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WEED MANAGEMENT

Weeds, or invasive plants, pose a serious threat to primary production and biodiversity in Victoria. Many species have the potential to displace native species, threaten social values and contribute significantly to land and water degradation.

Fundamental care and control of invasive plant species can stop diseases establishing and spreading within the area.

There are four key management actions that can help control invasive species and plants:

- Prevention and preparedness
- Eradication
- Containment
- Asset-based protection

Where eradication is not feasible, effective management of established species is best achieved by the sustained and coordinated efforts of private and public landholders.

For more information on the importance of weed management visit www.agriculture.vic.gov.au

BURN OFF INFORMATION

If you are planning to burn off materials on your property or require some advice or assistance, please call Stephen Hodgetts on 0417336941. Stephen will co ordinate with the local brigade concerned.

They are happy to assist residents with burning of heaps left over from bushfire residue if residents are uneasy about doing so.

The **contact Number for VicFire to register a burn off is 1800668511**. All fires should be registered, to ensure local brigades are not called out by passer-by calls.

VicFire will require the following information:

- Date and time of ignition
- Name and contact details of the person responsible
- Expected end time of the burn
- Address and nearest cross road
- What is being burnt, approximate size of area or volume of material to be burnt.

Residents please ensure:

- You have sufficient water and equipment
- Notify your neighbours
- Someone remains in attendance
- That the wind is not going to push sparks and embers to other combustible materials

DOES YOUR INSURANCE COVER YOU AFTER YOU HAVE BEEN IMPACTED BY A NATURAL DISASTER?

As we have seen through many natural disasters, people's ability to rebuild their home and reinstate their property is being hampered by insurance claims and under insurance issues.

It is important to read the fine print of all insurance policies to ensure that what you think you are covered for is included in your policy.

Many issues that have been raised since the Scotsburn Fire around insurance include:

- Having to rebuild in a Bushfire Management Overlay with costs associated with different BAL (Bushfire Attack Levels).
- Checking if you are insured for Asbestos Removal and Clean-Up
- Checking if you have enough insurance to cover clean up, disposal and reinstatement of your land after a bushfire, flood etc
- Are you adequately insured for outbuildings, sheds, caravans, utility sheds, machinery sheds, hay sheds?
- Are your contents insured correctly ensuring that carpets, curtains etc are covered?
- If you have a home business are you insured?
- Do you have the contents of your sheds and outbuildings covered?
- Fencing replacement – do you have adequate insurance cover to replace in some instances many kilometres of fencing ?
- Animals, stock and stock feed – how can you replace this?

Talk to your insurance company, question

anything in your policy you would like to know further information about, check what is and what isn't covered.

Did you know that if your home has asbestos, and is destroyed by fire it can cost between \$25 to \$50K and sometimes more to get reports commissioned to identify asbestos, clean-up and monitor the asbestos removal, have all the relevant certificates and documents completed and then to remove all other waste that may have been contaminated?

Did you know that on average the increase to rebuild costs for a home that is now in a Bushfire Management Overlay area with different BAL levels has been quoted by some insurance companies as being:

- BAL 12.5 – 40 = \$16,000 - \$56,000 +
- Bal 40 = \$19,000 - \$73,000 +
- Flame Zone = \$65,000 - \$277,000 +

Did you know that the time of the bushfire, grass fire, flood or other emergency will determine exactly how hard it is to regenerate your pastures, get access to stock feed etc?

Do you have adequate cover for your water tanks and pipes if you live in a non-reticulated water area?

If you need temporary accommodation, have you checked the clause in regards to this? It was identified during recent events that some policies covered for 12 months, some only 6 months and others only get a percentage of the total house cost?

A useful website to visit regarding insurance that the Insurance Council of Australia refer people to is – Understanding insurance: visit <http://understandinsurance.com.au/resource>

CITY OF BALLARAT INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE — PRYORS ROAD

Vegetation clearing

City of Ballarat's arboricultural contractor will continue to remove surplus tree trunks and logwood from the roadside and remove to a stockpile location. The contractor will 'place' some of the logwood in the conservation zone to retain some of biomass that would be lost to the roadside if all of the felled timber was removed. This timber will decompose and return nutrients to the soil and provide habitat for invertebrates which are an often forgotten but vital part of our ecosystem.

The contractor is booked to start next week and the works should be finished within two weeks dependant on weather conditions.

Roadside Signage

A local biodiversity firm has been appointed to replace the Significant Conservation signage where it was damaged by the fire. Most of Pryors Road is classed as significant in terms of conservation value.

The firm will also be conducting a roadside survey to identify old habitat and seed trees which have been GPS'd for addition to local vegetation databases. This will assist in conducting a long term photo survey of the area which will show succession of vegetation over a 15 year period.

Road Rehabilitation

The City of Ballarat has engaged a contractor to undertake road rehabilitation works on Pryors and Platts Roads in accordance with inspection reports undertaken as part of the fire recovery program.

This work will include:

- the Re-sheeting of Pryors and Platts Roads utilising a consistent material to that of the Moorabool Shire,
- reconstruction of 250m sealed Road and shoulders in Pryors Road
- cleaning and re grading of table drains and cut of drains on all roads listed above.

This work is scheduled to be completed by June 30 weather dependant.

Traffic management

Due to the narrow sections on both Pryors and Platts roads traffic management will be in place over the coming weeks for safety of Contractors and general road users.

There may be possible delays during this time and we thank the residents for their patience and will be working hard to limit the disruption to road users.

**Scotsburn Hall Committee, Garibaldi Hall Committee
& Upper Williamson's Creek Landcare Group**

invites you and your friends to the:

Community Get Together

Please note the change in location for our next Community Get Together:

Garibaldi Hall

Friday, 24th June 6:00pm - Late

Hardies Hill Road, Garibaldi

Bon fire, Catering provided

Scotsburn Hall

Friday, 1st July 6:00pm - 10:00pm

Midland Hwy, Scotsburn

This event will not be catered.



Contact:

- Nick McKinley
- 0455 147 398
- leighcg@ncable.net.au

Moorabool Shire Council

Recovery Phone Number —0400 324 551

Recovery Centre Address—Village Place, 309 Learmonth Street, Buninyong.

Principal Office: 15 Stead Street, Ballan Telephone (03) 5366 7100

Postal Address: PO Box 18, Ballan VIC 3342

Email: info@moorabool.vic.gov.au

**Darley Civic & Community Hub: 182
Halletts Way, Darley**

**Lerderberg Library: 215 Main Street,
Bacchus Marsh**

Website: www.moorabool.vic.gov.au



@mooraboolshire



Moorabool Shire Council