



Update 24 - November 2021



Welcome to our newsletter combining news and information on renewable energy and climate change adaptation in north east Victoria and beyond.

The Victorian Government is committed to being climate ready and resilient by 2050 and is helping regional communities and organisations across Victoria to work together to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

The Victorian Climate Change Strategy and supporting resources are available online [here](#).

[A reminder that our Climate Ready Hume Community Mini Grants are open! Up to \\$10,000 available to successful applicants!](#)

[Acres and Acres CO-OP](#), a successful applicant from last year, used the grant funding for educational training and hands-on workshops to teach the 'Market Gardener system' and create new streams of industry in the Upper Murray through Community Market Gardens. With the ethos of soil improvement and regenerative practices, they created a short food chain, established a tool library, and continue to build capacity within the community.

You can see the [full grant details on this page](#), and the guidelines, FAQ's and application forms are [here](#).

If you have any questions or need advice about the community mini grants, please don't hesitate to contact us at climateready.hume@delwp.vic.gov.au.



1 - <https://engage.vic.gov.au/hume-regional-climate-change-adaptation-strategy/community-mini-grants-now-open>

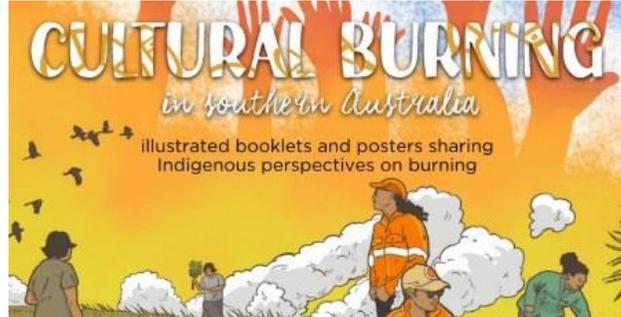
Climate Ready Hume Update

The team have been working with Greater Shepparton City Council and have begun the process of creating a Goulburn Youth Climate Change Leadership project. The program will run a four phase project beginning with youth consultation before running facilitation training.

The *Localising climate resilience in Hume workshops* also began in the last week of October, working with ARUP and Enviroplan to explore the Business and Insurance Risks of Climate Change.

See further details in the upcoming events section on how to be involved in a scenario planning workshop.

News



2 - Cultural burning in southern Australia booklet

Cultural burning in southern Australia booklet

This project considered the challenges and opportunities arising out of engagements between Indigenous peoples and natural hazard and land management government agencies in southern Australia. The cultural burning in southern Australia booklet and six accompanying posters bring together and uniquely present six diverse personal cultural burning experiences from across southern Australia. You can see the booklet [here](#) with stories from elders highlighted on the posters.



Flora and Fauna Guides

After a recent re-print, there are an abundance of Flora and Fauna guides at Wodonga Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) office. The guides include Freshwater Fish, Crayfish and Turtles, Fungi of north east Victoria, Pollinator Insects of north east Victoria, Reptiles & Frogs of north east Victoria, Wildflowers of the Foothills and Mountains, Wildflowers of the Plains and Low Hills and Woodland Birds of north east Victoria.

Please [contact Liz](#) if you would like printed versions sent or dropped off to you.

Creating Safer Energy Networks In Bushfire Regions

On October 25th The Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio announced that eligible locations through the Private Overhead Electric Line scheme now include Alpine, Baw Baw, Benalla, East Gippsland, Indigo, Mansfield, Murrindindi, Strathbogrie, Towong, Wangaratta, Wellington, Wodonga and Yarra Ranges local government areas (LGAs). "We're putting people first by ramping up the Private Overhead Electric Line scheme to underground private powerlines, and encouraging all eligible Victorians to apply for this nation-leading project. We're building energy resilience and safety as we face the impact of climate change and see hotter summers with longer bushfire seasons."

