Omeo Community Emergency Plan

Omeo is located in the northern part of the Omeo region. Its community represents a central hub where people come into work in the local businesses, school, hospital, the shire office, supplying goods and services for nearby townships, supporting visitor economy and its local residents.

This **Omeo Community Emergency Plan** sets out how we respond as a community in an emergency. Our community actions below are key activities taken by our community in the first 72 hours of an emergency, before state and other agencies can physically attend.

Emergency information

STAND Satellite/Wi-fi/charging (back-up generator) capability at Omeo Rec Reserve

Radio ABC 720AM

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

Community Action	Expectation of Agency(s)
Fire season commences • Clean up around house and property • Take rubbish to transfer station • Locate local static water tank(s) for times of emergency	• Highlight 'Knowledge for newcomers' (e.g., community-based and mental health services available) • Support 'table-top simulation' sessions for newcomers to increase knowledge of risks • Council/VicRoads keep roadsides clean between town and Rec Reserve • Council/Regional Roads Victoria keep roadsides slashed generally • Council provides coordinator/place manager presence in Omeo
Smoke/fire at Mt Mesley • Use Rec Reserve to take respite and then go back to attend animals/property • Keep well-stocked pantries, medication and fuel • Locals with agency roles are experienced, proactive, understand local conditions, and can get on with the job • Look out for each other • Follow Omeo **LIMP** and Facility Guide	• Agencies to provide local emergency workers timely clearance to act (as response may not be activated locally) • Agencies to engage with community and provide timely communications, especially where delays for support • Local knowledge should be drawn upon to navigate local conditions • In addition to essential services, request for Heritage area "H1536" (in middle of town) to be protected
Communications • Satellite/Wi-Fi/Generators for charging phones at Rec Reserve • Local pharmacy has a Smart TV • ABC Radio 720AM gets over the hills and into the valleys up here • Community meetings and info at the Rec Reserve	• Certify a local for refuelling generators on telecommunications towers • Signage and advertising to indicate that ABC Radio 720AM is the emergency radio station for this area
Power out • Many have own generators and are self-sufficient, but not everyone • Big cook-ups (all freezers emptied) • Rec Reserve can accept generator	• Need to accredit local contractors or 'responsible' persons to refuel generators for telecommunications during an emergency

Community Action	Expectation of Agency(s)
Road closures • Locals carry proof of address, eg. 2nd wallet (ID, Property Identification Code number and/or rates notice)	• Timely/current information about access routes (websites are out of date (if able to access), eg. VicRoads and EM App need to be accurate • Accurate plotting of accidents and road closures • Timely response to call-outs re road blockages • Those enforcing road incident control protocols to be properly briefed about local hazards, conditions and to allow locals to return to own residences
Goods and fodder delivery • Equitable distribution of goods to those in need from Rec Reserve	• Prefer money or vouchers, not donated goods • Volunteers to help with goods distribution, unloading water, also identifying who has extra accommodation/beds
Meals • Cooking meals / catering from the pub (support local business)	
Livestock/pets • Animals on leash/ pets in crates • Cages / pens for own pets at Rec Reserve (people can't seek respite if can't bring their animals)	• Prioritise permits (easy process) to allow stock and fodder transport (road access) • Prioritise vets to access area • Large wire cages available for larger animals
Evacuate • Personal responsibility to evacuate and notify neighbours / Rec Reserve of decision • Visitors / households evacuate early where don't have know how, capability or equipment to defend property	• Respect individual decision to stay