

# FLOOD RECOVERY NEWSLETTER



Edition 2: 4 November 2022

## Cleaning up after a flood

Floodwaters carry risks such as water-borne diseases. Proper management of floodwater and waste can help to reduce risks.

The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) have created resources on the following topics to help you manage the impacts of flood on your health and the environment.

- How to manage waste after a flood
- Find a landfill or recycling centre
- Waste Levy waiver for flood waste
- Health risks from flood water
- How to manage flood-impacted septic systems
- How heavy rainfall impacts our water systems
- Community guidance: How to remove asbestos from your home
- Industry guidance: how to manage asbestos waste
- Find a landfill that accepts asbestos
- How to manage dairy waste and stock after a flood
- How to manage fish deaths after a flood
- Other resources to manage flood waste.

For full details and , visit the how to clean up after a flood page on the EPA's website at:  
<https://www.epa.vic.gov.au/for-community/how-to-clean-up-after-a-flood>

## BlazeAid assistance now available

BlazeAid is a volunteer based organisation that assists rural families and individuals to help clear, repair or replace fences that have been lost as a result of a natural disaster.

BlazeAid has been established for Loddon farmers. To register, please contact Camp Coordinator Graeme Allen on 0477 488 434. For more information visit:  
[www.blazeaid.com.au](http://www.blazeaid.com.au)

Thank you BlazeAid volunteers.

## Infant and child mental health

Emerging Minds provides a range of resources for parents, carers and families looking for information and support about infant and child mental health.

You may be worried about the potential mental impact on your child or children following the recent flood event. Emerging Minds shares information on how to support yourself and your family during this time, visit <https://emergingminds.com.au/resources/in-focus-supporting-your-child-after-a-flood/>

## Further financial assistance

The Premier announced additional primary producer support in response to the flooding event across Victoria.

The Victorian Government, in partnership with the Commonwealth Government, will be providing:

- **Primary Producer Flood Recovery Grants of up to \$75,000** to support clean-up and recovery activities for primary producers, replacing the \$10,000 Primary Producer Clean Up and Recovery Grant
- **Rural Landholder Grants of up to \$25,000** for eligible rural landholders that operate smaller-scale primary production enterprises to support clean-up and recovery activities
- Additional **Agriculture Technical and Decision-Making Support** for Victorian farm businesses to respond to, and recover from, the impacts of the floods.
- Additional funding for the **Rural Financial Counselling Service** to ensure that free-financial counselling is accessible to flood-affected primary producers.

The application process and administration of the Primary Producer Flood Recovery Grants and the Rural Landholder Grants will be undertaken by Rural Finance, details and the application process is available at [www.ruralfinance.com.au](http://www.ruralfinance.com.au)

Please note that these financial supports are in addition to the currently available **Concessional Loan** up to \$250,000 over five years for eligible producers and the **Transport Subsidy** supporting eligible producers to claim 50% of the costs of transporting livestock, fodder or water up to \$15,000. Details on these programs are also available on the Rural Finance website.

## Looking after your health and wellbeing

- 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 in over 150 languages. Requests must be submitted at least 48 hours in advance. [www.tisnational.gov.au](http://www.tisnational.gov.au)
- Lifeline: 24hr crisis support and suicide prevention services, 13 11 14 or [www.lifeline.org.au](http://www.lifeline.org.au)
- Beyond Blue: Information and support for anxiety and/or depression, 1300 224 636 or [www.beyondblue.org.au](http://www.beyondblue.org.au)
- Kids Help Line: 24hr phone and online counselling service for people aged 5-25, 1800 551 800 or [www.kidshelpline.com.au](http://www.kidshelpline.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

**Norther District Community Health Boort and Pyramid Hill**  
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.

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](http://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/](http://www.facebook.com/LoddonShire/)