

FIRE RECOVERY UPDATE

NUMBER 1: MONDAY 19 MARCH



CORANGAMITE
SHIRE

Many areas still have active fire grounds and Council staff can't get in to help. We will support people where we can.

RELIEF CENTRES OPEN

There are two relief centres operating in Corangamite Shire for people affected by the fires and severe weather:

- **Cobden: Cobden Civic Hall, 53-55 Victoria Street**
- **Terang: Civic Hall, High Street**

Contact the **VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226** for general information.

ROADS

Roads will open when it is safe to do so.

Roads will be cleared in order, from main feeder roads down to minor roads, depending on how many users they service.

For go a map of closures, go to **traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au**

ELECTRICITY

The main power supply has been restored but will only come back on at some properties on a case by case basis.

For information on your property **call Powercor 13 24 12**. Council will not be providing generators.

FALLEN POWERLINES

Always treat fallen powerlines as live.

Stay more than 8-10 metres away because they can electrify the ground.

Never go near them or anything they may be touching, such as vehicles, metal fences or pools of water.

Call **Triple Zero (000) and Powercor 13 24 12** and report the location of any fallen lines.

WATER

Be aware that tanks and dams may have been contaminated by debris, ash, dead animals or aerial fire retardants.

If the water tastes, looks or smells unusual, do not drink it or give it to animals.

For more bushfire and public health information, refer to the bushfire information fact sheets available from the Environmental Health Unit, Department of Health and Human Services at: **www.health.vic.gov.au/environment/bushfires**

LIVESTOCK

For help managing livestock in an emergency, contact **Agriculture Victoria on 136 186**.

If you need fodder for your livestock, contact **Victorian Farmers Federation on 1300 882 833**.

ASSISTANCE FUNDING

The Department of Health and Human Services Personal Hardship Assistance Program provides financial assistance for eligible Victorians struggling as a result of an emergency.

For more information call the **VicEmergency hotline on 1800 226 226**.

Emergency relief assistance is available for up to 7 days after an emergency event if you are unable to access or live in your home, because of the emergency.

Payments are intended to help in the immediate aftermath of the emergency with expenses incurred in meeting health, safety and wellbeing needs such as:

- Food and clothing
- Medications
- Accommodation and counselling

If you or someone you know is in need of emotional and social wellbeing support, call one of the following numbers.

- **beyondblue – 24hrs, 7 days a week – 1300 224 636**
- **Lifeline – 24hrs a day, 7 days a week – 13 11 14**
- **Kids Helpline – 24hrs, 7 days a week – 1800 55 1800**

HEALTH

If you have trouble breathing because of smoke exposure, particularly if you have asthma or other respiratory problems, contact your **GP or dial NURSE-ON-CALL on 1300 60 60 24**. If you have chest tightness or difficulty breathing, dial Triple Zero (000) or go to an emergency department at a hospital.

WILDLIFE

For injured and orphaned wildlife please call the 24 Hour Wildlife Emergency Number on: **13 000 WILDLIFE or 1300 094 535**.

DONATIONS

To donate labour or services, contact Corangamite Shire on 5593 7100. To donate food, personal items and household goods, contact The Salvation Army on 5561 6792.