

PREPARING FOR NEXT TIME

Knowing where to find accurate and up-to-date information is vital in an emergency. Individuals are encouraged to access a range of tools to help you understand what's happening in your community.

> **Download the VicEmergency App**

Hotline 1800 226 226 | emergency.vic.gov.au/prepare

> **Access Essential Information**

Country Fire Authority (CFA) cfa.vic.gov.au

Victorian State Emergency Service (VICSES) ses.vic.gov.au

> **Listen to Emergency Broadcasters**

Alpine Radio alpinerradio.com.au

Kiewa Valley **96.5FM**

Ovens Valley **92.9FM**

Harrietville **94.5FM**

ABC Goulburn Murray abc.net.au/radio/goulburnmurray

Kiewa Valley **106.5FM**

Bright **89.7FM**

Myrtleford **91.7FM**

National Emergency Management

On 1 September 2022, the Australian Government combined the efforts of the National Recovery and Resilience Agency and Emergency Management Australia to form the **National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)**.

NEMA is a single end-to-end agency that supports communities impacted by disaster by delivering initiatives to reduce risk and lessen the impacts of future shocks.

A national network of Recovery Support Officers supports individuals on the ground, living and working across Australia to find locally-led solutions and deliver the support and information needed to help communities prosper. NEMA helps to give a voice to the Australian Government on how disasters, drought and other challenges are affecting businesses, families and communities.

NEMA aims to bring hope and confidence to individuals and communities that the Australian Government is there to help recovery in tough times, as well as making sure that we are all better prepared for future disasters.

Find out more by visiting nema.gov.au.

Alpine Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Owners and First Nations peoples of the Alpine Shire and Resorts. We recognise and support their rich cultures and continual connections to Country, and pay our respects to Elders, past and present.

From your Alpine CRC

The **Alpine Community Recovery Committee (CRC)** is starting a new chapter in community recovery that enables ongoing action for twelve region-wide strategic issues identified in the framework of their Community Recovery Plan.

The Alpine CRC worked together with the Alpine Resilience Partnership to align recovery and resilience activities and is pleased to announce that the Alpine Resilience Partnership has formally adopted the framework of the Plan.

The twelve strategic issues will frame the ongoing work of the Alpine Resilience Partnership, which is made up of government and non-government agencies with a sustained focus on increasing the resilience of Alpine communities.

The Alpine CRC also identified five ongoing priorities for Alpine communities in a Progress Review conducted of the Plan, which is available on Alpine Shire Council's website.

Alpine CRC Chair Fiona Nicholls emphasised that while many agencies have put in a considerable amount of work and effort that addresses these strategic issues, there is a need to continue action on these priorities.

"When encouraging individuals and communities to prepare for disasters, the Alpine CRC believes focus needs to change from information provision to action," she said.

"This supports the Alpine CRC's priority of increasing local preparedness, so that we can improve capacity and self-reliance within our communities."

The Alpine CRC encourages continued advocacy for key stakeholders to address the issues of a possible market failure of the insurance industry and the gaps and blackspots in communication infrastructure so that reliable connectivity is available during an emergency event.

The Alpine CRC also highlights the need for improved access to firefighting equipment, training, and resources at a local level.

Ms Nicholls supports continued advocacy to increase capacity building in the Alpine Shire and Resorts based on the needs and priorities of communities.

"The priority projects identified in the Plan require an interagency approach together with community involvement to identify appropriate resilience activities into the future," she said.

"By adopting the Plan, the Alpine Resilience Partnership now has a resource that can be used to inform the work of key emergency agencies and community groups."

The Plan and Progress Review can be accessed on Alpine Shire Council's website by visiting alpineshire.vic.gov.au/alpine-community-recovery-committee.

Get ready at the Redi Expo!

The **Redi Expo!** is on its way to the Myrtleford Show on Saturday 22 October 2022.

The Alpine CRC is excited to present the Redi Expo! in conjunction with the Myrtleford Show. The Redi Expo! is an interactive experience with prizes, showbags, music, and magic that asks community ahead of the next emergency: Are You Ready?

The event will bring agencies together with community to encourage information sharing and highlight the need for individuals and communities to get ready for the next emergency event.

Young people are encouraged to join a scavenger hunt that tests their knowledge and builds their confidence when planning for the next emergency.

Get ready at the Redi Expo! held as part of the Myrtleford Show at the Myrtleford Showgrounds. For more information about the Myrtleford Show, visit themyrlefordshow.com.au.

Funding opportunities

Community Enterprise Foundation Alpine Bushfire Recovery Grants Program | Grants of up to \$50,000 are available for established not-for-profit organisations in the Alpine region. Closes 29 September 2022. Visit communityenterprisefoundation.com.au.

GROW Myrtleford+ Inaugural Grant Round | Two streams are available for community organisations, non-profits and charities. Community scale grants are available from \$2,500 - \$10,000 and small impact grants are available up to \$2,500. Closes 17 October 2022. Visit intoourhandsfoundation.com.au/apply-for-a-grant/grow-myrtleford-grant-round.

FRRR Strengthening Rural Communities - Prepare and Recover | Grants up to \$25,000 are available for a broad range of initiatives. Round 15 closes 29 November 2022. Visit frrr.org.au/funding/place/src-prepare-recover or contact Vivienne McCrory on 1800 170 020 or info@frrr.org.au.

FRRR Strengthening Rural Communities - Small and Vital | Grants up to \$10,000 are available for a broad range of community-led initiatives. Round 15 closes 29 November 2022. Visit frrr.org.au/funding/place/src-small-vital or contact Vivienne McCrory on 1800 170 020 or info@frrr.org.au.

Power Saving Bonus for Victorian Households | Victorian residential energy account holders are eligible for a \$250 Power Saving Bonus. Find out if you are eligible to apply by visiting compare.energy.vic.gov.au.

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 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 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 helenhaines.grantguru.com.au.

What's happening in your community?

The **Resilience Emergency Action Planning (REAP) Day** is back in 2022 for primary school students.

REAP Day invites primary school students in Grades 4 – 6 to come together with local emergency service agencies to build knowledge, skills, and capacity to act in times of emergency. This valuable day highlights the importance of preparing for natural disasters and encourages children to be active participants in the planning process to alleviate stress and build confidence.

Ordinarily REAP Days rotate across the Alpine Shire. To make up for the past two years, two REAP Days will be held in Bright on 13 October 2022 and Myrtleford on 27 October 2022.



WHAT HAS BEEN FUNDED?

In November 2021, the Freeburch Public Hall and Recreation Reserve Committee held the hugely successful **Voices of the Valley**, bringing community back together and regenerating positive community spirit.

Voices of the Valley was a community event that showcased a variety of local artists together with local food and wine producers, bringing together the proud locals of Freeburch while promoting the Freeburch Public Hall and Reserve to the wider Alpine Shire area.

The event also highlighted the importance of disaster preparedness, with the local Country Fire Authority (CFA), Victorian State Emergency Service (VICSES), National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), and Red Cross in attendance to support community to plan and prepare for the upcoming summer season.

Look out for Voices of the Valley again in 2023!

Voices of the Valley was proudly funded by the Victorian Government's response to the 2019-20 bushfires through the Alpine Shire Council Bushfire Recovery Community Events Grants Program.