

Upper Murray Community Recovery

Upper Murray Weekly Recovery Update - 21 May 2020
www.towong.vic.gov.au/bushfirerecovery

We Continue To Be Here.

Coronavirus may have impacted the way we do things, however the situation does not change the ongoing work and priority of Bushfire Recovery. Council's Recovery Team together with Bushfire Recovery Victoria and supporting agencies, continue to work to support the community throughout recovery.

The Recovery Hub continues to operate virtually and our team are here to help. They are arranging meetings via telephone, video, or a home visit over a coffee (while physical distancing).

To discuss your recovery needs, give Keryn a call on 1800 518 222 or contact your Local Area Recovery Officer directly on the details below.

The Upper Murray Recovery Hub will be reopening as soon as possible. In the meantime we are making some changes to make sure it is COVID-19 compliant, before we welcome you through the doors. In the meantime, we continue to be here to support you.

Have You Talked To Your Local Area Recovery Officer?

Dedicated Recovery Officers have been assigned to each area. They focus on the needs of residents, businesses and the wider community. If you are yet to speak to your Local Area Recovery Officer, we encourage you to reach out directly:

- Cudgewa, Berringama, Lucyvale: Jessica Jarvis 0408 102 095
- Walwa, Cross-Border, Mt Alfred, Burrowye, Guys Forest, Jingellic: Eden Cook 0429 060 239
- Towong, Thowgla, Corryong: Pete Dikschei 0428 950 739
- Biggara, Tallangatta Valley, Mitta Valley, The Peninsula: Tracey Farrant 0419 636 596
- Nariel: Jenny McCoy 0407 293 907
- Tintalra, Tooma: Kaye Nankervis 0436 445 187

Keeping Communities Safe As Visitors Return

As Coronavirus restrictions begin to ease, visitors will be eager to return to the Upper Murray to show their support. For now this involves day visits until further restrictions are lifted.

Council is reminding visitors to continue practicing physical distancing when they visit, to help keep communities safe.

Tourism businesses are asked to ensure they have measures in place to allow for safe physical distancing. This may involve limiting the number of people in stores at any one time. To find the latest requirements visit www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus and for the latest advice and support for business operators visit www.business.vic.gov.au

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



The Bushfire Recovery Team and supporting agencies adjust to a new way of connecting online. L to R: Keryn Sheather, Jessica Jarvis, Jenny McCoy, Amanda Pagan, Pete Dikschei, Nola Tudball, Brett Ellis, Amanda Lamont, Eden Cook and Tracey Farrant.

\$10,000 Small Business & Primary Producer Grants

From 800 Victorian businesses that have now applied and received the \$10,000 bushfire support grant.

The grant is available to Small Business and Primary Producers who have experienced loss of income from the bushfires. Provided by the Victorian and Commonwealth Governments, the grant program is open for applications through Rural Finance. Applicants will not be precluded from applying for this grant if they have already received assistance under the Emergency Bushfire Response: Small Business Grants or the Emergency Bushfire Response in Primary Industries Grants programs.

It's easy to apply and you aren't required to upload any financial documents if you don't have them right now. To apply visit www.ruralfinance.com.au/industry-programs/small-business-bushfire-support-grant

Rural Finance also has counsellors available to help you find out which grants you're eligible for. Contact Rural Finance on 1800 260 425 or email governmentservices@ruralfinance.com.au

If you need a hand completing the application, contact the Recovery Team on 1800 518 222.

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