

RESILIENCE IN ACTION

Tips and tricks for a bushfire-smart community

Local plantations update

Rohan Gordon, HVP

What's HVP up to? The HVP Plantations team is again working hard to ensure the company is well prepared for the threat of fire during the warmer months. HVP continues to develop its firefighting capacities and year-round fire prevention activities.

What about arson? While some fires may be accidental, many are deliberately lit and avoidable. HVP works to detect arson over summer with patrol vehicles, aircraft, drones and cameras watching for suspicious activity. The Gippsland Arson Prevention Program (GAPP) is also active, with support from 21 different organisations working to tackle human-caused fire across the region.

What can you do? As the Moe South community, you can also play an important role in preventing fire risk and arson in your local plantation. If you see or know something suspicious, or notice dumped cars, unattended camp fires and burn-offs, you can report it through the Snap Send Solve app, directly to HVP on (03) 5122 0600 or **contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000**. The plantations are an important part of our community; let's work together to support HVP's efforts to keep the local area as safe as we can.

Who would you call in times of trouble?

Do you know your neighbours?

The attached postcard is one way we can build 'safety in numbers'. Let's mark Neighbour Day 2021 (28 March) by filling out these postcards and starting that conversation about bushfire preparedness and resilience. You never know when it might come in handy.



Keep an eye on visitors this fire season

Brendan Jenkins, Moe South CFA

There is a lot of summer and drier weather to be experienced by our community. Most of us know how to be responsible. We know to clean up our properties and keep an eye on the bureau weather alerts. We know to use water to put out a fire properly.

But what about our visitors?
This year, more than any other, people from outside our neighbourhood and district will be visiting us. This year many won't go further afield due to restrictions or fear. Instead, they'll do a day trip or overnighter in our back yard - sometimes literally.

That's where we can help.
Keep an eye on visitors. Let them know that our community is a fire safe one. Be aware of what they are up to. If it looks as though they may be unaware of the rules which apply to all of us; make a record. Some of you will always feel comfortable enough to have a chat with visitors. But if you believe someone is doing the wrong thing and you're worried, you can advise the relevant agency, like the Police, the CFA, Latrobe City Council or Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.
Often our fire safety is not only up to us, but relies on those around us to be aware as well.

