



Alpine Community Recovery Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2022

Welcome to the twenty-first edition of the Alpine Community Recovery Newsletter, a joint initiative by Alpine Shire Council and Bushfire Recovery Victoria.

Community Project Grants

Local \$3.8 million is available for local recovery projects under the third and final round of Local Community Project Grants, closing 11.59pm on Monday, 11 April 2022.

Jointly funded by the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments under the Local Economic Recovery (LER) program, the grants are available for projects that build a sense of community pride and connectedness, supporting the critical role communities play in leading their own recovery.

The grant program guidelines have changed from the previous two rounds and community groups and organisations are encouraged to read the guidelines carefully before preparing their application.

The key objectives under the LER Local Community Projects Grants (Round 3) are to:

- Increase employment opportunities and decrease skills shortages
- Increase business capacity and economic opportunity with a focus on tourism, primary industries, and small businesses
- Increase visitor confidence in the region
- Improve community wellbeing
- Restore or improve the natural environment
- Increase economic and social benefits by investing in enabling infrastructure
- Promote Aboriginal participation and ownership and protect and enhance Aboriginal culture

For more information, including how to apply, visit <https://www.vic.gov.au/bushfire-recovery-local-community-projects-grants-fund>.

Worried About Your Mate?

If you're feeling a bit worried about your mate and their mental health, feel better in knowing that there are support services available to help them.

Find support online by visiting Navspace, a digital guide to mental health and wellbeing services in northeast Victoria. Navspace is a directory that connects you to a range of services available right here in the Alpine Shire and Resorts.

Find out more by visiting <https://navspace.org.au/>.

While your mate might not be up for it yet, you may be able to find out more and support them to take the next step.

Navspace was generously funded by the state of Victoria through a Bushfire Recovery Victoria grants program in response to the 2019-20 bushfires, which impacted northeast Victorian communities.

Free Farm First Aid

Red Cross is supporting more Alpine communities with their free farm first aid courses in March. These courses equip participants with skills to assist themselves and others in cases of accidents and injury.

Participants who complete the course will receive a Statement of Attainment demonstrating that they can Provide Basic Emergency Life Support (HLTAID002). The courses held in March include:

- **Happy Valley** 7 March 2022
9am – 5pm | Happy Valley Hall
- **Buffalo River** 8 March 2022
9am – 5pm | Buffalo River CFA Shed

Enrol now by visiting <http://australianredcross.eventbrite.com.au>. For more information, contact Red Cross Bushfire Officer, Jessica Davison, on 0439 634 601 or by emailing jdavison@redcross.org.au.

ALPINE CHAT

Alpine Community Recovery Committee News
Edition 15 | February 2022



ABOUT US

Your CRC is made up of representatives from the Alpine Shire and Resorts to give a voice to the broad views and recovery goals of local communities.

Get in touch by emailing info@alpinecrc.org.au.

MAILING LIST

Have the Alpine Community Recovery Newsletter and Alpine Chat delivered to you by visiting <https://eepurl.com/hwZJYz>.

WHO WE ARE

Fiona Nicholls | Chair
Myrtleford and Surrounds

Steve Belli | Deputy Chair
Mount Hotham

Charlotte Chambers
Bright and Surrounds

Fiona Laird
Harrietville and Surrounds

Gail Owen
Dinner Plain

Sally MacDonald
Myrtleford and Surrounds

Jane Shadbolt
Bright and Surrounds

Dani Sheean
Falls Creek

Lachlan Thomas
Harrietville and Surrounds

Nicholas Wright
Kiewa Valley

Representing our communities.

FREE GREEN WASTE DISPOSAL

One of the Alpine CRC's priorities is to improve environmental protection and management, which includes hazard reduction and initiatives such as free or reduced green waste disposal at tips.

To address this priority, Council is holding a free green waste weekend in the first week of March in Dinner Plain, Mount Beauty, Myrtleford, and Porepunkah. This weekend is in addition to the free green waste disposal days held annually by Council in the lead up to summer, funded by Bushfire Recovery Victoria.

High volumes of traffic are anticipated on these days, so please expect queues and delays. Traffic management will be in place.

Mount Beauty, Myrtleford, and Porepunkah

- **When** Saturday, 5 and Sunday, 6 March 2022 from 10am – 2pm
- **Where** Mount Beauty Transfer Station, Myrtleford Transfer Station, and Porepunkah Transfer Station

Dinner Plain

- **When** Friday, 4 March 10am - 1pm and Saturday, 5 March 9am - 12pm
- **Where** Alpine Shire Depot, 18 – 22 Scrubbers End

Restrictions apply | Green waste must be maximum two cubic metres per customer, must be clean with no wire or netting or any contaminants, maximum branch diameter of 200mm, no stumps.

