

BUSHFIRE RECOVERY INFORMATION

APRIL 16, 2021

Upcoming events

Community recovery update and dinner

Come along and catch up with other members of the community and receive an update on the bushfire recovery works. All residents in the fire affected area are welcome, dinner and drinks provided.

 Thursday, April 29, 6 - 7.30pm

 Gidgegannup Recreation Club,
1990 Toodyay Road

Holding space to heal through sound and art

These sessions are designed to be a safe, supportive space to change our focus, let go of fear, anxiety, worry and stress, indulge in some self-care and explore our innate creativity. It is an inclusive environment with children and adults of all abilities and challenges welcome.

We will explore different sound instruments, enjoy a relaxing meditation and finish by making a beautiful artwork.

Sessions are offered free of charge to those affected by the recent Hills Bushfire. Places are limited and bookings are essential. No art experience is necessary.

 Saturday, May 1, 1-3pm

 Gidgegannup Recreation Club,
1990 Toodyay Road

 To book tickets, visit
www.swan.wa.gov.au/bushfire2021
and select the news and events tab

Latest updates

Residential clean-up program:

Since the Wooroloo Bushfire Coordinated Residential Clean-up Program was announced, a total of 142 residents (129 from the City of Swan and 13 from the Shire of Mundaring) have registered for the program.

To date, 39 site planning meetings have been held and on-ground debris removal works will start on Thursday, 15 April. Registered residents seeking information about site planning meetings or the on-ground works schedule for their properties can contact **1800 328 997**.

Ablution blocks available in Tilden Park

Showers and toilets are now available for community to use at Tilden Drive near the Charlie Miles Fire Dam Reserve, opposite 162 Tilden Drive. The City is arranging regular cleaning, fuel and water tank top-ups.

As the generator requires refuelling periodically any assistance from the local community in topping it up from the supplied fuel tank would be appreciated. If you are available to assist, please email bushfirerecoverygroup@swan.wa.gov.au or call **0438 242 356**.

Green waste on properties

The City is mindful of the accumulation of green waste on properties affected by the recent bushfire. Following the initial state-led clean-up of debris, if you still require assistance with green waste removal, please contact the City via **9267 9267** or email bushfirerecoverygroup@swan.wa.gov.au and provide the details below:

- Property name and address
- How much and type of green waste (estimated amount and type i.e. cut up trees, branches etc.)
- Location on property

Please do not place the green waste on the verge. The City will be in contact with you prior to attending the property.

Update on Lord Mayor's Distress Relief Fund

This week, a rapid disbursement of \$10,000 has been made available to people that suffered partial structural damage to property during the recent Wooroloo and Hills bushfires.

The decision by the Lord Mayor's Distress Relief Fund (LMDRF) Board means that owner occupiers who suffered partial damage to their place of residence, or who suffered other property damage and loss, will receive \$10,000 immediately.

That includes damage to verandahs, gutter downpipes, outdoor decking, sheds, fencing, water tanks, machinery, pumps, tools, power poles and telecommunications.

Occupiers who suffered partial damage, or loss of contents such as sheds, tools, machinery and other equipment are also eligible to receive \$10,000.

Rates relief and building/planning fees to be waived

City of Swan Council have voted to apply rates concessions to bushfire-affected residents and waive building and planning application fees, representing an estimated \$476,000 saving for ratepayers and those rebuilding in the fire affected area.

For ratepayers, the decisions made at the April 14 Council Meeting means:

- For properties that are damaged but the house is habitable, the City will apply a one-off pro-rata credit for the 2020/21 Council rates for the period from 1 February to 30 June 2021.
- For properties that are destroyed and the houses are not habitable, the City will apply a one-off credit for the full 2020/21 Council rates.
- Total credits are estimated at \$191,000, and does not apply to the Emergency Services Levy, as this charge is not under the City's control.
- The total amount is subject to change dependant on number of applications.

The City will also waive fees for planning applications, building permits and certificates, onsite effluent disposal and for temporary accommodation under the Caravan Park and Camping Act for a period of three years, representing approximately \$285,000 in concessions.

Anyone who was affected by the bushfire, and who has already paid a planning or building fee, will be refunded accordingly.

Bushfire Community Connect Space

The Bushfire Community Connect Space is busy providing supplies for bushfire-affected residents, from household items and clothes to fencing supplies and tools, pod and temporary housing. They can also provide support with health and wellness services and general requests.

The team are looking for volunteers to assist with tasks from packing and sorting donations, helping with events, admin work and creating flyers to promote the service.

The service is located at Percy Cullen Recreation Centre, with opening hours as follows:



Opening hours:

Tuesday and Thursday - 10am to 2pm

Saturday - 10 am to 4pm

Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday - by appointment



Please contact Sharon on **0466 430 979** or **sharon@sharonpegrum.com.au** if you are interested in volunteering, either on-site or helping with remote tasks like admin and flyers.

