

CEO Trivia – Did You Know?

That the Yarriambiack Shire Council proudly provides in excess of sixty services to the community including the delivery of meals on wheel, issuing of permits, road maintenance and construction, home care services, provision of swimming pools, halls, recreation and youth services just to name a few.

FIRE DANGER PERIOD TO COMMENCE

The Fire Danger Period will commence in the whole of the Yarriambiack Shire Council at 0100 hours on Monday 28 November 2005 as per declaration by the Chief Executive Officer of the Country Fire Authority unless varied by a subsequent declaration and will end on 1 May 2006.

Certain restrictions on the lighting of fires are in force during the Fire Danger Period information about fire restrictions can be obtained from Greg Wilson, Municipal Fire Prevention Officer on 5398 0136.

Fire Safety – Reduce Fuels Around The Home

A fire spreads more quickly with fine fuels (those less than a fingers width) by contributing most to the heat and speed of a fire.

Fine fuels include dry grass, leaves, twigs and loose bark but does not include larger logs or branches. Minimising fine fuels reduces the heat of a fire and its ability to spread across the ground and up into the tree tops.

Reducing fine fuels can also create a space in which to defend your home from embers.

Remember that;

- Weeds often contribute to high fuel loads priority should be given to removing them.
- Fine fuels may be reduced around the house by mowing, raking or slashing.
- Reduce accumulated debris such as loose flaky bark, dead branches, leaves or pine needles from within the branches of shrubs around your house.

Action that can also be taken to prepare for the fire season is to fit leaf guards to gutters to prevent a build up of leaves. Installation of weather stripping around the inside of doors and windows to eliminate gaps. Installing metal screens on windows and doors.

STATUTORY MEETING

Commencing at 5.00pm on Wednesday November 30th a Statutory Meeting of Council will be held at the Municipal Offices 34 Lyle Street, Warracknabeal. The Statutory Meeting will be conducted for the election and installation of the Mayor and setting of the Councillor allowances for 2005/2006. The public is most welcome and encouraged to attend.

NEW AUSLINK FUNDING

The Federal Government has announced a further \$100m for regional road projects under the AusLink program. Applications will be called for in February, 2006. It is expected the successful bidders in this process will be those regions that have developed regional transport strategies and identified key projects. The program will assist councils to develop regional roads that support industry, tourism and economic development.

WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIPS

The State Government this week announced \$24 million for the new Workforce Participation Partnerships program to target areas with skill and labour shortages. Funding will be available for traineeships, apprenticeships, mentoring and support including short-term rental and transport assistance for participants. The new program builds on the successful former Jobs for Young People, Community Jobs Program and Community Regional Industry Skills Program to respond to emerging skills and labour shortages. The Municipal Association of Victoria has been working with the Government to ensure this program provides flexible funding opportunities and mechanisms for councils to place people in long-term positions. For more information visit www.employment.vic.gov.au