Residents in these additional LGAs can apply for funding at any time through the Private Overhead Electric Line scheme until 30 June 2022, either on (03) 9918 7315 or at their website [here](#).

The full media release can be found [here](#).

Premier's Sustainability award finalists 2021 announced

[Mt Hotham is a finalist](#) in the Premier's Sustainability awards (run by Sustainability Victoria) for their glass recycling and "closing the loop" project. Mount Hotham Alpine Resort Management Board have implemented a waste sorting station and glass pulveriser. With approximately 60 to 70 tonnes of glass product collected annually from the Mt Hotham Village, they aim to "close the loop" and achieve zero waste to landfill in the near future. The Resort Management Board identified opportunities to improve the safety and efficiency of waste material processing, diverting 66% of total waste generated by the Mt Hotham Village from landfill. You can see a list of all finalists [here](#).

The winners will be announced at the online ceremony on Tuesday 23 November. Registration is required via this [link](#) to attend the live and interactive event, where you'll hear positive sustainability stories from Victoria's inspiring change makers.



Energy Smart Farming Community of Practice

An Energy Smart Farming (ESF) Community of Practice provides a catalyst for practice change, increased adoption and understanding of efficient and renewable energy technologies that improve farm productivity and resilience. The ESF has an 'Ask an Expert' function [on their website](#) where they aim to direct farmers' queries to people with expertise in specific renewable energy and energy efficiency topics. Also, under their [events page](#) you'll find links to recent webinars including a link to the recent 'Energy Efficiency in horticulture' webinar.

Aussie Backyard Bird Count is huge success

Greater Shepparton City Council and RiverConnect would like to thank residents across the municipality for participating in the Aussie Backyard Bird Count last month. This annual event coordinated by BirdLife Australia discovers the population and species of birds that are sharing our local backyards, parks and reserves. See the full article [here](#).



Grants

Livestock Biosecurity Funds Grant Program

This grant funding aims to fund projects and programs that prevent, monitor, and control diseases, thereby enhancing animal health, biosecurity and market access for the benefit of Victorian cattle, sheep, goat, swine and honey bee industries. Eligible applicants wishing to apply for Livestock Biosecurity Funds funding can do so online from Friday 23 July 2021 until 11.59 pm on Friday 26 November 2021. Click [here](#) for the guidelines and previous grant recipient stories.

Clean Economy Workforce Capacity Building Fund (CEWCBF)

CEWCBF helps training providers and industry collaborate on new training methods and products to support jobs and growth in the emerging clean economy. Funding up to \$1 million across three categories is available for collaboration between industry and training providers to deliver innovation in clean economy training and workforce development (duration of up to eighteen (18) months).

- Expressions of Interest (EOI) for proposals are open from 25 October 2021 until Midnight, 19 November 2021.
- If an EOI is eligible, a link will be sent for the online application form.
- Those invited to prepare a full application, must complete and submit the online application by Midnight, 3 December 2021.

[FAQ's](#), [details regarding eligibility](#), [program guidelines](#), the Information Session and application process is available on the CEWCBF [website](#). For general queries, online information events or to register for email notifications and updates, please email clean.economy.workforce.fund@education.vic.gov.au

Recycling Victoria Innovation Fund

Circular Economy Business Innovation Centre (CEBIC) is looking for applications from collaborative projects which aim to design out waste to improve environmental and economic outcomes for Victoria. \$750,000 in funding will be awarded across 2 streams.

For more information and to apply, view the following pages:

[Stream 1: Textiles Innovation guidelines](#)

[Stream 2: Collaborative Innovation guidelines](#)

Climate Ready Hume Community Mini Grants

Community Mini Grants close at 5pm 17 December 2021. If you're part of a community group in north east Victoria that is passionate about climate change adaptation and want to make a difference on your local community apply now! Last year's successful grant recipients implemented a range of innovative projects that increased climate change awareness, preparedness, and adaptation capacity within local communities. See our [engage website here](#) for the guidelines, FAQ and Application form. [Click here for more information](#) or email us at email us at climateready.hume@delwp.vic.gov.au.

