

Community Recovery Fund (CRF)

The newly established Community Recovery Fund (CRF) will be the source of funds for various community based projects in bushfire affected areas.

Community organisations will be able to apply for funding provided that:

- the activity is based in an area of Victoria affected by the 2009 bushfires (as defined in the list below)
- the organisation has a legal status such as an incorporated body, cooperative or association;
- the organisation has an Australian Business Number (ABN) or provides written advice from the Australian Tax Office that no withholding tax is required.

Individuals cannot apply in their own right, but can apply in partnership with an organisation that fits the above criteria. Organisations that receive revenue from electronic gaming machines or that are primarily established for profit-making purposes are ineligible to apply.

The 25 affected municipalities: Alpine, Baw Baw, Cardinia, Casey, Corangamite, Greater Bendigo, Greater Shepparton, Horsham, Hindmarsh, Indigo, Knox, Latrobe, Macedon Ranges, Mansfield, Mitchell, Mount Alexander, Murrindindi, Nillumbik, South Gippsland, Southern Grampians, Towong, Wangaratta, Wellington, Whittlesea and Yarra Ranges.

The details of how this fund will operate are being finalised in May.

If you wish to get more information about this fund and/or to find out more about what other community based projects are being discussed in your community, the Victorian Bushfire Recovery and Reconstruction Authority (VBRRA) suggests the following:

1. Log your interest in being advised of CRF grant processes by ringing VBRRA on 1800 240 667 and advising them that you wish to receive this information when it is available. www.wewillrebuild.vic.gov.au
2. Make contact with the Community Recovery Committee (CRC) which has been established in your Council area.

The CRC's will play a key role in deciding on which community projects go ahead in their area.

Your Council will have either a Community Development Officer or a Municipal Recovery Officer who will be able to put you in touch with the Committee.