

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

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Financial assistance is available to Morwell residents to take a break from the smoke. 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 are 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.

Community engagement officers continue to be out and about in Morwell and surrounding areas talking to members of the community.

TAKING A BREAK

The Victorian Government and Latrobe City Council are coordinating options for Morwell residents to take a break from the smoke and ash.

Free return tickets for V/Line trains are available from staff at Morwell Station.

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

Morwell residents can also obtain free entry into Museum Victoria venues, including **Melbourne Museum, Scienceworks and the Immigration Museum**, by showing address identification at the ticket counters. This offer complements the range of free experiences already on offer at Victorian arts agencies. For more information, visit arts.vic.gov.au

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

COMMUNITY RESPITE CENTRE

The Moe Town Hall respite centre is open on Albert Street from 9am till 6pm and offers a relaxed air conditioned space to take a break from the smoke.

REGISTER.FIND.REUNITE.

If you are leaving Morwell overnight, or for a longer period, you can register your details with the Red Cross *Register.Find.Reunite.* 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 away from smoke is recommended for people aged 65 and over, children under five (including infants and babies), pregnant women, and anyone with an existing heart or lung condition living or working in areas south of Commercial Road, Morwell.

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, seven 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 Service on **1800 136 089**.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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