## STORM AND BUSH FIRE RECOVERY Community Bulletin #5 | 5 March 2020



### **Today's Snap Shot**

Council teams continue on the ground to clean up in affected areas and have been making good progress along affected foreshores, reserves and shared pathways. Our key focus is on removal of debris stockpiles and assisting property owners and will continue to do so over the coming week.

A total of 5,791 tonnes of additional storm waste has been sent to our waste facilities collected from affected properties, 2,663 tonnes of wrack and inorganic material has been cleared from our foreshores. Additionally a large quantity of remaining wrack and materials have been both removed and mown.

We have inspected 2,400 trees with the majority requiring removal as a result of storm damage. Council has resolved 800 customer requests in relation to storm damaged public trees. Trees that have fallen into local waterways that represent navigation hazards have been assessed by Council and Transport NSW and will be trimmed/realigned or removed over the course of the coming weeks. Please be aware and take care when out on the waterways.

Only one of our playspaces remains closed at Oakland Street / Tuggerawong Road, Wyongah, and is being prepared for mulch soft fall to ensure the area is safe to use.

We thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue the clean-up.

### Sewer

Major mechanical repairs are complete, and system has returned to operation. Intermittent issues were reduced dramatically by 3 March 2020. Any further impacts will be managed in our normal service timelines.

### Water Restrictions

As a reminder in the event of, or where there is a risk of, an accident, fire, hazard to health or the environment, water restrictions do not apply. This includes the hosing of driveways to clear debris left by the recent storm event.

### Waste

Our recent storm and flood events that affected our suburbs and households across the region has required additional collections to assist in the clean-up efforts, Council has agreed that collections during the month of February will not be counted towards your annual entitlements. All households that receive waste collection services in the Central Coast area have had their kerbside collection entitlements reinstated to **6** effective from 1 March 2020.

Council have inspected all flood affected areas and are seeing a reduction in demand for waste removal. If there is still debris that has washed up on your property, please place within the road reserve we will still collect it. **Call Council on 1300 463 954** 

This does not include normal green waste which continues to be available through normal services.

Please ensure that household chemicals such as paints, gas bottles, motor oil, household cleaners, fire extinguishers, pesticides and pool chemicals are NOT placed on the kerb. Leaking chemicals can cause serious environmental effects, polluting our region's waterways.

### **Register Register!**

We are again asking anyone who has been impacted by the flood and storms in any way to register with the Recovery Centre and Information Points. They offer a range of services that are available for you to meet with face-to-face, helping one step at a time.

Details are: **The Entrance Community Centre** (Building E), Battley Avenue, The Entrance which is open from 9am to 5pm weekdays and

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from 10am to 4pm Saturdays. <u>Note</u> the centre is closed on Sundays.

#### Blue Haven Community Centre, 1 Aspley Court Blue Haven

• Tuesday 10 March 10am–4pm

### **Advice from NSW Heath**

NSW Health provides basic hygiene advice during and after floods. Detailed advice can be found on Council's website. Due to the recent increase of the Novel Coronavirus NSW Health has also provided some useful tips to assist in preventing risk of contamination.

www.health.nsw.gov.au/emergency\_preparedness/ weather/Pages/storms-and-floods

### **Mental Health support**

If you or someone you know is in need of support during and after the bush fire or flood/storm events, please reach out. Speak to your GP, or regular health care provider. Additional support is available on:

- Lifeline 13 11 14 | www.lifeline.org.au
- Beyond Blue 1300 224 636
  www.beyondblue.org.au
- Mensline 1300 789 9978
  <u>www.mensline.org.au</u>
- Kids Helpline 1800 551800 | <u>www.kidshelpline.com.au</u>
- Mental Health Line 1800 011 511

### **Disaster relief for individuals**

Grants are available from the NSW Government for eligible individuals and families whose homes and essential household contents have been damaged or destroyed by a natural disaster.

To be eligible for this grant you must:

• be a low-income earner and meet an income assets test

- demonstrate that the affected home is your principal place of residence
- not be covered by insurance
- demonstrate that the damage was caused by the disaster
- lodge the application within four months of the disaster occurring

Contact the Disaster Welfare Assistance Line on **1800 018 444.** 

### Want more info?

### Call Council on 1300 463 954

We are adding to our online recovery resources daily. Stay up-to-date with the latest information and start exploring your needs at <u>www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/council/news/hel</u> <u>pful-information-following-severe-weather</u>