

FLOOD RECOVERY NEWSLETTER



Edition 3: 18 November 2022

Small business support

Small Business Immediate Flood Relief Program

This program supports businesses directly affected by the recent floods and is jointly funded by the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments.

There are two streams of support available under this program:

Immediate flood relief grant

Loddon Shire businesses directly impacted by the floods can access a one-off grant of \$5000 to cover immediate expenses. Businesses must have incurred significant direct damage to their place of business, business assets, stock or equipment.

Business Relief Service

This is a free service offering one-on-one support from a local business relief adviser who will be available via telephone and on the ground to guide business owners through the available Commonwealth, state and local supports. They can also help you manage insurance and landlord issues, assess impacts and form strategies for recovery.

For further information on the Small Business Immediate Flood Relief Program, call 13 22 15 or visit <https://business.vic.gov.au/grants-and-programs/small-business-immediate-flood-relief-program>

Primary producer support

Agriculture Victoria

Agriculture Victoria is assisting rural landholders with agricultural relief needs – with a priority on addressing urgent animal welfare issues. Affected landholders can contact Agriculture Victoria for:

- Information on primary producer financial support packages
- Urgent animal welfare needs
- Livestock management information
- Technical information on pasture re-establishment, pest, animal or plant control
- Information on assistance available and access to personal support and other services.

Contact 1800 226 226 or visit the [website https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/farm-management/emergency-management/floods](https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/farm-management/emergency-management/floods)

Rural Financial Counselling Service

Supporting primary producers and small business to strengthen their ability to take action to manage change, adjust to challenges and plan for the future. For more information call 1300 735 578 or visit www.wswrcs.com.au

Need for Feed Australia

Supporting farmers through the delivery of fodder during times of emergency. Apply for assistance at www.needforfeed.org/apply-for-assistance

Rural Aid

Rural Aid is well known for the highly successful 'Buy a Bale' campaign but can also provide critical support including water, fodder, financial and counselling assistance to help farmers. A Rural Aid counsellor can come to you at the farm or if you prefer via a video link or phone chat. For more information, call 1300 327 624, visit www.ruralaid.org.au or use the QR code to register for support.



Re-establishment assistance

Financial help is available to assist you with your return home. This is called "re-establishment assistance". It is only available for your principal place of residence. Re-establishment assistance can help to pay for:

- Clean-up
- Emergency accommodation
- Repairs
- Rebuilding your home
- Replacing some damaged contents

Eligibility for this payment depends on your household income. Call the Flood Recovery Hotline on 1800 560 760 to find out if you are eligible.

FLOOD RECOVERY HOTLINE 1800 560 760

Health and wellbeing support

- Nurse on Call: 24hr caring and professional health advice 1300 60 60 24.
- National Relay Service: Assistance making a phone call if you are deaf or have a hearing or speech impediment. Speak and listen number: 1300 555 727. Teletypewriter number: 133 677. SMS relay number: 0423 677 767.
- Translation and Interpreter Services: Provides access to phone and on-site interpreting services. Requests must be submitted at least 48 hours in advance. www.tisnational.gov.au
- Lifeline: 24hr crisis support and suicide prevention services: 13 11 14 or lifeline.org.au
- Beyond Blue: Information and support for anxiety and/or depression: 1300 224 636 or beyondblue.com.au
- Kids Help Line: 24hr phone and online counselling service for people aged 5-25: 1800 551 800 or kidshelpline.com.au
- Emerging Minds: Provides resources for parents, carers and families about infant and child mental health: emergingminds.com.au

Local support services

Community Health / Hospitals

Boort District Health
3 Kiniry St, Boort
P: (03) 5451 5200

Inglewood and District Health Services
3 Hospital St, Inglewood
P: (03) 5431 7000

Northern District Community Health
P: (03) 5451 0200

Boort Medical Centre
2 Coutts St, Boort
P:(03) 5451 5200

Dingee Bush Nursing Centre
21 King St, Dingee
P:(03) 5436 8309

Marong Medical Centre
8 Hospital St, Inglewood
P:(03) 5438 3308

Boort and Pyramid Hill Community Health
P:(03) 5451 0200

Wedderburn Health Clinic
25 Wilson St, Wedderburn
P: (03) 5494 3511

Legal Services
Loddon Campaspe Community Legal Service
P: 1800 450 909

Neighbourhood Houses
Boort Resource and Information Centre (BRIC)
119-121 Godfrey St, Boort
P: (03) 5455 2716

Inglewood Community Neighbourhood House
Cnr Verdon & Market St, Inglewood
P: (03)5455 2716

Pyramid Hill Neighbourhood House
43 Kelly St, Pyramid Hill
P: (03) 5455 7129

Wedderburn Community House
24 Wilson St, Wedderburn
P: (03) 5494 3489

Animal and insect related hazards

- When returning to a flood-affected area remember that wild animals including rodents, snakes or spiders may be trapped in your home, shed or garden.
- If you have been bitten by a snake, get immediate medical attention by calling 000.
- If you have been bitten by or injured by an animal or insect, seek advice from a doctor.

Beat the bite

Mosquitos can breed in floodwaters. If you're travelling through or visiting this region make sure you:

- Cover up - wear long, loose-fitting clothing.
- Use mosquito repellents containing picardin or DEET on all exposed skin.
- Limit outdoor activity if lots of mosquitoes are about.
- Use 'knockdown' fly spray, mosquito coils or plug-in repellent where you gather to sit or eat outdoors.
- Don't forget the kids – always check the insect repellent label. On babies, you might need to spray or rub repellent on their clothes instead of their skin. Avoid applying repellent to the hands of babies or young children.

Japanese encephalitis (JE)

Free vaccinations are now available for people aged 2 months or older who live or routinely work in Loddon Shire, AND

- Spend at least 4 hours per day for unavoidable work, recreation, educational or other essential activities.
- Are living in temporary or flood damaged accommodation
- Are engaged in the prolonged outdoor recovery efforts of stagnant water.

Please be advised that there is a state-wide shortage of JEV vaccine and you may be placed on a waiting list.

Appointments to receive the vaccination can be made by contacting one of the following clinics.

- Inglewood Pharmacy – 5438 3021
- Wedderburn Health Clinic – 5494 3511
- Boort Community Pharmacy – 5455 2044
- Boort District Medical Centre – 5451 5220

Loddon Shire services

For up to date information regarding flood recovery and council services:

- Visit our website at www.loddon.vic.gov.au
- Call our office between 8.15am-4.45pm, Monday-Friday on (03) 5494 1200; or
- Go to our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/LoddonShire/