Future Drought Fund's Networks to Build Drought Resilience

The Australian Government's Future Drought Fund provides a sustainable source of funding to help remote, rural and regional communities, and farmers, become more prepared for, and resilient to, the impacts of drought. The Fund is part of the Government's Drought Response, Resilience and Preparedness Plan.

Eligibility requirements, definitions and further details can be found [here](#).

Closes: 15 November 2021

Activities funded in Round 2 must take place between 14 March 2022 and 29 August 2022.

Contact Kristy Shay for more information: futuredrought@frrr.org.au or 1800 170 020

Upcoming events



A 'Communicating Climate' event – NE Youth Climate Series event 2

'Communicating Climate: How to ace difficult conversations' is a chance to learn from an expert climate communicator, [Lee Constable](#). The event will provide lots of opportunities for fun activities, asking questions, and to practice your own climate communication skills.

If you are or know a young or young-ish person from north east Victoria, who is interested in what is happening in the world around us, and want to know how to improve your own communications skills, register below:

Date: Wednesday 17th November

Time: 6:00pm-7.30pm AEDT

Forum: Online

Registration: <https://forms.gle/dqGqZ4gev8PXG7tv8> (you will receive a link to join once you have registered)

The Youth Climate Series is supported by the Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), and OzGREEN.

The first event in the series was a discussion on how young people can engage with government. This event can be seen [here](#).

ARUP + ENVIROPLAN Scenario Planning workshop series

Workshop 1: November 24th 09:30am – 11.30am

Develop four plausible scenarios for the future of Hume

- Co-designing scenarios by identifying priority key factors and combining projections will help participants to create realistic, plausible and boundary-pushing scenarios.
- The divergent scenarios will promote discussion around the barriers and enables to climate and community resilience, and the benefits and priorities for collaboration.

Workshop 2: December 8th 1:30pm – 4.30pm

Scenario testing workshop

- Meet with key sector stakeholders to examine and explore the challenges and opportunities presented for sectors across the four scenario futures.

To register complete the form here: [Registration Form](#)

For all workshop enquiries please email leah.cornell-morrissey@delwp.vic.gov.au

Please share information about this exciting workshop series amongst your networks.

ResourceSmart Schools | Progress workshop & RSS Awards update

Teachers in the Hume region are invited to an interactive online ResourceSmart Schools (RSS) progress workshop that will include a sneak peak of the 2022 RSS Awards. [Register here](#) for the event.

Don't miss out and register your attendance now!

Tuesday 7 December 4:00 - 5:00pm.

Attendees will:

- Receive support with entering actions and bills into the ResourceSmart Schools online system and
- Learn about the 2022 ResourceSmart Schools Awards.

Secure a place by December 6 at 4:00pm.

Not an active ResourceSmart School? No worries! Email tom.mitten@sustainability.vic.gov.au or register your school [here](#).

[ResourceSmart Schools](#) is a FREE award-winning Victorian program that assists schools to embed sustainability in everything they do.



The NE Youth Climate Summit (Day 1-3)

Indigo Shire Youth for Climate Action (ISYCA) is working with OzGREEN and a number of local councils in north east Victoria including the Indigo, Alpine and Wangaratta Councils, as well as the Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, to run a North East Youth Climate Summit for three days in December.

The Summit will be an opportunity for young people from across the region to come together to talk about a range of issues and how to address them. It will be based on [OzGREEN's Youth Leading the World model](#), which takes participants through a process of FOCUS; VISION; CHANGE; ACTION.

Participants: Fully vaccinated participants aged between 12 and 30 from around NE Victoria are welcome

Registration: <https://forms.gle/iKHUKBZGCmEzdDXt9>

Date: Monday 13th to Wednesday 15th December 2021

Time: 9.30am to 3pm each day

Venue: Beechworth, specific venue TBD.

