

# Moorabool Shire Council

## MOORABOOL STORM EVENT 2021— COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER NO 3



**Council Emergency Recovery Number: 5366 1323**

## Have you been affected by the storm?

We will continue to host Pop Up Community Hubs in Korweinguboorra and Blackwood on a weekly basis. This will ensure that the community can drop in and get information, have a chat about any issues that are still occurring on their property, be able to get direct referrals for counselling services and support and get assistance with registration for the State clean up process and dangerous and hazardous trees process.

We will take any information, notes or questions for other areas of council or agencies including FFMVic (DELWP and Parks Vic), Red Cross, Salvation Army, Ballarat Community Health, DFFH and forward them on so they can make direct contact. The next hubs will be on the following days and times:

### **Korweinguboorra Recreation Reserve:**

10am – 3pm

Wednesday 14 July

Wednesday 21 July

Wednesday 28 July

### **Blackwood Hall:**

10am – 3pm

Thursday 15 July

Thursday 22 July

Thursday 29 July



### **Affected roadsides being attended to by Council**

The following roads are open to the public, however they may have traffic control in place:

- Callaghans Lane, Gordon
- Moorabool West Road, Gordon
- Greenhills Road, Greendale
- Back Settlement Road, Korweinguboorra
- Hodges Road, Korweinguboorra
- Korweinguboorra Recreation Reserve
- Mulgrew Road, Korweinguboorra
- Spargo Creek Road, Spargo Creek
- Spargo Creek Mineral Spring Reserve, Spargo Creek



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### Storm and flood clean-up program

Bushfire Recovery Victoria will support the clean-up and recovery work for the owners of private property damaged by the storms and floods that occurred on 9 and 10 June 2021. Eligibility criteria and registration: [www.vic.gov.au/storm-clean-up-program](http://www.vic.gov.au/storm-clean-up-program)

Our free storm and flood clean-up program covers the demolition and removal of any structures on eligible private properties that were destroyed or damaged beyond repair by the June 2021 storms and floods. This could include:

- Residential homes and sheds
- Commercial and public buildings
- Other outbuildings.

The program will also remove hazards such as dangerous materials or trees, that pose a threat to property or work crews, as well as any vehicles that were damaged beyond repair. This program is voluntary, free of charge and open to eligible property owners. The program is accepting registrations for the assessment of hazardous trees on private property which pose a risk to a place of residence.



#### COMMUNITIES

### Storm and Flood Clean-Up Registration for structures and vehicles

Victorians whose homes, businesses, sheds and vehicles were destroyed in the June storms and floods can have their properties cleaned up at no cost, so that communities can recover as soon as possible



#### COMMUNITIES

### Registration for assessment of hazardous trees

Bushfire Recovery Victoria is accepting registrations for the assessment of hazardous trees on private property that are a risk to a place of residence or personal safety.

To be eligible for the clean-up program, the affected property must contain structures – or buildings – that were destroyed or classified as being damaged beyond repair. The structures will be cleared and any resulting debris will be removed. Properties eligible for the clean-up program will be assessed for hazards that pose a risk to access for clean-up or work-crews and clean-up operations before works begin. Vehicles on private property that were working before the event and were then classified as being damaged beyond repair are also eligible for clean-up, even if no structures were destroyed on the property.

### Park Closures

- For a full list of park and forest closures please visit:

[www.ffm.vic.gov.au/visiting-state-forests/forest-and-road-closures](http://www.ffm.vic.gov.au/visiting-state-forests/forest-and-road-closures)

- For national parks closures due to extreme weather:  
<https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/get-into-nature/safety-in-nature>
- For a full list of road closures, visit: [www.traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au](http://www.traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au)

### Insurance

If you have property or contents insurance you should contact your insurance company as soon as possible after the storm.

- Ask your insurer for advice on actions you should take
- Do not discard or throw away damaged items without consulting your insurance company
- Make a list of items that have been damaged and take photographs if possible
- Keep receipts for any emergency repair work

For assistance with insurance contact the Insurance Council of Australia on 1800 734 621 (24 hour hotline). You can find information on lodging a claim following a disaster here: [www.disasters.org.au](http://www.disasters.org.au).

