

Cann Valley Recovery Update

NOVEMBER 2021



Upgrades coming for Cann Valley halls

Cann River Public Hall and Combienbar Recreation Reserve Hall are two of the halls that will benefit from Council's Community Resilience and Development Program.

We received \$1m in funding from Bushfire Recovery Victoria's Local Economic Recovery program. The program was created to ensure resilience and the capacity of community facilities in East Gippsland. This is to assist in bringing communities together in recovery but also to prepare for future emergencies by updating and upgrading facilities.

The project has several parts, including Bushfire Attack Level assessments, electrical switchboard upgrades, audio visual upgrades and ember protection upgrades.

We are continuing to engage with Committees of Management throughout the process.

The general scope of work includes the following for the Cann River Public Hall:

- Install mesh screens over the vents
- Enclose the existing sub-floor space so that no gaps are identified between new sub cover and existing structure.
- Fill the gaps with a non-combustible sealant colour matching existing cladding.
- Provide metal mesh screens to all external doors, using seals to negate smoke entering the structure.
- Provide metal mesh screens to all openable windows.

The general scope of work includes the following for the Combienbar Hall:

- Install mesh screens over the vents.
- Enclose the existing sub-floor space so that no gaps are identified between

new sub cover and existing structure.

- Fill the gaps with a non-combustible sealant colour matching existing cladding.
- Provide metal mesh screens to all external doors.
- Provide metal mesh screens to all openable windows.
- Replace the external doors and door frames with assemblies that comply with AS 3959: 2018 clause 5.5.4. using seals to negate smoke entering the structure.
- Provide metal mesh screens to all glazed elements up to 400mm from ground or roof that comply with AS3959: 2018
- All glazing upgraded to 5mm toughened glass.

Rainwater and Septic Tank Replacement Program

The Rainwater and Septic Tank Replacement Program has recently been expanded, widening who is eligible for funding.

The program supports households impacted by the 2019-20 Black Summer fires to have safe access to usable water, safe disposal of wastewater, and to reduce the financial burden of rebuilding.

Updates include:

- Property no longer needs to be a principal place of residence.
- Program expanded to encourage not only replacement but new installations of tanks.
- Inclusion of rebates to cover minor works and reconnection costs for households connecting to reticulated systems and rebates for the installation of rainwater tanks for firefighting purposes to conform with a Bushfire Management Planning Overlay.

The program is available for work completed since the start of the bushfires on 21 November 2019 until 31 May 2023, to allow time for households who are rebuilding to access the rebate.

Further information on the changes, including program guidelines and fact sheets can be found on Melbourne Water's webpage: www.melbournewater.com.au/Bushfire-rebates

Community Conversations

At the end of 2020, 11 Community Conversations were held across the Cann Valley District, Buchan District and Clifton Creek. Unfortunately, further conversations were then delayed due to COVID-19. Recently the conversations have recommenced and the opportunity to gather as a community has proven valuable and there remain opportunities to continue building resilience for future emergencies.

To date Bemm River and Bruthen have held their Community Conversation with Wairewa scheduled for November. Agencies have joined the conversations and have shown strong commitment to working with community for some significant outcomes.

Another Cann River Community Conversation is planned for early 2022. This will mark the two-year anniversary of the end of the fires.

If you would like more information on Community Conversations, please speak to your Place Manager.

Fencing waste stockpiles

Council and DELWP have arranged locations for residents to leave fire impacted fencing waste. This waste will be collected and disposed of appropriately. These sites are temporary,

Cann Valley Recovery Update

NOVEMBER 2021



so residents are encouraged to make it a priority to drop off their fencing waste. The local site for Cann River is Cann River Landfill, 20 Coast Road.

Cann River Landfill - potential site closure days

The Cann River Landfill may need to be closed on the following days due to staff shortages:

- Friday 5 November
- Saturday 13 November
- Sunday 14 November
- Friday 19 November

Please call 0400 017 313 before visiting the site to confirm if it is open.

We are working to fix the situation as quickly as possible and to apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Update on Cann Valley Waste Transfer Station proposal

We thank all the community members who took the time to review the proposal for the Cann Valley Waste Transfer Station and to those who attended the information sessions on 6 October. We are grateful for your feedback.

Twenty-one community members attended over the three information sessions. We have listened and heard concerns about the development of the transfer station at Gauge Track off Tamboon Road and will consider alternative options for waste management solutions.

The next steps for the project are underway with our Waste team. We will continue to consult with community

when further options are available to get your feedback.

We have responded to all feedback and questions received. These responses are available for view on our Your Say website: yoursay.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au

Cann Be Ready Day

After multiple postponements, Cann Be Ready Day, an all-services expo with a focus on emergency preparedness went ahead on a sunny Saturday 8 October in Cann River with great success.

Around 100 community members joined many emergency service agencies and departments, staff from East Gippsland Shire Council and Cr Mark Reeves, to discuss preparedness for all types of emergencies.

Information was shared about household emergency planning, firewood collection, flood, fuel management and planned burns. Local Incident Management Plans (LIMPs) were discussed with residents with relevant documents shared via USB and hardcopy.

The Cann Be Ready Day is just one of several community emergency planning days scheduled around the municipality, with Bruthen and Sarsfield planned for November and December, and other areas are in the planning phase - stay tuned for updates.

Thank-you to the Cann Valley community for their participation and to all agencies who planned and worked tirelessly for the day to come together.

Move your private overhead electric line underground

The Victorian Government's \$5 million Private Overhead Electric Line (POEL) Scheme is now accepting applications across all high-risk bushfire areas of East Gippsland.

The scheme fully funds the replacement of eligible overhead uninsulated ('bare-wire') electric lines on private properties in areas that were most impacted by bushfires in the summer of 2019-20.

To learn more or to apply, visit: www.energy.vic.gov.au/electricity/powerline-replacement or contact the POEL Scheme project team on (03) 9918 7315 or safer.powerlines@delwp.vic.gov.au

Rebuilding after bushfires

Our Rebuild Support Service (RSS) is available to support you with rebuilding after fires.

If you're thinking about rebuilding or have any questions, visit our Bushfire Rebuilding webpage at www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au or contact the RSS on BRSS@egipps.vic.gov.au or (03) 5153 9500.

Feedback

Did you find the information in this update useful? Is there particular recovery information you would like to see in future updates? We would love to hear your feedback feedback@egipps.vic.gov.au

Annie Kentwell
Place Manager -
Cann Valley District

(03) 5179 5078
0418 542 099
anniek@egipps.vic.gov.au

Contact Council
5153 9500
feedback@egipps.vic.gov.au