



If you have native vegetation on your property that has been affected by bushfire, the following information may assist you in:

- Post fire clean up;
- Re-building infrastructure such as fences &
- Assessing dead and/or dangerous trees

Removal of Native Vegetation

If you have burnt or scorched native vegetation on your property you may be required to apply for a planning permit before undertaking any works. This applies to fence lines, and any native vegetation on your property.

Latrobe City Council will waive any native vegetation planning permit application fees for post fire cleanup and will fast track any applications where possible for properties affected by fires. Some exemptions do apply, however planning controls are complex so please contact Latrobe City Council for further advice.

Dead Vegetation

Whilst the vegetation (including trees and shrubs) may appear dead, it is likely that the burnt vegetation will recover and re-shoot. This needs to be considered before making the decision to remove trees that appear dead. Please note that dead trees with a trunk diameter of 40cm or more require a planning permit to remove; and trees on road reserves are not to be lopped, trimmed or removed by members of the public.

Trees on Road Reserves

Council is currently undertaking native vegetation lopping and removal on roadsides which present a risk to road users. This is being undertaken to comply with the appropriate guidelines and people are requested to take care on the roads around these works.

Dangerous Trees on Private Property

Trees that are causing an immediate risk to life and/or property damage do not need a permit to remove,

however only that section of tree (or vegetation) that poses a risk can be removed. In order to assess dangerous trees it is recommended that a suitably qualified arborist assess dangerous trees prior to removal.

Latrobe City Council is providing an arborist advisory service to private landholders in bushfire affected areas to assess hazardous or dangerous trees. Council is encouraging landholders affected by fire to use this free service to minimise the risk to themselves and property from falling trees. A planning permit is not needed for the removal of trees deemed to be an immediate risk.

Burnt Vegetation Disposal

Burnt vegetation can not be sent to our green waste drop off facilities in Moe, Morwell and Traralgon. Latrobe City Council has opened the former Traralgon landfill site and Boolarra landfill site for residents and contractors to dispose of burnt vegetation.

Former Traralgon landfill site will be open from 9am – 4pm 7 days a week from Saturday 21 February 2009 until further notice.

Former Boolarra landfill site will be open from 10am – 3pm 7 days a week from Saturday 21 February 2009 until further notice.

Names, addresses and vehicle registration numbers will be required in order to use this service.

Green Waste Drop-Off Facilities

Unburned green waste can be taken to the green waste facilities located in Morwell (open 7 days) Traralgon (open Sat-Sun) or Moe (open Sat-Sun).

Names, addresses and vehicle registration numbers will be required in order to use this service.

Firewood Collection

If you wish to remove trees that have been burnt on your property for firewood for your own personal use a

planning permit is not required. Please note standing living and dead trees with a trunk diameter of 40cm or more & living native vegetation on contiguous land in the same ownership with an area less than 10 hectares will require a planning permit to remove.

Permits for firewood collection on roadsides are not normally granted due to public safety, liability and insurance concerns. Please contact Council for further advice.

Re-Planting on Fire affected properties

If you are planning on replanting trees on your property the CFA has some helpful information for re-establishing vegetation in fire prone areas. You can access this information by contacting the CFA on 1800 240 667 or by visiting their website: www.cfa.vic.gov.au

Latrobe City Council's Environmental Planners are happy to provide advice and resources to landholders on native vegetation matters. Resources include revegetation guides, lists of suitable species and local plant nurseries where locally grown seedlings can be purchased. Council also has a tree planting trailer that can be loaned free of charge which is equipped with tools, a water tank and buckets to assist with revegetation projects.

Information available from DSE

To assist the bushfire recovery effort, Amendment VC53 (Clause 52.38) clarifies that a planning permit is not needed for activities directly associated with bushfire recovery, including site clean-up and safety, demolition and temporary accommodation.

The Department of Sustainability & Environment have produced three fact sheets to detail these recent changes and other matters relating to the native vegetation and bushfire recovery, safety and preparation.

You will find the following fact sheets attached to this information pack. If you require copies, please visit www.latrobe.vic.gov.au or call 1800 017 777 and request a Fire Recovery Information Pack.

- Clearing of native vegetation to prepare for bushfires
- Clearing of native vegetation affected by bushfires
- Repair of fences damaged by bushfire or construction of fire control lines (PDF - 366 KB).

Please contact the Latrobe City Council Recovery Office on 1800 017 777 to register your request for assistance or for further information regarding whether a planning permit is required prior to native vegetation removal.