

# FACTSHEET

## Storm and Flood Clean-Up Program

Bushfire Recovery Victoria (BRV) will support the clean-up and recovery work for the owners of private property damaged by the storms and floods that occurred on 9–10 June 2021.

### ELIGIBILITY

To request support:

- You must be a private property owner
- The private property must be in one of the 39 local government areas (LGAs) impacted by the June 2021 storms and floods.
- The damage to your property must have occurred as a direct result of the storms and floods on 9–10 June 2021.

### STORM AND FLOOD CLEAN-UP PROGRAM – STRUCTURES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

To be eligible for the Storm and Flood Clean-Up program (Clean-Up program) on private property, the affected property must contain a structure(s) that was destroyed or damaged beyond repair. Structures will be cleared and removed along with any hazards cleared to access a structure.

Properties eligible for the Clean-Up program will be assessed for hazards posing a risk to access for clean-up or work-crews and clean-up operations.

#### Definition of a structure

Structures must meet at least two of the following criteria to be eligible for clean-up:

- A building or object constructed from several parts
- A building or object that rests on deliberately placed foundations
- A building or object that is connected to two or more essential systems (water, power, internet, sewage, gas, solar etc.)

#### Program cost

The Clean-Up program is fully-funded by the Australian and Victorian Governments and provided at no cost to eligible property owners, regardless of whether they were insured or not.

### How the Clean-Up program works

There are four phases to the Clean-Up program:

1. Initial assessment of properties to identify hazards, understand the scope and type of work required, confirm the cause of the damage and assign a priority categorisation.
2. Making properties safe by removing hazards to eligible sites, particularly hazardous trees and materials.
3. Demolition and removal of structures and/or hazards that were removed to access a structure.
4. Remediation works including post site clearance and rectification works.

Every property is different and will be managed on a case-by-case basis. BRV will contact registered property owners and work with them to ensure the clean-up process is explained, and that works are done as safely and efficiently as possible.

During the initial site assessment, BRV and Johns Lyng Group will discuss the scope of the clean-up with property owners and provide a consent form that property owners will need to sign for the clean-up to progress.

The main focus of any clean-up is always safety —safety for the community and for the people undertaking the work.

Safe access must be guaranteed before works begin. Site assessments will be needed and all hazards posed by materials and hazardous trees must be managed appropriately.

Once those have been addressed, clean-up work can begin as soon as possible.

### **Clean-Up program delivery partner**

BRV will partner with Johns Lyng Group to undertake the Clean-Up program.

Johns Lyng Group is Australia's largest disaster recovery specialist with more than 67 years' experience playing leading roles in the recovery efforts of major disasters Australia-wide.

They have a national footprint of 47 offices, and more than 1000 employees and a nationwide network of more than 6000 sub-contractors specialising in disaster recovery.

### **TREES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY THAT ARE STILL STANDING BUT HAVE BECOME HAZARDOUS**

BRV is accepting registrations for the assessment of hazardous trees on private property which pose a risk to a place of residence or personal safety.

Trees on private property that were made hazardous because of the June 2021 storms and are within falling distance of a structure or access to a structure can be professionally assessed and recommendations made for their treatment.

If someone's life is in danger call Triple Zero 000.

### **FALLEN TREES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY**

Private property owners with fallen trees that haven't damaged or destroyed a structure or no longer pose a risk to a place of residence can reach out to VicForests for advice.

VicForests is a State-owned business that harvests, sells and regrows sustainable timber from Victoria's native forests and may be able to help advise on the processing of wind-thrown timber on private property.

VicForests can provide property owners with advice on the potential for fallen trees to be used as timber products. This advice could include contact details of businesses that may be interested in utilising the timber and may remove the timber for a fee.

VicForests can also provide advice around other considerations for property owners, including timber production requirements and key safety considerations.

Property owners can contact VicForests for an assessment of the timber on their property by emailing [vfs.admin@vicforests.com.au](mailto:vfs.admin@vicforests.com.au) and detailing their location, how much timber is on their properties and dimensions.

### **REGISTERING YOUR PROPERTY FOR CLEAN-UP OR ASSESSMENT OF DANGEROUS TREES**

Once you've confirmed your eligibility, you can register your property for Clean-Up, or register for the assessment of hazardous trees by visiting [www.brv.vic.gov.au/cleanup](http://www.brv.vic.gov.au/cleanup) or phoning 1800 560 760.

A BRV representative will make contact with you to confirm details about the affected property and arrange an initial assessment of the property.

Property owners with fallen trees can contact VicForests for advice by emailing [vfs.admin@vicforests.com.au](mailto:vfs.admin@vicforests.com.au) and detailing their location, how much wood is on their properties and dimensions.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

For further information about the Storm and Flood Clean-Up program, get in touch by:

**Phone:** 1800 560 760

**Web:** [www.brv.vic.gov.au/cleanup](http://www.brv.vic.gov.au/cleanup)

**Email:** [cleanup@brv.vic.gov.au](mailto:cleanup@brv.vic.gov.au)