### Secondary Impact Assessment:

Council's Secondary Impact Assessment Teams continue to work across the impacted areas, visiting properties and determining damage to homes, buildings, fences impacted and other key information to assist with further recovery planning and support services.

### Timber recovery

If you have wind thrown timber following the storm event that may be able to be processed by timber processors, contact VicForests Admin: [vfs.admin@vicforests.com.au](mailto:vfs.admin@vicforests.com.au).

If the timber is more than 3m length and 40cm diameter, contact VicForests detailing how much timber is on your property, your location and the dimensions. They can then get in touch to assess the timber and give you advice on how that timber can be used.





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### **Find out if financial assistance is available for you**

The Personal Hardship Assistance Program (PHAP) assists people experiencing financial hardship because of an emergency. Payments are up to \$560 per adult and \$280 per child (up to a maximum of \$1960 per eligible family).

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/storm](http://www.moorabool.vic.gov.au/storm)

If tax and super affairs are contributing to your worries, the ATO is here to help and has a range of practical support options available, including prioritising any refunds owed, setting up payment plans to help with your circumstances and reissuing tax documents or records. You can visit the ATO website at [www.ato.gov.au/disasters](http://www.ato.gov.au/disasters) or call the ATO Infoline on 1800 806 218 for more information.

Disaster Recovery Payment and the Disaster Recovery Allowance is a one-off payment of \$1000 for eligible adults and \$400 for children, who have suffered significant loss, including a severely damaged or destroyed home. The DRA provides up to 13 weeks of income support to people whose income has been affected. How to apply: Call Services Australia on 180 22 66.

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/](http://www.powercor.com.au/contact-us/customer-claims/)



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### Trauma and mental support

It is normal to experience a range of physical, mental, emotional and behavioural reactions following an emergency or distressing event. If at any time you are worried about your mental health or the mental health of a loved one, call Lifeline 13 11 14 or the Suicide Call Back Service on 1300 659 467.

- VCC EM call back request online form: <https://vccem.org.au/pfa/>
- *Kids Helpline* 1800 55 1800 [www.kidshelpline.com.au](http://www.kidshelpline.com.au)
- *Beyond Blue* 1800 512 348 [www.beyondblue.org.au](http://www.beyondblue.org.au)
- *Parentline* 13 22 89 is a phone service for parents and carers of children offering confidential counselling and support on parenting issues
- Your regular GP or health centre
- Better Health Channel ([betterhealth.vic.gov.au](http://betterhealth.vic.gov.au))



The State Government have announced \$8.2 million funding to bolster recovery efforts across Macedon Ranges, Hepburn and Moorabool Shire. We are so thankful for this announcement. This funding will help us further support our impacted communities of Blackwood, Barrys Reef, Simmons Reef, Barkstead, Korweinguboorra, Spargo Creek, Bunding, Bolwarrah, Mollonghip, Springbank, Claretown, Bullarook, Clarkes Hill, Wattle flat, Glen Park, Pootilla, Blackwood and more.

Council has appointed a Storm Damage Inspection and Assessment Officer to assist in the rectification of fallen or damaged trees, and damaged Council assets resulting from the storm event that occurred throughout the Shire on 9 June 2021.

We received a visit from the Emergency Management Commissioner Andrew Crisp to one of the Blackwood Pop Up Community Hubs last week and prior to that he visited Korweinguboorra to talk to the ADF and contractors on the roadsides cleaning up.

**THANK YOU** to the ADF, our Council staff, Councillors, Contractors, Salvation Army, Centrelink, Department Families Fairness and Housing, Red Cross, DELWP, Parks Vic, SES volunteers, Insurance Council of Australia, CFA, CERT, Victoria Police, FFMVic, Services Australia, VCC Emergency Services, BRV, EMV and our impacted residents. You have all also been incredibly supportive to our community during this time.

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[moorabool.vic.gov.au/storm](http://moorabool.vic.gov.au/storm)  
03 5366 7100