

Support after the January 2026 Victorian bushfires

Financial support

Emergency relief payment: a payment for people who have been evacuated or whose homes are unliveable due to the fires. It helps with immediate needs.

Apply through the VicEmergency Hotline – [1800 226 226](tel:1800226226) (press 0 then 1)

Emergency re-establishment assistance: a payment if you can't return home because it was damaged or destroyed, you don't have insurance and you can't afford repairs.

Apply through the Emergency Recovery Hotline – [1800 560 760](tel:1800560760) (press 4)

Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment: a one-off, non-means tested lump sum payment. It's available if you've had major damage to your home or major assets that you own at your home.

Apply online – servicesaustralia.gov.au/vic-bushfires-jan-2026-agdrp

Disaster Recovery Allowance: an allowance for up to 13 weeks to help if you have lost income as a direct result of the January 2026 Victorian Bushfires.

Apply online – servicesaustralia.gov.au/vic-bushfires-jan-2026-dra

Prolonged power outage payment: if your home has been without power for more than 7 days you may be eligible for a payment.

Apply online – ausnetservices.com.au/outages/emergency-response or call [1300 561 171](tel:1300561171)

Primary producer grants: grants to assist farmers with the cost of clean-up and getting back to business.

Apply online – ruralfinance.com.au/grants/

Concessional loans for primary producers: loans for farmers to be used for restoring and replacing damaged assets, or for working capital expenses.

Apply online – ruralfinance.com.au/loans/

Financial counselling: A financial counsellor can help you make a plan to manage your money. They can also talk to creditors on your behalf. Call the:

National Debt Helpline – [1800 007 007](tel:1800007007) to speak to a financial advisor.

Mob Strong Debt Helpline for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people – [1800 808 488](tel:1800808488)

Small Business Debt Helpline – [1800 413 828](tel:1800413828)

Rural Financial Counselling Service for primary producers – [1300 771 741](tel:1300771741)

Practical support

Emergency Recovery Support Program: Support officers can advise on what services are available or connect you to programs. If you need extra support, a recovery support worker can help you over the long term.

Call – [1800 560 760](tel:1800560760)

Help to clean-up your property: help with things like demolition and removal of hazardous materials. For people who are uninsured and under-insured.

More information – vic.gov.au/clean-support-january-2026-bushfires

Emergency relief drinking water: up to 20,000L of drinking water if your household relies on tank water, your tank has been contaminated by fire, ash, debris or fire-fighting activities, and your property is within an impacted area.

Apply online – go.vic.gov.au/4qgT6nm or call DEECA on [136 186](tel:136186)

Water replacement: if we take essential water from your land to fight fires, you can request for it to be replaced.

More information – ffm.vic.gov.au/recovery-after-an-emergency/public-land-recovery

Waste disposal fees waived for disaster waste: no fees at local waste disposal facilities until 13 May 2026 for rubbish from your property generated by the January bushfires. Show proof of residence, like a driver's license.

Fencing: Eligible property owners may get support to repair fencing if:

- firefighting or disaster response teams brought about the damage, or
- the fence is on the boundary of National Parks, State Parks or State Forests.

Find out if your damage is eligible – contact DEECA on [136 186](tel:136186)

Land surveys: There are land surveyors who will provide professional advice on surveys and perform title boundary surveys at a discounted rate, only covering costs or less.

Contact – Surveyor-General Victoria on [\(03\) 9194 0282](tel:0391940282) or email surveyor.general@transport.vic.gov.au

Fodder: To request fodder, contact the Victorian Farmers Federation on [1300 882 833](tel:1300882833) or vff.org.au/vff-emergencyfodderrequestform/

Livestock disposal: if you need advice for disposing of livestock, contact Agriculture Victoria on [0407 145 007](tel:0407145007) or livestock.disposal@agriculture.vic.gov.au.

Sign up for updates

Sign up to get information via email and SMS.

We will send you updates about available support.

Sign up: vic.gov.au/recovery or call [1800 560 760](tel:1800560760)

