Ensay Community Emergency Plan

Ensay includes the localities of Ensay, Ensay North and Reedy Flat. We have our Hall, Pub, Rec Reserve and Post Office. Our young people have an affinity with Swifts Creek, where they go to school, but many associate more strongly with Ensay.

This **Ensay Community Emergency Plan** sets out how we respond as a community in an emergency. Our community actions below are key activities taken at the beginning of the season and during an emergency, often before state and other agencies can physically attend.

Emergency contacts

STAND Satellite/Wi-fi/charging (back-up generator) capability at Ensay Hall.

Local community radio 97.1AM ABC FM 720

https://www.emergency.vic.gov.au/

Community Action	Expectation of agency(s)

Fire season commences

- Individual responsibility to keep water tanks supplied, pumps working, generator maintained, properties clear
- Reach out to new neighbours/ locals who have moved in during the pandemic
- Locate local static water tank(s) for times of emergency

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- 'Knowledge for newcomers' made more obvious (eg. community-based and mental health services available)
- Community template of the available options (eg. for caring for / evacuating elderly or those whose mobility is limited
- Pumps for firefighting installed at Rec Reserve bore tanks

Smoke/fire in landscape

- Plan for 3 weeks worth of supplies (medication, food, water) in case of power outage or road closure.
- Use phone trees and know who the key contacts are and their next of kin.
- Refer to Ensay **LIMP**

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- Use local fire crews, they know the tracks and the conditions

Communication

- Satellite/Wi-Fi/ Generators at Hall and Rec Reserve
- Local 'responsible' person to fill generator to power communications tower
- Darby's has wi-fi (Swift Creek IGA)

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- Regular, accurate and timely Agency information
- ICC to record audio of community briefing and remotely relay via Community Radio

Power out

- Many have own generators and are self-sufficient, but not everyone
- Big cook-ups (when all freezers emptied)
- Hall and Rec Reserve are wired to accept generators for emergency power and people to recharge devices

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- Certify a local for refuelling communications tower generators during an emergency
- Hall and Rec Reserve are equipped with permanent generators

Community Action	Expectation of agency(s)

Road Closure

- Locals carry proof of address, eg. 2nd wallet (ID, Property Identification Code number and/or rates notice)

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- Timely accurate information about access routes (via website (if can access))
- Prioritise efforts to reopen roads
- Prioritise food/fodder deliveries, stock transport and vet access to area
- Those enforcing road incident control protocols to be properly briefed about local hazards, conditions and to allow locals through

Goods and fodder delivery

- Communal carpooling for supply-trips to Bairnsdale
- Donated non-perishable goods to be delivered to Hall
- Perishable goods to a vermin-proof cool room (eg. at winery)
- Distribution of goods to those in need with advice from Bush Nurse

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- Prefer money or vouchers, not donated goods.
- Food, water supplies if can't get to Bairnsdale (balance with need to support local stores)
- Volunteers to help with distribution, unloading water, also identifying who has extra beds
- Donated hay need to keep somewhere safe

Meals

- Empty own pantry and cook for others
- Cooking meals/catering from the Ensay & Swifts Creek pubs

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- Local freezer vans and cool rooms
- Simplify food requests of surge firefighting workforce (eg. limit to regular, vegetarian or vegan options)

Pets / Livestock

- Move horses and pets to Rec Reserve.
- Pets to be on leash and owners' responsibility.

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- Prioritise permits (easy process) to allow vets, stock and fodder transport (road access)
- Need for emergency provisions for farmers to put down own stock if suffering

Evacuation

- Personal responsibility to evacuate and notify neighbours
- Plan to evacuate the elderly is a family/personal decision as some elderly will choose to stay

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- Respect individual preference not to leave the land or livestock