

Newsletter 4 - 31st March 2016

The City of Ballarat is committed to working with its community to respond and recover from the Mount Bolton fire.

INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE

Currently the Arboriculture Section have the following happening in the Mt. Bolton area

- ◆ Contractors have gone through Eastern Peake Road and Sandpit Road and removed hazardous vegetation.
- ◆ We have also engaged another contractor to clean up burnt pine trees on top of Mt Bolton.
- ◆ In the coming weeks we will be uplifting trees and grooming gorse in the lower section (Southern end) of Eastern Peake Road



SCRAP METAL BINS

There are still large skip bins located in the area, these are for scrap metal only. Feel free to use these to dispose of old fencing wire, steel framing or roofing iron etc. These will remain in place until further notice.

- ◆ Eastern Peake Road, 1.4km from Addington Road
- ◆ Next to the Glendaruel Fire Station on Kinnersley Road Glendaruel.
- ◆ Mt Bolton Road, 2.5 km from Waubra-Talbot Road just as you enter the bush area.

INSURANCE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA ASSISTANCE

The Insurance Council of Australia operates a Catastrophe Information Hotline which can be of great assistance in dealing with insurance ques-

tions and issues after an event like a bushfire.

Calls to the Hotline are resolved as quickly as possible or are referred to the appropriate insurer at a high level.

The Insurance Council can assist with advice on claims and elevating a complaint to an appropriate manager within an insurance company. **The number to call is 1800 734 621.** The ICA also has a number of Consumer Tips on its website .

PERMITS TO BURN

Burning of stubble/grass for farming practices has commenced within the surrounding area.

Controlled burning is conducted by permits and have strict conditions set by the CFA and Council. Permits must be complied with and are monitored by Council, Police and CFA.

Some of these burn offs are very close to the area of the fire. Burning off will produce significant smoke in the area but there should be no cause for concern

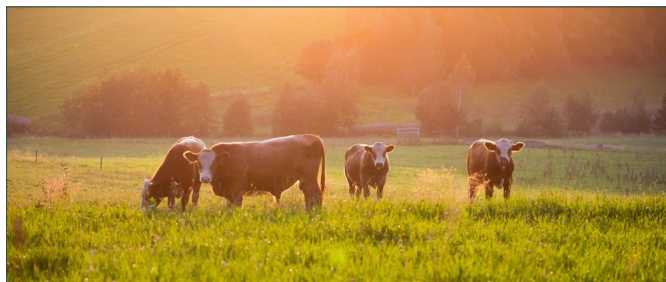
PLANNING PERMITS

The City of Ballarat has nominated one point of contact for all planning related matters. Leah Clark from Statutory Planning Department can be contacted on 5320 5149 or leahclark@ballarat.vic.gov.au

Leah can assist you with where to go from here and can meet you at The Phoenix Building in Ballarat by prior appointment. Leah can also assist you with any queries regarding the removal of native vegetation from private land.

STOCK FEED

Stock feed is still available from Kate Serrurier at 173 Addington Road. A machine will be available to load from 5 pm. Any queries regarding the pick up of feed please contact Noel on 5343 2227.



RE-FENCING AFTER A FIRE

Take the time to consider your internal fences as part of a broader assessment of your property. Planning now may save you dollars in the longer term, and make your enterprise easier to manage.

Will your new fence work with your land classes and land use?

Land class fencing allows you to better manage the different areas of your farm. Benefits include protection of soils and remnant vegetation with improvements to pastures and productivity. There are 8 land classes, ranging from arable to non-arable.

Land class fencing goes hand-in-hand with a grazing management plan, appropriate to land capability. Such a plan can offer more control over grazing pressure along with better use and management of pastures.

How can the fence work best for your enterprise?

A primary consideration is water supply and livestock access. A new land class fencing plan presents an opportunity to re-design your farm's watering system. Stock type and class will determine the style of fencing you require.

What are the movement patterns of your stock?

Consider the behavioural traits of your stock and ease of moving them. Does a wagon-wheel arrangement work best around centre gates? Or is some other fence configuration better for your stock type and landscape? Will laneways be of value, for stock movement as well as safe vehicle access for either farm or emergency equipment? If so, how best they can they be interconnected?

RELIEF CENTRE

The Relief Centre is now closed.

If you require further assistance please contact the Recovery Manager on 0447 109 877

City of Ballarat

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