PROJECTS FUNDED IN ALPINE

Congratulations to all the local projects that received funding through the Federal Government's Black Summer Bushfire Recovery grants. These were competitive grants that covered 110 local government areas across six different states and territories in Australia.

Congratulations to the 15 projects funded from local organisations across Bright, Falls Creek, Harrietville, Mount Beauty, Mount Hotham, Myrtleford, and Porepunkah. These projects varied from upgrading infrastructure and essential facilities, to building capacity for emergency broadcasting, to protecting and digitising historical collections.

For a full list of successful projects, including those from outside the region who will deliver projects for Alpine communities, visit <https://recovery.gov.au/black-summer-bushfires/grants-program>.

The Alpine CRC provides a letter of support for groups whose projects align with the community bushfire recovery criteria. If you are applying for a grant and would like your project to be supported by the Alpine CRC, access a proforma today by visiting <https://www.alpineshire.vic.gov.au/community-recovery-committee>.

The Alpine CRC are now meeting monthly, so get in early if you are seeking endorsement.

SAFER TOGETHER: MANAGING BUSHFIRE RISK IN VICTORIA

The Victorian Government's Safer Together approach brings communities together with fire and land agencies to manage fuels and reduce the risks of bushfire. The four priorities of Safer Together are: 1) Community first, 2) Land and fire agencies working together, 3) Measuring success, and 4) Better knowledge = better decisions.

As part of this approach, residents can access information specific to their region, including our region of Hume where ecosystems include alpine forest, grassy woodlands, and floodplains. Each region has a Bushfire Management Strategy that aims to develop a common understanding of how communities and agencies can work together to better understand and reduce bushfire risk.

Find out more about Safer Together and our region of Hume by visiting <https://www.safertogether.vic.gov.au/>. Interested in learning more about how fire and land agencies manage bushfire risk? Learn more from Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic) by visiting <https://www.ffm.vic.gov.au/>.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Bushfire Recovery Victoria (BRV) Community Facilities | Grants are available up to \$50,000 for community groups seeking to build, upgrade, or repair local facilities. Closes 30 June 2022. Visit <https://www.vic.gov.au/bushfire-recovery-grants-community-facilities>.

BRV Local Community Projects (Round 3) | Local projects that support community recovery can apply for funding between \$50,000 and \$2 million. Closes 11 April 2022. Visit <https://www.vic.gov.au/bushfire-recovery-local-community-projects-grants-fund>.

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) Private Overhead Electric Line (POEL) Scheme | Eligible landowners can apply to have their overhead private powerlines undergrounded, as well as partially or fully bare-wire private powerlines or any insulated private powerlines subject to a current urgent or significant defect notice. Closes 30 June 2022 (subject to available funding). Visit <https://www.energy.vic.gov.au/electricity/powerline-replacement-fund> or contact 03 9918 7315 or safier.powerlines@delwp.vic.gov.au.

Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR) Strengthening Rural Communities | Grants up to \$25,000 are available for a broad range of community-led initiatives. Round 13 closes 31 May 2022. Visit <https://frrr.org.au/funding/place/strengthening-rural-communities> or contact Vivienne McCrory on 1800 170 020 or info@frrr.org.au.

Nature-Led Recovery | A joint initiative between BRV, Zoos Victoria and DELWP offers funding of up to \$5,000 for projects to help bushfire-affected communities deliver projects that benefit local wildlife and biodiversity. Visit <https://www.vic.gov.au/nature-led-community-recovery-grants>.

Planting Trees for the Queen's Jubilee | Grants of between \$2,500 and \$20,000 are available for not-for-profit organisations and schools to plant trees and hold a celebratory event. Nominate to apply for this grant through Federal MP Dr Helen Haines. Closes 18 March 2022. Visit <https://www.helenhaines.org/resources/grants/>.

Victorian Government Solar for Business Program | Rebates of up to 50% of the total cost are available for small businesses in Victoria to install approved small-scale solar systems up to 30kW. Find out if you are eligible for a rebate value of up to \$3,500 by visiting <https://www.solar.vic.gov.au/site-4/solar-small-business>.

Visit Victoria Regional Events Fund | Regional communities are invited to apply for funding opportunities that support the acquisition, growth, or planning of events across regional areas. Visit <https://corporate.visitvictoria.com/events/regional-events> or contact Tourism North East on 03 5728 2773.

Indi Funding Finder | The Federal Member for Indi has comprehensive information on grants available on their website, including how to apply for grants and upcoming opportunities in the region. For more information, visit <https://helenhaines.grantguru.com.au>.