

Thursday June 22, 2014

VicForests Community Support Program 2014 now open

VicForests encourages all eligible community groups and services to make an application to this year's Community Support Program, before its deadline at close of business Friday 13th June 2014.

The Community Support Program has been designed by VicForests to assist regional community groups and services who are working to positively contribute to their local area.

Liz Langford, Regional Engagement Manager with VicForests is encouraged by the success the program has experienced since its inception.

"Since we started the program in 2010, we've helped 124 of community groups and services across the Central Highlands, Gippsland and East Gippsland regions," said Ms Langford.

The VicForests' initiative, now in its fifth year, has granted a wide range of groups with funding that has provided a wealth of services across the respective regions.

One of the 2013 grants has assisted with the implementation of an SMS messaging service at Mansfield Pre-School Centre.

Other recipients of this year's Community Support Program were a number of indigenous groups who will use their grants for a range of projects that include First Aid training and understory planting trials.

"Our support program is very important to regional communities and to us. Our staff live and work in regional Victoria and contributing to local community groups and services is just part of what we do," said Ms Langford.

The Community Support Program assists organisations that contribute to the wellbeing of local communities by providing grants of up to \$2000 to charity groups, sporting groups, educational and community groups located across the Central Highlands, Gippsland and East Gippsland.

The Victorian forestry industry plays a key role in building and supporting rural and regional communities through its business activities and by sponsoring local community events and activities.

VicForests Community Support Program applications can be submitted online at www.vicforests.com.au/communitysupport. Alternatively you can download an application form and send to the email provided on form. The last date for applications is Friday 13th June at 5pm.