

FIRE RECOVERY UPDATE

NUMBER 2: TUESDAY 20 MARCH



CORANGAMITE
SHIRE

The fire at Terang and Cobden is now contained. Firefighters have been able to stop the spread of the fire. There is currently no threat to communities, but you should continue to stay informed and monitor conditions.

Smoke will continue to be visible from nearby communities and roads, this is not related to increased fire activity, however it could relate to burning peat across a number of locations within the fire area. Peat fires smoulder for a longer time. A fact sheet is available on the DHHS website (www2.health.vic.gov.au) with details about peat fire smoke. **Please keep monitoring the VicEmergency website: www.emergency.vic.gov.au** for updates.

A HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS OFFERED TO HELP OR DONATE. THE COMMUNITY RESPONSE HAS BEEN OVERWHELMING - AND WE ARE INCREDIBLY GRATEFUL. PLEASE READ OUR SECTION ON 'HOW YOU CAN HELP OR DONATE' AS A GUIDE TO DONATING GOODS & SERVICES.

WWW.CORANGAMITE.VIC.GOV.AU

Fire Recovery Updates, as well as other information will continue to be posted on the Corangamite Shire website.

RELIEF CENTRES OPEN

There are two relief centres operating in Corangamite Shire for people affected by the fires and severe weather. These centres are operating from 9 am-5 pm.

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

Services available include:

- Department Health and Human Services (DHHS)
- Red Cross and Victorian Council of Churches [welfare support]
- Rural Financial Counselling Service [Terang only]

Please contact the **VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226** outside of these hours.

COMMUNITY MEETING - COBDEN

There will be a community meeting at **Cobden Civic Hall, Wednesday 21 March at 1 pm.**

EMERGENCY GRANTS AVAILABLE

Hardship payments are available to help community members meet immediate needs, including emergency food, shelter, clothing and personal items. More information at www.emergency.vic.gov.au/relief

ROAD CLOSURES

Roads will open when it is safe to do so. A number of roads remain closed for public safety. Roads will be cleared in order, from main feeder roads down to minor roads, depending on how many users they service.

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

HOW CORANGAMITE SHIRE CAN HELP

- Free waste and scrap metal collection and disposal for fire-affected houses
- Free disposal of waste at Naroghid Landfill and Transfer Stations across the Shire for fire-affected properties - green waste, fencing material etc.
- We will cover the cost of dead stock disposal
- No saleyard fees for sale of fire-affected stock
- We will cover the cost of asbestos removal from fire-affected houses
- Planning and building permit fee waivers for building or structures impacted by the fires
- If you need a generator, please contact Ian Gibb directly on 0409 356 448.

Please contact us on 5593 7100 to discuss your needs.

LIVESTOCK

Farmers with affected livestock can contact **Agriculture Victoria on 5336 6721**. An Animal Health Team will visit properties to assess damage and provide advice.

If you have stock in need transport, we can house for free at Camperdown Saleyards. Contact **Corangamite Shire on 5593 7100**.

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

For help disposing of dead livestock, contact **Corangamite Shire on 5593 7100**.

FENCING

If you need help replacing fencing as a result of the fires please register with BlazeAid via blazeaid.cobden@gmail.com or contact **Chris on 0418 745 994**.

IF YOU NEED PERSONAL ITEMS OR FOOD

Residents impacted by the fires and in need of personal or household items such as clothing and toiletries, contact **The Salvation Army on 5561 6792 or your local charity.**

FIRE RECOVERY UPDATE

NUMBER 2: TUESDAY 20 MARCH



CORANGAMITE
SHIRE

IF YOU WANT TO HELP OR DONATE

Feed and fodder for livestock, please contact the Victorian Farmers Federation on **1300 882 833** or visit www.vff.org.au/support

Personal or household items such as clothing and toiletries, or food donations, please contact **The Salvation Army on 5561 6792** or arrange drop-off at **265 Lava Street, Warrnambool** or your local charity. **PLEASE NOTE THESE ITEMS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED AT RELIEF CENTRES.**

CASH DONATIONS

A Bushfire Appeal is being established between Bendigo Bank and Cobdenhealth to support Corangamite Shire residents affected by fire. More details to come.

If you want to donate your labour, expertise or services, please contact **Corangamite Shire on 5593 7100**.

If you want to help with fencing, contact **Chris at BlazeAid on 0418 745 994**.

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**

ELECTRICITY

The main power supply has been restored, however if you are experiencing difficulties please contact **Powercor 13 24 12** and speak to an operator to report your fault.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU SPEAK TO POWERCOR IF YOU ARE STILL WITHOUT POWER.

WILDLIFE

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

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 000 or head to your nearest hospital.

NAB RELIEF PACKAGE FOR CUSTOMERS

NAB is supporting customers affected by the fires with measures such as:

- Credit card and personal loan relief where appropriate
- Suspending home and personal loan repayments
- Waiving costs and charges for withdrawing term deposits early
- Waiving home loan and personal loan application fees

Customers who need help can visit their nearest open NAB branch, contact their banker directly or call **NAB Assist on 1800 701 599**.

LOST PHONES DUE TO FIRES - TELSTRA

Please contact Claire from **Telstra on 03 9597 6661** if you need your phone replaced due to fires.

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

CORANGAMITE SHIRE

181 Manifold Street Camperdown 3260
Ph 5593 7100 www.corangamite.vic.gov.au