

Investing in Local Communities: VicForests Community Support Program 2018

VicForests, today, announced 34 community groups and organisations across Central and East Victoria would receive funding under the VicForests Community Support Program 2018.

The program supports local community groups and organisations with grants of up to \$2000 to undertake projects which increase community connectedness or community development.

Under the program, VicForests is providing funding to 18 projects including community garden upgrades, new uniforms for sports clubs and first aid training for local groups.

In addition, 16 Community Partnerships would receive funding under renewed three-year agreements. These partnerships provide longer-term support for organisations to plan and manage community events and programs.

VicForests General Manager of Corporate Affairs, Alex Messina, said the Community Support Program had provided more than \$350,000 in funding to over 200 community groups and organisations across regional Victoria.

“The Community Support Program is an important part of VicForests’ connection with local communities, particularly in rural and regional Victoria,” Mr Messina said

“Regional Victoria is a big part of who we are as an organisation with many of our staff, contractors and customers living and working in regional communities.

“VicForests Community Support Program connects us back into the community and provides an opportunity for us to show our support for the many groups and organisations which do so much for their local area.

Mr Messina said this year, VicForests renewed 16 Community Partnerships providing longer-term funding for organisations up to 2021.

“Our Community Partnerships are a great initiative which give organisations the assurance and stability they need to plan ahead and know that VicForests is committed to working with them to deliver their community event or service over the long-term.

“This year, we have renewed a range of Community Partnerships including the Alexandra Truck Ute and Rod Show, Swifts Creek Bush Nursing Service and Orbost Snowy Rovers.



“At VicForests, we’re committed to being an active member of our local communities and doing more than just speaking our values, we intend to live them.”

For more information on the VicForests Community Support Program including a full list of 2018 recipients and Community Partnerships, visit the VicForests website at www.vicforests.com.au.

VicForests Community Support Program 2018 recipients:

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Project</u>
Clonbinane Community Action group	Expansion of garden project
Benambra Neighbourhood House	Community Christmas event
Benwerren	Garden upgrade project
Healesville Junior Football team	Volunteer training and support
Healesville Netball Association	Uniforms
Mansfield Historical Society	Update display and exhibits
MDC Walk All Over breast cancer	Community awareness walk and event
More Murals	Threatened Species Mural
Mitchell Community Radio	Community Broadcasts
Omeo & District Agricultural & Pastoral Society Inc	Community event
Upper Kiewa Valley Community Association Inc	Riverside beautification project
Buchan Neighbourhood House	Community garden project
Gippsland Woodworkers	Facilities upgrade
Orbost Hockey Club	Uniform replacement
Uniting - Orbost Early Education Centre	Safety gear for excursions
Patchwork Collections Yarra Valley Inc	Wool and quilt materials



Yarram Agricultural Society	Show Exhibit
Warburton Fire Brigade (CFA)	First Aid training

VicForests Community Support Program – Renewed Community Partnerships

<u>Organisation</u>
Alexandra Truck Ute and Rod Show
Anglican Church Marysville
Baw Baw Combined Churches Food Relief
Healesville Football and Netball Club
JW Gottstein Trust
Mansfield Kinder
Neerim District Landcare
Noojee + District Historical society
Moogji Aboriginal Council
Nowa Nowa Community Group
Orbost Snowy Rovers
Swifts Creek Football Netball Club
Swifts Creek Bush Nursing Hospital
Upper Goulburn FM
Upper Yarra Historical Society
Orbost Chamber of Commerce

ENDS