

# Alpine Community Recovery Newsletter



**ABOVE: New Council** The newly elected Alpine Shire councillors have hit the ground running since the announcement of final election results in November. From left: Cr Charlie Vincent, Deputy Mayor Cr Sarah Nicholas, Cr Ron Janas, Cr Kelli Prime, Mayor Cr John Forsyth, Cr Tony Keeble and Cr Katarina Chalwell.

Alpine Shire Council is calling on residents to prepare for the upcoming fire season and help protect themselves and the community.

Council and other key agencies have been involved in flood and storm preparation and strategic fire prevention works in high risk areas.

Council is now seeking the help of the community to ensure they are prepared in the event of an emergency. As a property owner in the Alpine Shire, now is a good time to prepare your property.

Fire Prevention Notices will be issued to property owners who have not taken appropriate measures to minimise the risk of fire on their property.

## Plan and prepare

Emergencies don't just include major natural disasters like bushfires, earthquakes or floods. A fall in the home that results in an unexpected hospital stay, a car accident, or serious illness can also cause significant disruption and add stress to your life.

Did you know it's most likely to be your neighbour or a passer-by, not emergency services, who will help you survive during an emergency? Neighbours can also provide practical and emotional support after an emergency, as well as information about recovery services. You can reduce the impact of emergencies, big and small, by being prepared.

Your RediPlan has been designed to provide an easy-to-follow set of actions to help you plan for emergencies. Follow Red Cross' four easy steps at: <https://www.redcross.org.au/prepare>

**Step 1.** Get in the know

**Step 2.** Get connected

**Step 3.** Get organised

**Step 4.** Get packing

Start a conversation in your community today.

## Tips for preparing for an emergency:

1. Create and revisit your Personal or Family Emergency Plan
2. Store essential personal information on a USB stick to take with you
3. Have your vehicle prepared with your emergency kit and first aid kit
4. Download the VicEmergency App. Visit [www.emergency.vic.gov.au/respond](http://www.emergency.vic.gov.au/respond) to learn more
5. Check on your friends and neighbours

## FIRE

1. Keep your gutters clear of litter and ensure your drains are free of debris
2. Mow grass to less than 10cm
3. Remove flammable materials from your decks, porches, and verandahs
4. Store flammable liquids and woodpiles away from your house
5. Remove all dry grass, leaves, twigs, and loose bark from your property
6. Prune overhanging branches from your trees and shrubs

**For more information about fire preparation, visit <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/about/plan-and-prepare>**

## FLOOD

1. Bag it: sandbag your home
2. Block it: block your toilets and drains
3. Lift it: lift your furniture and valuables up high

For more information about flood preparation, visit <https://www.ses.vic.gov.au/get-ready/at-home>

**If you have any concerns or require any assistance in preparing for emergency, please contact Council on 03 5755 0555.**



Image: Nathan Fenton

## Meet your Alpine CRC

Your Alpine Community Recovery Committee (CRC) is made up of representatives from across the Shire and Alpine Resorts to help give a voice to the broad views and recovery goals of our communities. They are here to ensure that local know-how and expertise are at the forefront of longer-term recovery planning. Find out more about your Alpine CRC by visiting <https://www.alpineshire.vic.gov.au/community-recovery-committee>.

## Sign up to our Alpine Community Recovery Newsletter and Alpine Chat

Each month we release the Alpine Community Recovery Newsletter in partnership with Bushfire Recovery Victoria, with recovery updates and important information to support community recovery and resilience. This newsletter also includes Alpine Chat, an initiative by the Alpine CRC that gives you current insights into how they're working to support your community.

The Alpine CRC undertook an eight-week consultation survey from late September through to early November. The survey received over 320 responses and the Alpine CRC are now in the process of analysing the results.

Survey results will be released progressively via Alpine Chat, distributed monthly, and other mediums. Early insights into the survey demonstrate that over 100 people are interested in receiving the Alpine Community Recovery Newsletter and Alpine Chat.

Sign up to the mailing list by emailing [info@alpinecrc.org.au](mailto:info@alpinecrc.org.au).

## Drop into the Alpine Recovery Hub

The Alpine Recovery Hub is available to all members of the Alpine Shire and Alpine resorts. Coordinated by Shelley Herman from Bushfire Recovery Victoria, the Hub is a place where you can seek support from a number of different services in north-east Victoria to help you on your personal road to recovery.

The Alpine Recovery Hub is open to walk-ins and organised appointments from 10am - 4pm Monday - Thursday and 10am - 2pm on Friday.

You can find the Hub in the old chocolate shop at 8/3 Riverside Walk in Bright, behind the Bright Medical Centre. Alternatively, get in touch with Shelley by calling **0429 529 700** or emailing Shelley on [alpinehub@brv.vic.gov.au](mailto:alpinehub@brv.vic.gov.au)

## Find support when you need it most

The **Bushfire Case Support Program** links people to personal support and financial counselling support. Contact them by calling **1800 560 760**

Mental health support is available from a number of services in the time that you and those around you need it most, especially during the holiday period. Find support from these local services:

**Alpine Health | 1300 514 811**  
<https://www.alpinehealth.org.au/healthy-communities/mental-health>

**headspace Albury Wodonga**  
**1300 332 022 | <https://headspace.org.au/headspace-centres/albury-wodonga/>**

**Rural Health Connect | 0427 692 377**  
<https://www.ruralhealthconnect.com.au/>

For a comprehensive list of local mental health services available to you, please visit <https://www.alpineshire.vic.gov.au/community-resource-guide>

These national services are also available 24 hours, 7 days a week:

**beyondblue | 1300 22 4636**  
<https://www.beyondblue.org.au/>

**Kids Helpline | 1800 55 1800**  
<https://kidshelpline.com.au/>

**LifeLine | 13 11 14**  
<https://www.lifeline.org.au/>

**MensLine Australia | 1300 78 99 78**  
<https://mensline.org.au/>

**Keep up-to-date on grant support that may be available to you**

Grants open, close, and update regularly. To find out what grant and funding support may be available to you or your business/group, go to the the Indi Funding Finder. This comprehensive online portal gives you free access to the widest range of current grants available. You can also register for free email alerts to keep you up-to-date on the best grants for your project by visiting <https://helenhaines.grantguru.com.au/>



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SHIRE COUNCIL