



Ararat Rural City

# COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

## GRAMPIANS NATIONAL PARK, BELLFIELD FIRE UPDATE

TUESDAY 3 DECEMBER 2024

### HAVE YOU SET UP YOUR WATCH ZONE?

Downloading the VicEmergency app and setting up your Watch Zone is one of the fastest ways to make sure you receive official emergency warnings, advice and updates this fire season.

The app allows you to designate a Watch Zone - or multiple Zones, such as one for home and one for work - and will send you alerts for any incidents or warnings within that area.

If you need help downloading the app or getting your Watch Zone set up, visit John Matthews at the Pomonal Recovery Centre and he'll gladly assist.

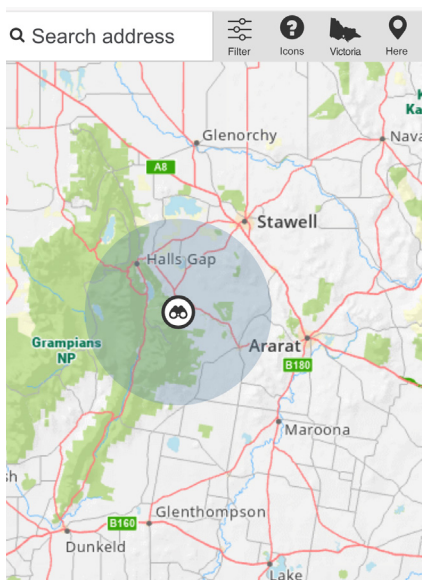


Image: A Watch Zone on central Pomonal in the VicEmergency app

### HOW TO FIND YOUR RISK ASSESSMENT CONSULTANT

Council have assembled a list of consultants to serve as an easily-accessed resource for Pomonal residents seeking fire risk assessment to assist in rebuilding homes.

Residents are to contact a consultant/s from the list, and once they have decided which consultant's offered timeframe for reporting suits them, are to notify Council's Recovery Officer, John Matthews, advising of their preferred consultant.

Read the rest of the process on Council's website, where you can also find contact details of the six participating consultants:

<https://www.ararat.vic.gov.au/fire-recovery-february-fires>

### FIRE PREP FOR YOUR PETS

During this Fire Danger Period, don't forget to prep for your pets. Have bedding, food and water ready to go; make sure you have petsafe transport; and check that your leave-early destination can accommodate your pets.

Here are some other tips, shared by Pomonal CFA:

- Make sure your pets can be identified easily. Microchip them and include your details on their collars.
- Have a plan for horses and livestock. Late evacuation with horses will put them and you at risk. A large, well-grazed area where they can move freely, with a supply of water is safest. Remove all gear from horses and always keep them contained on your property.
- Open internal gates to allow animals room to move. Do not allow them off your property; they are at serious risk on roads where visibility will be poor.



### POMONAL RECOVERY CENTRE HOURS

Mon - Wed: 9am - 4pm  
Thurs: 9am - 6pm  
Friday + Sunday: CLOSED  
Saturday: 9am - 1pm

During Recovery Centre Hours the Recovery Officer John Matthews is available on 0447 854 589.

### MANAGER OF PLANNING & BUILDING HOURS

Council's Manager of Planning and Building, Rob Fillisch, is working new hours at Pomonal Recovery Centre:

**Wednesdays**  
**8.30am - 12 noon**



Remember, you can also call Council's Customer Service team on 5355 0200 for assistance.

