

RESILIENCE IN ACTION

Tips and tricks for a bushfire-smart community

Seasonal Outlook

cfa.vic.gov.au

CFA will be introducing Fire Danger Periods for municipalities in the coming months, based on assessments of the amount of rain, grassland curing rate and local conditions.

With the return of a La Niña weather pattern and widespread rainfall, firefighters don't expect to see the extreme fires of three years ago. However, that doesn't mean communities can become complacent. **Victoria is one of the most bushfire-prone areas in the world** and even a normal fire season can present the risk of dangerous fires.

According to the Australian Seasonal Bushfire Outlook for Summer, the forecast of below normal grass fire activity is expected in early summer due to saturated soils, however, the risk of grass fires may increase later in summer as grasses dry out, so it is important communities remain vigilant to the risk of fires no matter where they live.

While CFA firefighters are preparing for the bushfire season, they are urging the community to use common sense and take responsibility for preventing fires. CFA Chief Officer Jason Heffernan reinforces that "we know most of the state has experienced normal to above normal rainfall, which will lead to increased vegetation growth, so it's important to keep maintaining your property into summer. **It only takes one bad day to have a bad fire season** so we need to stay vigilant this spring and summer."

Emergency Management Commissioner Andrew Crisp has reminded all Victorians to remain vigilant and prepare for all emergencies, including fires, floods, storms, water safety, heat and other emergencies.

For more information, scan the QR code here:



2022 Clean Up and Noticeboard Launch

by Rebekah Baynard-Smith, CBBM Facilitator

For the third year running, the Moe South community rallied together to start working on their properties ahead of bushfire season. On Saturday 29th October, residents came together at the fire station for a classic Lions BBQ, a time to meet others in the community, seek and offer assistance, and pick up some educational resources to help guide their property works. This year we had the added bonus of some TM&H (Mitre 10 Moe) vouchers to give away and the new No-Fee Green Waste Drop Off organised by Latrobe City Council, thanks to the petition Moe South residents started last year!

Another feature of this year's lunch was the launch of a brand-new community noticeboard located outside the CFA shed on Lynne Ave. This is a community board for the purpose of sharing emergency/bushfire-related information, such a map of local bushfire risk and important emergency contacts, as well as community events and jobs. **If you would like to add something to the board, please contact Rosie on 0407 390 896.**

Similar to the last two years, the Clean Up initiative involved pairing up some people who needed additional support in cleaning up their property, such as help with pruning, burning off, clearing gutters and taking green waste to the tip. Many thanks to all those who volunteered their time and resources to assist their neighbours! Massive thank you also the Lion Club of Moe who not only put on a superb lunch but also offered their trailer to help with the green waste tip runs. Thank you to the CFA (Moe South brigade and District 27), TM&H, Lions Club, Latrobe City Council, Safer Together and most of all the Moe South community for your help making this initiative a success.





Season's greetings from your local CFA brigade

by Stephen Bates, Captain Moe South Fire Brigade

How quick has this year flown, they seem to be getting quicker (maybe due to Covid!!).

The Moe South fire brigade was established in 1982 and has been serving this community for 40 years, we plan to organise a 40th Anniversary Open Day after the fire season next year.

The brigade has had a quiet year in relation to Call Outs, but our members have still remained very active with other activities including:- Community Events, Training and Flood assistance. Our fire fighters are currently completing their training requirements for the upcoming 2022-2023 fire season.

The start of the Fire Danger Period (FDP) will probably be late again, similar to last year, and is expected to start from mid to late January 2023. The message from CFA is that grass fires will be high risk this season due to the exceptional growth, so as a community we need to keep our properties clear of high grass.

When burning off on your property, the current conditions are fairly mild, but still be mindful of the requirements to conduct a safe burn-off, particularly with summer upon us.



ALWAYS REGISTER YOUR BURN-OFF

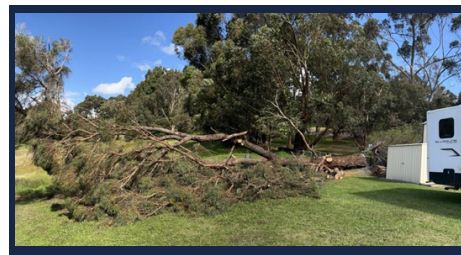
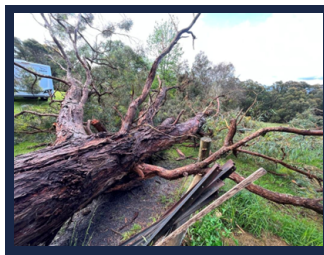
Notify Online (Preferred)
Scan the QR code or visit
firepermits.vic.gov.au

By Phone
Call **1800 668 511**

By Email
Email notification form to
burnoffs@esta.vic.gov.au

Check.Apply.Notify.

As a general advice, please keep an eye on trees on your property, with the ground still fairly wet some trees will struggle to stay up (a tree fell at my place two weeks ago – luckily it missed everything except the fence!). Look for wet and weak ground around the tree's base and check whether the tree is leaning (if unsure, seek out an arborist).



I would like to thank and congratulate Rebekah and the Moe South community for your ongoing support and spirit in ensuring we remain fire safe. All your efforts do not go unnoticed, especially from the CFA and Latrobe City.

To all in our community we would like to wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and Happy & Safe New Year from the Moe South Fire Brigade.



Merry
Christmas

