

Flood Recovery in Murrindindi Shire

Edition #9

In this edition

Welcome to the April 2024 Murrindindi Shire Flood Recovery newsletter.

If you know anyone who would benefit from the information in this newsletter, please share it with them and encourage them to opt-in to receive the latest updates direct to their inbox.

murrindindi.vic.gov.au/recoverynewsletter

Topics

- Yea Wetlands Boardwalk Review
- Roadwork Updates
- Whanregarwen Road Works
- Australian Parliamentary Inquiry into Insurance
- Lake Eildon Technical Assessment Report
- Governor's Visit to Yea
- WeedScan
- Breakaway Bridge Information Meeting
- SnapSendSolve

If you have any suggestions about what you'd like to see in future editions of the newsletter, please let us know by emailing communications@murrindindi.vic.gov.au

Yea Wetlands Boardwalk Review

The Yea Wetlands, a significant tourist destination for Yea and an important asset for the local community, has been significantly impacted by a number of severe weather events. The boardwalks in particular sustained significant damage and have consequently been closed to public access since January 2024.

Council is now working with the Committee of Management to look at possible options to make the area more flood resilient.

Roadwork Updates

Murrindindi Shire Council's Construction Program for flood impacted infrastructure is continuing to repair damage caused by October 2022 Floods.

We have had a varied response to some of the repair packages which have gone out to market seeking request for quote through the Council's Panel of Contractors. Fortunately, most of the packages for road works have been successfully completed, with Whanregarwen Road soon to be finished. The package for road repair in the Strath Creek area is currently under development.

Our current focus is now on repairs to culverts, bridges and landslips. We currently have two packages ready to go out to market, four packages ready for evaluation and we are working on additional packages.

The new packages involved extensive design work and have been developed using an external, qualified, geotechnical engineering consultancy and subsequently reviewed by independent consultants.

Several scenarios have been considered for each of these packages of work, each with different levels of impact over time for our community. The landslip on Snobs Creek Road, due to the size, complexity and estimated cost will likely go out for tender.

To find out more about repairs to flood damaged roads and infrastructure, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/projects



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Whanregarwen Road Works

Works on Whanregarwen Road will require road diversions to be in place from 7.00 am Monday 29 April to 5.00 pm Tuesday 30 April 2024. We have been able to limit inconvenience to motorists by using new technology to reline the culvert pipe rather than dig up the road, lay and seat a new pipe then reseal the road. This works package also includes removal of the large steel plate.

These works are funded through the joint Australian and State Government Disaster Recovery Fund Arrangements, administered by the Department of Transport and Planning on behalf of the Australian Government.

Australian Parliamentary Inquiry Into Insurance

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Economics is continuing its inquiry into insurers' responses to 2022 major floods claims and they would like to hear from Murrindindi Shire residents.

You can get involved by:

- completing a short survey by 30 June at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/insurersinquiry and your input will be included in Council's submission
- listening to the public hearing recordings
- completing a submission directly at aph.gov.au/floodinsurance

If you need assistance with one of the above actions, please contact us on 5772 0333 and ask to speak with the Flood Recovery team. To find more about the Inquiry, visit aph.gov.au/floodinsurance



Lake Eildon Technical Assessment Report

Following the severe floods in October 2022, when large volumes of water were released from Lake Eildon onto a very wet catchment, a number of councils and concerned community members advocated for the state government to review the operating rules for Lake Eildon. The aim of this was improving protections for the downstream communities from future flooding events. The technical assessment of Lake Eildon has now been completed by the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA). To read the report or contact DEECA directly, visit their website at deeca.vic.gov.au.

We encourage community members interested in this matter, to read the report, join the conversation and ask questions.

We understand this is a difficult time for many people. If you or someone you know is experiencing mental or financial hardship, please get in contact with Emergency Victoria on 1800 560 760.

Governor's Visit to Yea

Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Margaret Gardner AC, Governor of Victoria and Rick Nugent APM, Victoria's Emergency Management Commissioner visited Murrindindi Shire on Wednesday 13 March to visit flood affected community members.

During the visit, they met with representatives from Council, SES, Yea Caravan Park and residents. Issues such as damage to personal property and long term consequences were discussed. This meeting aimed to build awareness of the impacts from disasters and highlight the importance of continuing advocacy efforts in the pursuit of resilient and prepared communities.

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WeedScan

Weeds are one of the biggest threats to Australia's biodiversity, agriculture and economy. They cost us about \$5 billion a year in lost productivity, control and environmental damage and represent a serious risk to our native flora, fauna and water quality and contribute to bushfire risk.

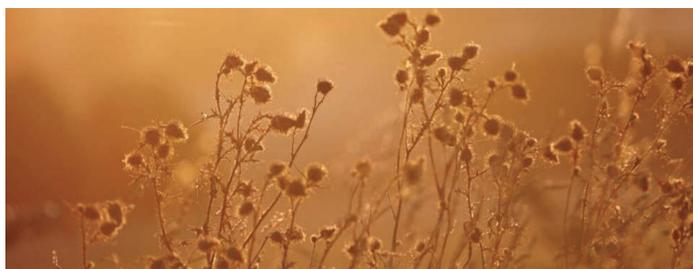
Floods have the potential to spread seeds and plant parts. These conditions can also be favourable for weed germination, growth and reduced competition from other plants and animals.

WeedScan is an app built by Australians, for Australians. It is tailored to our unique conditions and challenges. It can alert users and local authorities of incursions, allowing them to take swift and effective action. It can also provide users with links to local weed management information and best practice guidelines.

The app is supported by the Centre for Invasive Species Solutions, Australia's national science agency - CSIRO, the NSW Department of Primary Industries and the South Australian, Queensland and Victorian Governments and was funded by the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.

It is the result of years of research and development, involving botanists, agronomists, computer scientists and community groups.

To try the WeedScan app now, visit weedscan.org.au



Breakaway Bridge Information Meeting Review

On Thursday 4 April, approximately 30 residents from the Acheron area attended an update on the status of negotiations on the Breakaway Bridge which has been closed to traffic since October 2022. Council presented the three separate options in relation to the Bridge.

- Repair Bridge
- Replace Bridge
- Do not repair or replace Bridge

Residents were advised that each of these options is being drafted, to be ready to be actioned if required. This involves pursuing a funding application for the construction of a new bridge alongside developing engineering designs and seeking heritage input for the extension or possible demolition of the old bridge.

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SnapSendSolve

Have you seen something that needs attention in your area? Maybe a pothole, broken playground equipment or dumped rubbish? In three easy steps you can report all the required information to Council who will be able to process your request or allocate it to the correct authority. Follow along below on how to send your first SnapSendSolve.

1. Snap

While you are welcome to submit a request without a picture attachment, a photo can help Council officers identify the extent of the issue, where the issue is geographically and what tools they might need to fix it.

2. Send

Download SnapSendSolve via your phones app store or jump online to snapsendsolve.com/report/victoria Upload your photos, set the location of the issue and answer a few short questions to help us understand the situation.

3. Solve

Send the report and our friendly Customer Service team will triage your request to the relevant department or agency for attention. You can track the developments of your request on the app and request updates directly from your device.

