

An aerial photograph of a town, likely Murchison, showing a river on the left, a bridge, a large park area with many trees, and residential and commercial buildings. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent grey rectangle.

Murchison Community Emergency Management Plan

2025

DRAFT



The development of this plan was funded by the Australian and Victorian Governments following the October 2022 floods.



Australian Government



Originally developed with the assistance of
The Six C's Group 2025

Contents

1

Overview

2

About Murchison

3

Hazards

4

Objectives

5

Local Priorities

6

Key Issues & Vulnerabilities

7

Values

8

Emergency Contacts

9

**Murchison Disaster Resilience Group
Members**



What is community based emergency management?

Community based emergency management is about working together to be safer and more resilient, without building greater dependencies on agencies, government and service providers. This includes being relatively independent and self-reliant, while drawing upon the connections and lifelines which support people and their community to function and survive.

It also provides opportunities for broader collaboration and collective action. This includes working together as part of the community to drive the design, implementation and review of integrated planning and engagement processes. Connections and relationships developed through these processes can be maintained and beneficial before, during and after emergencies.

Maturity in these processes can also assist to build overall community capacity and capability to better manage long term stressors and to cope with shocks, including future emergencies.

This approach is designed to support community led approaches and activities wherever possible.

Adopting this approach taps into the collective local knowledge, expertise and resources to build on combined strengths. Working together through these processes can assist to develop mutual goals and solutions while strengthening relationships and lifelines to be drawn upon in good times and during critical times of need.



Overview

Introduction

The Murchison Community Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) has been developed by the local community and the Murchison Disaster Resilience Group acknowledges all who have participated and contributed toward the development of this document.

This plan is managed and distributed by the Murchison Disaster Resilience Group, a sub-committee of the Murchison Community Planning Group. All feedback and opportunities for participation to implement and progress the plan is welcome.

While every effort has been made to ensure that information in this document is correct at the time of printing, changes after the time of publication may impact the accuracy of the information.

The Murchison Disaster Resilience Group is not responsible for any loss suffered in connection with the use of this document.

Aim

This plan is to empower the community of Murchison with the knowledge and resources needed to effectively prepare, manage and recover from disasters.

About Murchison

Murchison is a town located on the banks of the Goulburn River, 35km south of Shepparton in the Greater Shepparton City Council. Murchison is surrounded by countryside which contains orchards, vineyards and dairy farms.

Murchison has been witness to a rich tapestry of monumental historical events.

An Aboriginal Protectorate Station was established in 1840 and when that closed, and the township, named after Captain John Murchison, was established in 1854.

Murchison was the site of the legendary Murchison Meteorite which broke up in the skies over the town on 28 September 1969. Fragments of the meteorite are on display in many museums around the globe with the meteorite estimated to be 5 billion years old.

During World War II, 4,000 Italian, German and Japanese POWs were detained at Murchison.

Statistics



884 people



448 private dwellings



**50 years of age
(average age)**



233 families



3

Hazards



**Bushfire &
Grass Fire**

Murchison, Victoria, is at risk of bushfires due to its rural landscape, which includes extensive grasslands, forests, and farmland that can be higher risk during hot, dry conditions. The region's climate, particularly during summer, increases the likelihood of fire ignition and rapid spread. Strong winds can further intensify fire behaviour, making it difficult to control.



Flood

Most of the Murchison township is believed to be safe from flooding except during very large floods. However, low-lying properties, farmland, fishing spots and camping areas can often be affected by minor to moderate flooding. River levels can rise within several hours of heavy rain, and during floods, floodwater can travel from Goulburn Weir to Murchison in 12-15 hours and from Seymour to Murchison in three to three and a half days.



Heat

Murchison's inland location means it experiences prolonged periods of high temperatures, which can lead to heat stress, dehydration, and increased health risks for vulnerable groups such as the elderly, young children, and those with pre-existing medical conditions.



Storms

Storms can pose a risk, including severe thunderstorms that can bring heavy rainfall, strong winds, lightning, and hail. Storms can lead to flash flooding, fallen trees, power outages, and damage to homes, farms, and infrastructure. Strong winds also pose a threat to crops and livestock, impacting the local agricultural economy. Given its rural setting, storm-related disruptions to power and telecommunications can isolate the community, making preparedness and communication strategies essential for reducing risks and ensuring a swift recovery.

4

Objectives



Administrative

Setting us up for success

Objective 1.

Write to the Murchison Community Assets Committee and propose the establishment of a Murchison Disaster Resilience Group sub-committee.

Objective 4.

Discuss roles within the Murchison Disaster Resilience Group and develop procedures.

Objective 2.

