

Wednesday 10 April 2024

Storm Recovery Update



South Gippsland
Shire Council

Drop into Council's Recovery Centre located at the Mirboo North and District Community Foundation for help:

- registering for the Emergency Recovery Victoria Clean Up Support Program (for damaged houses)
- connections to mental health, wellbeing, financial and business advice services.

Open: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10.00am and 3.00pm.

Red Cross and Victorian Council Of Churches Emergency Miniseries will be available for a cuppa and a chat about your recovery journey at the Recovery Centre on Wednesday afternoons from 1.00 to 3.00.

Mirboo North & District Community Recovery Working Group

A Recovery Working Group - comprising local community leaders and organisations - has been established to support and build on community led recovery efforts. The group meet regularly and will be considering recovery actions and activities, and providing recommendations to the recovery process.

To ensure the Group has broad range of information and views to help with decision making, we are seeking feedback from Mirboo North and District residents. Initial feedback can be provided in-person at the Recovery Centre or via email to: **recovery@southgippsland.vic.gov.au**

Storm Related Green Waste

The end date for the Storm Related Green Waste Amnesty for Mirboo North is Tuesday 30 April.

Mirboo North's transfer station has returned to normal weekday operating hours and is open from 9.00am to 4.00pm on Saturday and Sunday.

Waste disposal fees have been reintroduced for general waste at all transfer stations.

Clean-up Support for Storm Damaged Homes

If you are without insurance (or underinsured) and your home is either damaged beyond repair or at risk of a hazardous tree falling within 30 metres of your home, you may be eligible for clean-up support. To see if support is available to you, please visit:

www.vic.gov.au/clean-support-stormdamaged-homes

Recovery Support - Emergency Recovery Hotline on 1800 560 760

If you were severely impacted by the storm, you may be eligible for a recovery support worker. They can work with you over time to find and access the support you need. To find out more, call the Emergency Recovery Hotline on 1800 560 760 or visit

www.vic.gov.au/recovery-support

Demolition of Storm Damaged Homes

If your home was damaged beyond repair by the by the February 2024 Victorian storms and it is not covered by insurance, we can demolish it for free. This means that you can focus your efforts and resources on rebuilding.

To register fill out the form at [clean-up support for storm damaged homes](http://www.vic.gov.au/clean-up-support-for-storm-damaged-homes) (www.vic.gov.au) or call the Emergency Recovery Hotline on 1800 560 760 to register.

Emergency Recovery Victoria

Members of Emergency Recovery Victoria's private property clean up team will be in Mirboo North from 11.00am to 4.00pm on Wednesday 17 April and 10.00am to 3.00pm on Thursday 18 of April. They will be at Mirboo North Recovery Centre and can talk to you about clean up on private properties and help you to register if you are eligible.

The team will also be able to help you to register for recovery support. Once you have registered, recovery support will call you and can help you find out about: applying for payments and get financial help, finding services to support your recovery, progressing an insurance claim, accessing mental health or wellbeing services, tips to help you or your family cope with stress, getting legal support and getting support for your business.

If you need immediate recovery support, or have questions about recovery support, you can register online at www.vic.gov.au/recovery-support or by calling the Emergency Recovery Hotline on 1800 560 760.

Free outreach legal service

A free outreach legal service is operating at the Community Hub/Co-space (96 Ridgway) every Friday between 10.00am and 4.00pm. If you, or someone you know has been affected by February's storm event or you wish to learn about how to be legally prepared, you can drop in to the outreach legal service on any Friday or request an appointment via the GCLS website at www.gcls.org.au or call GCLS on 1800 004 402 (free call).

Need Help with Farm Fencing

BlazeAid volunteers will be working locally to rebuild fencing impacted by the February 13 Storm event. Registration is easy, and you'll be glad you did it. Please contact the Camp Coordinator to register for assistance by emailing Yinnar@blazeaid.com.au – there's no red tape, and can be done in as little as 10 minutes. Want to volunteer for BlazeAid? You do not need any fencing experience, just a willingness to give it a go and learn on the job. You can even volunteer for a day or two, or a week or more.

Energy Resilience Community Fund

Applications for the Energy Resilience Community Fund are now open. financial hardship grants are now available for AusNet's customers impacted by recent storm-related power outages. This payment is for people who were not eligible for the Prolonged Power Outage Payment and without power for more than 72 hours due to the severe weather events between Tuesday 13 February and Thursday 22 February 2024. Visit Energy Resilience Community Fund (ausnetservices.com.au) for more information.

Mental Health Walk-In Support

Mental Health and Wellbeing Local in Latrobe is offering free walk-in mental health support from the Mirboo North Medical Centre.

The walk-in service is available Monday and Friday from 10.00am to 4.00pm.

For more information visit www.neaminational.org.au/services or call 1800 571 142.

Neighbourhood Trees and Fences

Overhanging branches, dropped foliage and damage from tree roots can cause issue between neighbours. More information can be found at Trees in Victoria (www.disputes.vic.gov.au).

Issues around repairing or replacing a shared fence, damage to fences and boundary issues can all contribute to disputes between neighbours. More information can be found at Fencing in Victoria (www.disputes.vic.gov.au).