General supplies from CWA

The CWA are available with a range of donations and food at the CWA Hall at the Gidgegannup Showgrounds.



Wednesday 10am – 2pm and Friday 9.30am – 11.30am



CWA Hall at Gidgegannup Showgrounds, 2171 Toodyay Road

Where to get help

Financial support

Get information on the latest financial support available at www.swan.wa.gov.au/bushfire2021
Some key options available:

State Government funding: \$4k to those whose homes have been destroyed and \$2k to those whose homes have been damaged. Apply now at www.swan.wa.gov.au/bushfirerelief

Lord Mayor's Distress Relief Fund:

Open for all owner/occupiers who had property destroyed or damaged. Apply now at www.swan.wa.gov.au/lordmayorfund

Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment and/or Allowance: If you've lost income as a direct result of the bushfires, or have been adversely affected. To claim: call **180 22 66** or visit www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/disaster

Rural Revegetation Program

This year, the City of Swan is expanding its eligibility criteria for the Rural Revegetation Program to include City residents that have been affected by the Wooroloo bushfires. Applications close 4pm sharp on April 30.

Visit www.swan.wa.gov.au/revegetation to apply

Government-funded clean-up of residential properties

The Wooroloo Bushfire Coordinated Residential Clean-Up Program is underway, assisting residents whose homes, structures or vehicles have been damaged.

 For more information on the process visit www.wa.gov.au/woorloobushfirecleanup

 Questions about site planning meetings **1800 328 997**

If you have any other questions, contact the City's bushfire recovery team

 **0438 242 356**

 bushfirerecoverygroup@swan.wa.gov.au

Fencing

BlazeAid volunteers can help you rebuild fences and other structures that have been damaged or destroyed.

 Camp Coordinator Jo Delaney on **0417614446**

 blazeaid.wooroloo@gmail.com

Property clean-up

In addition to the State-Government led residential clean-up program, volunteers from Disaster Relief Australia (DRA) can help clean-up your property.

 **0419 193 301**

 info@disasterreliefaus.org

 www.disasterreliefaus.org

DRA's deployment wraps in late April. If you haven't already been in touch, please do so ASAP, so they can add you to their schedule.

Access free animal feed

Access free animal feed from Gidgegannup Showgrounds.

 10am - 2pm daily, closed Monday and Wednesday

 Corner of Toodyay Road and Old Coach Road West

 For general enquiries and to volunteer call Karen Andrich on **0419005312**. For enquiries about stock call Dusty, EASE WA, on **0436389445**.

Looking after yourself and others

Traumatic experiences - like being involved in a fire - can be sudden and overwhelming. It's normal to feel unsettled and disrupted for a while.

With time, some simple steps, and the support of people close to them, most people will cope well with the stress of a crisis.

Red Cross and City of Swan staff are currently visiting more than 1,500 properties to check in with our community, offer information and provide support.

Red Cross are also continuing to provide psychosocial support at community gatherings and training for staff and community leaders. These initiatives will continue for at least the next 12 months.

Help to manage your wellbeing:

- Your GP is a good place to start, and they can also refer you to other services.
- If you are worried about your child, please contact your school to discuss support available.
- If it is a life threatening emergency, call **000** or visit your nearest emergency department.
- Lifeline's Bushfire Recovery Phonenumber **13 HELP (13 43 57)** is available for anyone impacted by fires, no matter how you're struggling
- In a crisis, call Lifeline on **13 11 14**
- Kids Help Line: **1800 551 800**
- Beyondblue: **1300 22 4636** - plus online chat and forums at **beyondblue.org.au**
- Alcohol and Drug Support Line: **08 9442 5000** or **1800 198 024** (country toll free)
- For other types of crisis - like concern about a child's safety, or if you have lost your home and have nowhere to stay, call the Department of Communities Crisis Care line on **08 9223 1111**
- Red Cross: **1800 733 276** or email **recovery@redcross.org.au**

Bushfire Community Recovery Centre

Get the latest information and chat to the City's bushfire recovery team.

🕒 Open Wednesday to Friday 9am - 5pm and Saturday from 9am - 12pm

📍 Gidgegannup Place Office, Unit 4, 2125 Toodyay Road (next to the Gidgegannup Bakery and Cafe)*

Who to contact

General query about the bushfire recovery process:

✉ **bushfirerecoverygroup@swan.wa.gov.au**

📞 **0438 242 356** during business hours

Injured wildlife: Wildcare Helpline - 9474 9055

Water Corporation: 13 13 85

Western Power: 13 13 51

Telstra: 1800 888 888

Insurance Council of Australia: 1300 728 228

Find the latest information

Visit **www.swan.wa.gov.au/bushfire2021** or scan the QR code.



Scan me

Get email updates

Sign up to our weekly emails for updates on the bushfire recovery process, including events and the clean-up program.

How to sign up: Scan the QR code on the left > follow the link to our website > click the blue sign-up button on the top of the page > enter your name and email.