North East Youth Climate Summit - Community Forum (Day 3)

An essential part of the NE Youth Climate Summit is the Community Forum on the third day of the program. This is for other community members (no age limits!) to hear from youth about their concerns and plans, and to share their own expertise and ideas.

Participants: Fully vaccinated community members are all welcome, including staff and representatives from Hume local councils, local business, school teachers and principals, environmental and social entrepreneurs, community organisations and other experts are invited to come together to hear from our youth participants, and to share their own feedback and expertise.

Date: Wednesday 15th December 2021

Time: 1 - 3pm

Location: Beechworth, location TBD

Registration: <https://forms.gle/HBWvmy1d1pd1AViD7>

For more information: Contact ISYCA.info@gmail.com

Webinars and podcasts

Renewable Energy Innovations Webinar

What energy innovations can we harness right here in our communities?

Presented by Sustainable Upper Ovens and the Hume Community Power Hub. Innovations in energy efficiency and renewable energy around the home and workplace are becoming increasingly accessible. Join to hear about some of these emerging technologies and supporting programs being rolled out across the Hume region.

Presenters include: Dennis Lambert (Sustainable Upper Ovens), Matthew Charles-Jones (Mondo) and Heath Shakespeare (Indigo Power).

[RSVP HERE](#)

When: Monday, 22 November 8pm - 9pm

Where: Zoom, RSVP and details here: <https://indigopower.com.au/energyevent/>

Assessing seasonal conditions with Agriculture Victoria's soil moisture monitoring dashboard

Launched in 2020, Agriculture Victoria's Soil Moisture Monitoring (SMM) Dashboard has had some recent upgrades to improve user experience. On Tuesday 9th of November, AV ran a webinar. You can view the recording [here](#) (Reach out to us for the password). The data is reported through 'The Break' information products with investment from the [Grains Research and Development Corporation](#). The sites, with a perennial growth pattern, provide a comparison of the soil moisture available for plant growth to the winter crops.

Engagement opportunities

Have your say:

Renewable energy inquiry

The Legislative Council's Environment and Planning Committee is seeking submissions to its inquiry on renewable energy in Victoria. "We want to take a snapshot of what steps Victoria needs to take to prepare for a clean energy future," said Committee Chair Sonja Terpstra. "We're seeking to explore what resources will be needed to transition to 100 per cent renewable energy, as well as the economic benefits and job creation opportunities," she said. The inquiry is seeking input from the community particularly on:

- measures to enable Victoria to transition to renewable energy
- jobs and economic benefits and implications of the transition
- investment required to achieve 100 per cent renewable energy generation
- further opportunities for Victoria to reduce emissions
- government action that would be needed to support workers in impacted industries

- the economic risks of not urgently reducing emissions by transitioning to renewable energy.
- Submissions are due by 26 November 2021. The Committee prefers short submissions (up to 20 pages). Please visit [here](#) for more information.

Contact Us

For further information about Climate Ready Hume contact:

Email: climateready.hume@delwp.vic.gov.au

Climate Ready Hume | Hume Region

Forest, Fire and Regions | Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

Do you have an item to share for the next month's newsletter?

Please email us before 26 November for the December 2021 newsletter.

Do you know someone else who would appreciate this newsletter? Please forward this update and invite them to [subscribe to this monthly update here](#).

If you no longer wish to receive our updates, you can unsubscribe [here](#).

We acknowledge Victorian Traditional Owners and their Elders past and present as the original custodians of Victoria's land and waters and commit to genuinely partnering with them and Victoria's Aboriginal community to progress their aspirations.

Do you like our new format? We are trialling SWAY to improve the newsletter presentation. Does it work for you? Please contact us at climateready.hume@delwp.vic.gov.au if it doesn't work on your device or if you have other feedback.



3 - Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)

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