



PREPARE FOR THE FIRE SEASON



We are urging residents to act now to prepare their properties ahead of the upcoming fire season and the introduction of fire restrictions.

With an outlook of increased fire risk during the 2026-27 season, simple steps taken now can help reduce that risk and improve the safety of your family, property and community.

Residents are encouraged to:

- Clean gutters and remove built-up leaf litter
- Clear grass, vegetation and other fine fuels from around homes and sheds
- Remove flammable materials such as paper, boxes and crates from around buildings
- Store fuel supplies and chemicals away from houses and other structures
- Keep access tracks and driveways clear
- Ensure farm machinery complies with safety requirements

As the fire danger season approaches, council will begin roadside slashing and undertake fire prevention inspections across the shire.

For more information about preparing your property, visit pyrenees.vic.gov.au/emergencies/preparing-your-property.

COMMUNITY NEWS

CFA Get Fire Ready events

You can also prepare for the heightened fire season with two upcoming CFA Get Fire Ready events which allow you to connect with local firefighters and get practical tips.

These will be held:

Lake Goldsmith – Stockyard Hill
Date: Saturday 31 October 9am–3pm
Location: At the 128th Lake Goldsmith Steam Rally, 1234 Carngham-Lake Goldsmith Road, Lake Goldsmith

Snake Valley
Date: 31 October 4pm–7.30pm
Location: Halloween themed event at Snake Valley CFA

Agriculture Victoria Fire Preparedness Toolkit

Agriculture Victoria has also released its farm Fire Preparedness Toolkit which

provides practical guidance to help farmers and rural landholders review and develop fire preparedness plans before the bushfire season.

The toolkit and other fire preparedness resources are available at agriculture.vic.gov.au/bushfires.

Domestic Animal Management Plan 2026-29 adopted

Council has adopted its Domestic Animal Management Plan 2026-29, which outlines actions to promote responsible pet ownership, improve animal welfare and create safer communities.

Key actions include:

- Increasing animal registration and identification compliance
- Reducing pet overpopulation, particularly among cats, through greater uptake of desexing and microchipping
- Minimising dog attacks and nuisance

behaviour through improved complaint handling, prevention measures and investigation processes

- Expanding community education programs and responsible pet ownership campaigns
- Strengthening enforcement and compliance activities

The plan will guide Council's animal management activities over the next four years and help ensure a balanced approach to education, support and enforcement.

For more information, visit pyrenees.vic.gov.au/About-Pyrenees-Shire-Council/Policies-and-Publications/Strategic-plans.

October Council Meeting

At Monday's Council Meeting, Council resolved to:

- Adopt the Pyrenees Shire Council Annual Report 2026
- Endorse Council's 2026-27 Christmas/ New Year holiday closures with the Beaufort Council Office closed from 3pm on December 24 until 9am on 4 January, resource centres and depots closed the main public holidays and an emergency response roster in place
- Receive and note the Audit and Risk Committee September 2026 minutes.

All Council Meetings are streamed live, recorded and published online at pyrenees.vic.gov.au/Livestream.

2027 Australia Day Awards Nominations Open

Nominations for the 2027 Pyrenees Australia Day Awards are open now in three categories:

- Young Citizen of the Year
- Citizen of the Year
- Event of the Year

Nominations close at 12pm on Monday 2 November 2026.

For more information, guidelines and nomination forms, visit pyrenees.vic.gov.au/AustraliaDay.

Award recipients will be announced at the Pyrenees Australia Day event hosted by the Avoca Riverside Market Committee in Avoca on Tuesday 26 January 2027.

EVENTS

Streatham, Carranballac and Skipton Fire Documentary and Book Launch

Date: Saturday 24 October, 5pm, documentary screening at 7.30pm
Location: Skipton Mechanics Hall

Details: Free entry. Bookings essential to Lisa Wills on 0409 301 906 or Pat Gabb on 0473 421 802.

Music by Liam Baker Acoustic, light supper and free ticket with admission to win an original painting by Sandy Joy Wilson.

Avoca Art Show & Sale 2026

Date: Friday October 23, from 6.30pm and Saturday October 24 and Sunday October 25, 10am-4pm
Location: Avoca Town Hall
Details: Avoca Community Arts & Gardens presents the Avoca Art Show and Sale 2026 featuring works by local and regional artists, with a special railway theme category to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the Maryborough to Avoca Rail Line.

Farewell to BlazeAid Lunch

Date: Sunday 25 October, from 12pm
Location: Bradvale Recreation Reserve
Details: Join us as we thank BlazeAid for their incredible support of our fire-impacted communities over the past 10 months.

Lunch and soft drinks provided. To assist with catering, please RSVP to skiptonfiresrequest@corangamite.vic.gov.au or phone 5593 7100.

Intergenerational Playgroup

Date: Wednesday 28 October, 1.30pm-3pm
Location: Beaufort Aged Care Hostel
Details: Parents, grandparents and carers, along with their pre-schoolers, are invited to join the hostel residents, and playgroup, kindergarten and primary school children for a free afternoon of celebration, creativity, joy and food. To book contact Genevieve on 0447 334 805.

Beaufort Spring Market and Townwide Garage Sale

Date: Saturday October 31, 9am-1pm
Location: Beaufort Memorial Rose Garden
Details: Organised by Pyrenees Community House with a Steampunk and Halloween theme. Steampunk Costume and Invention Parade, market stalls, townwide garage sale, food and refreshments, free activities.

Skipton Spring Festival Vintage & Classic Car Show

Date: Sunday 8 November, 10am-3pm
Location: Smythe Street, Skipton
Details: Presented by the Skipton Progress Association. Free entry, great prizes, public vote. Contact Dale on 0428 838 201 or email eventskiptonpa@gmail.com.

YOUR PYRENEES SHIRE COUNCILLORS

Cr Rebecca Wardlaw Avoca Ward 0458 704 011 avoca@pyrenees.vic.gov.au	Cr Damian Ferrari – Mayor Beaufort Ward 0437 662 295 beaufort@pyrenees.vic.gov.au	Cr Megan Phelan De Cameron Ward 0461 523 580 decameron@pyrenees.vic.gov.au	Cr Simon Tol Ercildoune Ward 0473 628 938 ercildoune@pyrenees.vic.gov.au	Cr Tanya Kehoe Mount Emu Ward 0439 571 480 mountemu@pyrenees.vic.gov.au
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