

Edition - 9

Wednesday, 23 June 2021

## Power outage payments for Business

The State and Federal Governments are providing disaster assistance funding for businesses affected by the prolonged power outages.

Businesses are eligible for funding if they:

- Have an annual payroll of less than \$10 million
- Were without power as of 12.01am on Thursday, 17 June, 2021.

Eligible businesses will receive payments of up to \$2500 each week, capped at three weeks, through AusNet Services.

This funding will help cover the costs of rent, wages and other operating expenses during the initial storm recovery period.

This payment comes through the Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

Funding can be accessed through AusNet's website, [ausnetservices.com.au](http://ausnetservices.com.au) or by calling them on **1300 561 171**.



## Laundry Facilities

- Orange Sky are offering laundry services at Kalorama. For more information, please visit [locations.orangesky.org.au](http://locations.orangesky.org.au)
- Discovery Church, 89 Monbulk Rd, Mount Evelyn are offering a free washing service. Drop off or pick up 9am-4pm, Monday-Wednesday. A team at the church will wash, dry and fold your clothes to have them ready for collection the next day. For more information please call 9736 2323.

## Emergency Food Waste Disposal

Extra bins have been made available for residents to dispose of emergency food waste only at the following locations:

- Kalorama Memorial Reserve, Mt Dandenong Tourist Road, Kalorama
- Olinda public toilets, 33 Monash Avenue (Service road)
- Rear of the Healesville Community Link, River Street, Healesville
- Belgrave Recreation Reserve, 1A Reserve Rd, Belgrave
- Monbulk Recreation Reserve car park, Moores Road
- Lilydale Recreation Reserve, 179 Main St, Lilydale
- Yarra Junction Recreation Reserve car park near sporting pavilion

Please check Council's website or call 1300 368 333 for more information and updates on these services and locations.

Council's kerbside waste collection services will continue to occur where access is available. If you have bins that have been damaged, please contact us and we will arrange for them to be repaired or replaced.

## For updates and information

[yarraranges.vic.gov.au/stormemergencyinfo](http://yarraranges.vic.gov.au/stormemergencyinfo)

 [www.facebook.com/ycouncil/](https://www.facebook.com/ycouncil/)

## Power and Shower Sites

The below 'Power and Shower' sites are available to residents who need hot showers or charging facilities from 8am-8pm.

Please bring your own towel, toiletries and charging devices.

If you require anything else, please ask staff and they will see how they can assist.



- **Kalorama Memorial Reserve, 1190-1196 Mt Dandenong Tourist Road, Kalorama.**
- **Olinda Recreation Reserve, 71-73 Olinda Monbulk Road, Olinda.**
- **Belgrave Community Hub, 1616-1624 Burwood Highway, Belgrave.**
- **Monbulk RSL, 48 Main Road, Monbulk, will also have firewood available.**
- **Upwey Township Hall, 6 Mahony St, Upwey. 9am-12pm, Mon-Wed. Device Charging available. Breakfast provided from 9am.**

### Monbulk Community Link

Food relief, charging facilities, general information, tea and coffee and staff assistance with support enquiries now available from the Monbulk Community Link, 21 Main Road Monbulk.

## Donations

Council is working to help connect community members with donations in the aftermath of the storms.

If you or someone you know needs support, please call Council on 1300 368 333.

If you would like to make a donation there are many local community organisations helping people with food boxes, supermarket and fuel vouchers, meals, counselling and other support. Cash and voucher donations are welcomed as it allows the organisations to buy the specific items they need.

## Airbnb offer

In response to power outages in Victoria, Airbnb hosts are offering free places to stay for those in need, between 17 June and 1 July.

