfire risks.

Works to remove storm debris from roads, tracks and road reserves will commence at the following priority sites:

- Barkstead – Barkstead South Rd
- Barkstead – Pinchgut Rd

You may see additional heavy vehicles and machinery moving around these areas as debris is removed.

As fallen trees can also provide valuable habitats for our wildlife, some will be left in place where appropriate. For all other debris, the best end-use will be considered – this may include commercial firewood and timber products, park furniture, bollards, community projects and more.

Some areas of the forest will be closed to the public to ensure the safety of the public, contractors and DELWP staff while heavy machinery is in the area.

To date, over 5,000kms of DELWP managed roads have been cleared of trees and debris posing safety risks to the community.

One priority has been clearing and making safe the strategic fire network to ensure rapid first attack of bushfires and safe public and personnel access, which is now 93% complete.

Learn more about DELWP's role in recovery: <https://www.delwp.vic.gov.au/communities-and-regions/emergency-recovery>



A delivery of free fence posts

Free fence posts for primary producers

These fence posts are repurposed from storm-damaged trees, obtained over the course of BRV's Residential Storm and Flood Clean-up program and processed at the Romsey green waste facility.

Apply here: faa.ruralaid.org.au/fence-post-program/

Storm and Flood Recovery Hotline

A reminder that the Storm and Flood Recovery Hotline is still open to Victorians affected by the June 2021 storms and floods.

It's a single state-wide number, 1800 560 760, that Victorians impacted by the June 2021 storms and floods can call for help or assistance.

Operators can assist you with registering for:

- Accessing your own recovery support worker
- Mental health and wellbeing support
- Financial counselling and information on available payments.

The recovery hotline is open from 9am-5pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays).

Call 1800 560 760

How to access mental health support

Storm and Flood Recovery Support Hotline

Call 1800 560 760 and a Recovery Support Worker can assist you in accessing mental health support through Central Highlands Rural Health. This hotline can also link you in with a financial counselling service.

Partners in Wellbeing Helpline

Free and confidential wellbeing coaching for businesses and individuals. This service is available 7 days a week via email, chat or phone call. Find more info at: <https://www.partnersinwellbeing.org.au/>

Australian Red Cross

Support and resources to look after yourself and your family when disasters happen. Visit <https://www.redcross.org.au/get-help/emergencies/looking-after-yourself>

Beyond Blue

Information and support to help everyone in Australia achieve their best possible mental health, whatever their age and wherever they live. Call 1300 22 4636 or visit <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/>

Lifeline

24/7 crisis support and suicide prevention. Call 13 1114 or visit <https://www.lifeline.org.au/>

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