



Recovery Newsletter - April 2026

MESSAGE FROM RECOVERY TEAM

And just like that the season has changed, sometimes feeling more like winter than autumn. The Recovery Hubs in Natimuk and Quantong are up and running so please feel free to drop by and say hello and ask that question.

This month a key focus is supporting everyone with the time consuming task of clean up. Some have already started this process but as much as we would like this to be a quick process it is not. There are many physical and emotional factors involved in cleaning up a yard, a shed, a home. Some days will be easier than others please know we are here to assist in this space.

- *Free Waste Disposal will close in May,*
- *If you need assistance in cleaning up around your property please let us know and we can see if we can find that wheelbarrow, rake, or that extra pair of hands or some rope to tie it down.*

*We will be starting our Cuppa and Conversation sessions in the coming weeks. **First one Sunday May 3rd – Where to start with rebuilding my garden.** We are looking for topics and guest presenters so if you have an idea or have something that you would like to share please email recovery@hrcc.vic.gov.au.*

Rhonda

FREE WASTE DISPOSAL CLOSING SOON

 **Ends Wednesday 13th May 2026**

To take advantage of the free disposal offer impacted residents simply need to show proof of residence i.e. drivers' licence or utility notice.

Natimuk Waste Facility / Stack Site

Lake Ave Natimuk

Scrap metal can be placed on the current scrap metal pile. Other fire waste is to be placed in the general waste bins marked 'Bushfire Waste'.

Quantong Transfer Station

497 Lanes Avenue Quantong

Wednesday 1pm-5pm, Saturday 9am-1pm

Scrap metal can be placed on the current metal pile. Other fire waste is to be placed in the general waste bins marked 'Bushfire Waste'.

\$1000 VICTORIAN EMERGENCY RELIEF AND RECOVERY FOUNDATION PAYMENT

 **Applications open until 5pm, 1st May 2026**

To qualify the following criteria must be met:

- Be a homeowner or renter who was living in an area impacted by the 2025-26 bushfires in Victoria; and
- Have a primary place of residence that was uninhabitable because of damage sustained by bushfires, (such as complete loss of home or loss of septic system/water supply).

Applicants are eligible to apply regardless of their insurance status and the payment is not subject to a means test.

Apply online at www.vic.gov.au/verrf



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PERSONAL SUPPORT

As the weather cools and things start to become more routine, this is when new questions, thoughts and feelings may arise. The team at Grampians Community Health are here to help walk you through the 'right doors' on your pathway to recovery, health and wellbeing.

The GCH Recovery Support Team will talk you through the process of recovery, and help you engage with a range of support services.

Call the GCH Recovery Support Team on

 03 5358 7400 and ask for Mel, Tegan or Bec

AGRICULTURAL BUSINESSES SUPPORT

The next few months are some of the busiest times on our farm properties so linking into your local rural financial counselors will provide great support during this time.

FARM DROUGHT SUPPORT GRANTS

There is funding available to assist farmers with many things related to livestock but also to the storage of grain and fodder or the effects the fire has had on other area of your business.

 Applications close 30 June 2026

BUSHFIRE RECOVERY GRANTS

Up to \$75,000 to assist with clean-up and reinstatement of primary production businesses. This can include removing and disposing of debris (trees affected by fire on your land)

 Applications close October 2026

Call Rural Financial Counselling Service on

 1300 771 741



LEGAL ASSISTANCE

How are things going with your insurance company?

If you are unsure or things aren't progressing how you would like then please give Allied Justice a call.


Allied Justice is an organization that can provide free legal advice, information and community legal education to people affected by these fires.

Allied Justice 91b Wilson Street Horsham

Call Allied Justice on

 03 5331 5999 or 1800 466 488

RECOVERY HUBS

Need help working out which service provides what assistance, want some information or just want to drop in and have a chat. 

NC² Building - 62 Main Street Natimuk

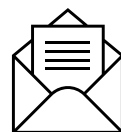
- Tuesdays 2pm-6pm
- Wednesday 10am-4pm

Quantong – Community Recreation Reserve

- Monday 2pm-6pm

Call the Community Recovery Team

 0472 704 674



Send us an email at

recovery@hrcc.vic.gov.au