

Upper Murray Community Recovery

www.towong.vic.gov.au/bushfirerecovery

Stay at home this Easter.

Continue to support Healthcare and Essential Service Workers.

Thank you to everyone who continues to follow the Stage 3 Government restrictions. The purpose of these restrictions is to limit the physical contact we have with each other to slow the spread and save lives. We know this is a really difficult time as we would usually be packing for Easter camping trips, or getting ready to visit the family, however this is for the benefit of saving lives.

Please reconsider any activity that may put you at a higher risk of needing medical help. While you may usually do some activities in isolation, if you have an accident there will be added pressure on our local hospitals.

If you have Coronavirus symptoms call 1800 675 398 – please keep Triple Zero (000) for emergencies only.

For information on Council services visit www.towong.vic.gov.au/Coronavirus or call 02 6071 5100. Stay up to date with the most reliable information at dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus

Agriculture Victoria - Bushfire Financial Support

Agriculture Victoria is urging producers not to self-assess their eligibility for financial support packages. Seek advice from the Rural Financial Counselling Service (1800 686 175 or 1300 834 775) or Rural Finance (call 1800 260 425). If you aren't able to access guidelines and application forms online please contact Agriculture Victoria for assistance on 136 186.

Under the Towong Shire Recovery Plan an Agriculture Working Group has been established, which is chaired and coordinated by Agriculture Victoria. The goal is to support and provide regional solutions to enable the agricultural sector to recover and remain resilient into the future.

The group includes producers from across the fire affected areas and supporting organisations. For information contact the Group's Chair Tim Hollier on 0407 883 927 or email tim.hollier@agriculture.vic.gov.au

Fencing Wire Disposal Sites

Council has secured two sites for the disposal of fencing wire damaged in the bushfires. Drop offs can be made for free at either site during the allocated times. Please note fencing wire will only be accepted if it is free from any non-metal materials. Wherever possible the wire will be recycled.

Corryong Transfer Station – Sugarloaf Road

- Open Tuesday 2-4pm, Thursday 4-6pm, Sunday 12-4pm

Walwa – Campbell Lane

- End of Campbell Lane, off the Murray River Road
- Access 7am – 6pm Mon - Fri, 9am – 4pm on weekends
- Strictly for fencing only

“While Healthcare and Essential Service workers continue to go to work for us, please continue to stay at home for them.”

David Wortmann

Cr David Wortmann, Mayor

Coronavirus Financial Support

The Australian Government's \$320 Billion economic response to COVID-19 provides support for individuals, households and businesses that have been financially impacted. This includes the latest 'JobKeeper Payment' where eligible businesses will receive \$1,500 per fortnight per employee for up to six months. Keeping more people employed.

Find out what you may be eligible for at <https://treasury.gov.au/coronavirus> or call 1800 020 008.

The Victorian Government is also supporting through the Business Support package which gives \$10,000 to eligible Small to Medium Businesses. This can be spent on business expenses such as wages, utilities, support, planning and development. For details and to apply visit <https://www.business.vic.gov.au/support-for-your-business>

New \$20,000 Red Cross Rebuilding Grant

The new Red Cross Rebuild Grant announced March 31st provides \$20,000 to help homeowners experiencing financial hardship as a direct result of bushfires. It assists with the early stages of rebuilding a primary place of residence.

The \$20,000 grant is over and above the original \$20,000 grant that was available to people who lost their primary place of residence (including those renting). Visit <https://www.redcross.org.au/bushfire-grants-questions>

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Recovery Contacts

- **Towong Shire Council Recovery Helpline:** 1800 518 222 or email recovery@towong.vic.gov.au
- **Bushfire Recovery Victoria - Case Support Coordinators:** 1800 560 760 or email connect@brv.vic.gov.au
- **Register for the Bushfire Clean-Up Program:** 1800 560 760 or visit vic.gov.au/bushfire-clean-up-program
- **Resources and Updates:** Visit www.towong.vic.gov.au/bushfirerecovery or www.vic.gov.au/bushfire-recovery-victoria