Visit the following link to find temporary no-cost accommodation options:

[www.airbnb.com/vicpoweroutage21](http://www.airbnb.com/vicpoweroutage21)

**If you have a hearing, speech or communication impairment, call the National Relay Service on 1300 555 727 and ask them to call Council.**

**To get this information in another language call the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 and ask them to call Council.**



## Key Contact Information

For urgent relief needs including food and alternate accommodation contact Council on **1300 368 333**

	Serviced by	Contact Number
Road Closures	VicRoads	13 11 70
Fallen trees - Local Roads	Council	1300 368 333
Fallen trees - Main Roads	VicRoads	13 11 70
Fallen trees - On Powerlines	AusNet Services	13 17 99
Livestock issues	Contact Agriculture Victoria	9032 7676
Flood or Storm assistance	SES	132 500
Material aid and financial support	Contact Council	1300 368 333
Temporary care for pets	Council	1300 368 333
Mental health support	Beyond Blue	1300 224 636
Domestic Violence Support	EDVOS	9259 4200 or 1800 015 188 (after hours)
Legal Services	Eastern Community Legal Centre	1300 32 52 00

## Electrical safety following power outages

Energy Safe Victoria have provided the following advice for households without power:

### Using a generator

- Do not use a generator indoors or in an enclosed area as the carbon monoxide released can cause severe health issues.
- Keep your generator out of dry grass, store it on a dry surface and away from rain or wet conditions.
- Make sure your hands are thoroughly dried before touching the generator and ensure fuel is stored in proper safety containers away from sources of ignition (such as a gas water heater). Before refuelling, make sure to turn off the generator and allow to cool.

### Generator Noise

With many residents operating generators, here are a few tips and things to keep in mind:

- You don't need permission from Council to run your generator
- Speak to your neighbours if you plan to run your generator at night
- Place your generator somewhere that will minimise the amount of noise that could be heard from those around you
- Putting solid panels around the generator can help lower the noise levels but please make sure there is enough airflow around the generator to keep it cool
- Turn off your generator when you do not need it

## Financial assistance

### Prolonged power outage payment

Financial relief is available for residential customers affected by prolonged power outages following the storm event on Wednesday 9 June.

The State Government has made funding available from the Disaster Recovery Fund, and we are supporting the roll-out.

**Prolonged Power Outage Payment of \$1,680 per week, for up to three weeks, will be extended to all eligible customers.**

To be eligible for a payment you must:

- Have a residential electricity account
- Be without power as at 12.01am Thursday 17 June 2021, due to the recent severe weather event
- **If you are eligible you can expect to hear from AusNet directly from 18 June 2021 into early next week.**
- Assistance is also available via the dedicated storm relief hotline **1300 561 171, 8am-8pm, 7 days.**
- If you believe you are eligible for the \$1680 payment and have not yet received contact from Ausnet, it may be because the contact number that Ausnet have on file has not been updated. If you would like support to complete the online form, bring a copy of your electricity bill and provide both a meter number and NMI number to one of our community links.

### Disaster Recovery Payment

- The Federal Government's Disaster Recovery Payment is available to people who have been seriously affected by the recent storms and floods.
- Eligible applicants can receive a one-off payment of \$1,000 per adult and \$400 for each child younger than 16 years of age.
- To see if you are eligible for this payment, and how to process a claim please call 180 22 66.

### Disaster Recovery Allowance

- The Federal Government's Disaster Recovery Allowance is a short term payment to help you if a declared disaster has directly affected your income.
- Your payment will be the maximum equivalent rate of the JobSeeker payment or Youth Allowance, depending on your circumstances.
- If your household income is more than the average Australian weekly income amount of \$1,713.90, your payment will be reduced to zero.
- Eligible applicants can receive this payment for a maximum of 13 weeks, to be paid from the date you started losing income as a direct result of the recent storms and floods.
- To see if you are eligible for this payment, and how to process a claim please call 180 22 66.

### Dandenong Ranges Emergency Relief Service (DRERS)

- DRERS is offering financial support for people who may not be eligible for other forms of financial support.
- DRERS are located at 1616 - 1624 Burwood Hwy, Belgrave near the Power and Shower site.
- They are giving out vouchers for people to purchase fuel, generators or to assist with rent and bills.
- If you would like their support, please give them a call on 9754 7777.