

Hazelwood Mine Fire Community Information



More than 330 Victorian Government and Latrobe City Council staff are working to help people affected by smoke and ash.

Here are some services available for you.

EMERGENCY RELIEF

TEMPORARY RELOCATION

Temporary relocation away from smoke is recommended for people aged 65 and over, pre-school aged children (under 5, including infants and babies), pregnant women, and anyone with an existing heart or lung condition living or working in South Morwell.

If you are in an 'at risk' group and are in financial hardship you can apply for a Personal Hardship Voluntary Relocation Payment to take a temporary break away from the smoke. A one-off Personal Hardship Respite Payment remains available to any household that needs assistance to take a break.

For advice on temporary relocation and other support contact the Department of Human Services on **1800 006 468** or visit recovery.vic.gov.au

BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

Grants are available for businesses with fewer than 20 employees. Call the Victorian Business Line on **13 22 15** or visit business.vic.gov.au

Business mentoring is available. Call Latrobe City Council on **1300 367 700**.

Low-interest concessional loans will also be made available through the Rural Finance Corporation. Call **1800 260 425** or visit ruralfinance.com.au

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

The Community Information and Recovery Centre at 22 Hazelwood Road, Morwell is open from 9am until 6pm daily offering support and information from council, DHS, Red Cross, CFA, Victorian Council of Churches and other key agencies.

CFA information buses will be in various locations between the Mid-Valley shopping centre and Hazelwood South over the next few days.

TAKING A BREAK

The following options are available to Morwell residents seeking a break from the smoke.

HOLIDAY HOUSE SCHEME

A Holiday House Scheme has been put in place to provide accommodation support. If you would like to use the accommodation on offer, please call **1300 366 356** to register your details.

FREE V/LINE TRAVEL

Free return tickets for V/Line trains from Morwell are available from staff at Morwell Station. Eighteen return services operate each weekday. For timetable information, visit ptv.vic.gov.au or call **1800 800 007** (6am - midnight).

ZOOS VICTORIA

Morwell residents can visit free at Melbourne Zoo, Werribee Zoo and Healesville Sanctuary by showing address identification at the Zoo entry.

SCOUTS VICTORIA CAMPSITES

Scouts Victoria are offering free temporary accommodation at popular campsites across Victoria this week or over the Labour Day long weekend. For more information, contact Latrobe City Council on **03 5128 5616**.

COMMUNITY RESPITE CENTRE

The Moe Town Hall respite centre is open on Albert Street from 9.00am till 7.00pm daily and offers a relaxed air conditioned space take a break from the smoke.

REGISTER.FIND.UNITE

If you are leaving Morwell overnight, or for a longer period, you can register your details with Red Cross *Register.Find.Unite* service to help you let family, friends or neighbours know where you have gone. Visit redcross.org.au or call **1800 727 077**

HEALTH INFORMATION

Temporary relocation is recommended for 'at risk' groups living or working in Morwell South. If you are staying, try to keep out of the smoke by staying indoors as much as possible, avoid physical exercise outdoors and take a break away from the smoke if possible. Keep taking medications and follow your asthma plan. For more information, visit health.vic.gov.au

HEALTH ASSESSMENT CENTRE

Paramedics and nurses are providing free health assessments at the Regional Office of Ambulance Victoria Gippsland at 2 Saskia Way, Morwell. The centre is open from 8am to 8pm. If you need medical care, you will be referred to your doctor or to the Latrobe Regional Hospital.

NURSE-ON-CALL

You can discuss any health related issues with a registered nurse, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for the cost of a local call on **1300 60 60 24**.

AIR QUALITY

The EPA has doubled air quality monitoring in the Latrobe Valley and is issuing regular updates. The EPA will issue a smoke advisory notice if you need to take action. For air quality updates and forecasts, visit epa.vic.gov.au or call **1300 372 842**.

WATER

Mains drinking water supplies have not been affected by the fire.

ADVICE FOR WORKPLACES

For information and advice on workplace safety, phone VWA Advisory Services on **1800 136 089**.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

VBIL 1800 240 667 | NATIONAL RELAY SERVICE 1800 555 677 | #MINEFIRE