Seek approval from the Murchison Assets Committee to use the Murchison Community Centre as a Community Hub.

Objective 5.

Develop a response plan that outlines triggers and actions for the Murchison Disaster Resilience Group.

Objective 3.

Seek approval from the Murchison Assets Committee to install a lock box to store the keys at the Community Centre for use of the Murchison Disaster Resilience Group.





Community connections

Building Social Capital

Objective 6.

Develop a link with the community in Murchison East.

Objective 7.

Develop a resource that lists credible sources for use in sharing disaster related information to community.

Objective 8.

Construct a Disaster Resilience noticeboard on Stevenson St, Murchison to share disaster related information with the community.

Objective 9.

Implement a “Hey Neighbour” style strategy to connect the community:

- Design an A4 flyer that introduces the community to the Murchison Disaster Resilience Group
- Distribute the flyers to the community
- Plan for a community event to celebrate the new noticeboard and group that could include representatives from CFA, VicSES, VicPol providing community safety information.



Building Capacity & Capability

Empowering our community

Objective 10.

Record the history of emergencies that have impacted Murchison and surrounds.

Objective 13.

Build a relationship with the Murchison-Toolamba Football/Netball Club.

Objective 11.

Conduct education session/s to increase community knowledge of emergency warnings and what happens when disaster strikes (who does what and when).

Objective 14.

Conduct education session/s on disaster recovery.

Objective 12.

Explore the establishment of a Community Hub. The hub could be a place where the community can gather and share information.

- Equipment required to operate a Community Hub includes:
- Satellite internet connection
- Generator with appropriate connections
- Computer
- Printer
- Whiteboard

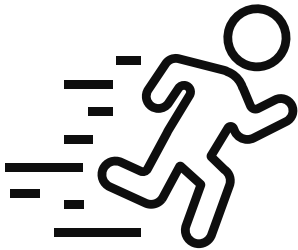
Objective 15.

Map defib locations within the town.



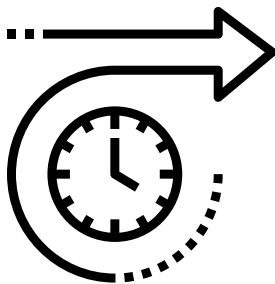
5

Local Priorities



Short term goals

The immediate focus is on formally establishing the Murchison Disaster Resilience Group , ensuring its recognition as a sub-committee of the Murchison Community Assets Committee. Additionally, exploring grants to build a noticeboard and purchase equipment for the Murchison Community Hub as well as informing the community of the establishment of the group.



Medium term goals

To build resilience within the community, education sessions will be held as well as the creation of a Murchison Disaster Resilience, Response Plan.



Long term goal

Exploring recovery and what happens to community after a disaster including what support is available as well as a look into the past by recording the history of emergencies within Murchison and surrounds.

6

Key Issues & vulnerabilities

Key issues & vulnerabilities

- The Murchison SES Unit is looking recruit new volunteers to be sustainable.
- Average age of residents is 50 years old.
- Challenges in accessing emergency care during disasters.



7

Values

“We value our community.”

“The town centre.”

“Working together”



SHORT TERM OBJECTIVES

Action	Lead	Support	Due By	Complete	Comments
Write to the Murchison Community Assets Committee and propose the establishment of a Murchison Disaster Resilience Group sub-committee.					
Seek approval from the Murchison Assets Committee to use the Murchison Community Centre as a Community Hub.					MUK Group can contact Manager Emergency Management & Resilience to notify when Hub is being activated. A 12 month blanket risk assessment to be prepared and discussions with Community Asset Committee to occur to document process.
Seek approval from the Murchison Assets Committee to instal a lock box to store the keys at the Community Centre for use of the Murchison Disaster Resilience Group.					
Explore grant opportunities to purchase the following equipment required to operate a Community Hub: -Satellite internet connection -Generator with appropriate connections -Computer -Printer -Whiteboard					
Explore grant opportunities to build a Disaster Resilience noticeboard in Stevenson St, Murchison					

SHORT TERM OBJECTIVES

Action	Lead	Support	Due By	Complete	Comments
Implement a "Hey Neighbour" postcard strategy to better connect the community - Design an A4 flyer that introduces the community to the Murchison Disaster Resilience Group - Distribute the flyers to the community Plan for a community event to celebrate the new noticeboard and group					
Develop a link with the community in Murchison East.	Noelia				
Build a relationship with the Murchison- Ioolampa Football/Netball Club.	Noelia				Whilst they said that they would help out where they can, they did not want to formalise the arrangement.

MEDIUM TERM OBJECTIVES

Action	Lead	Support	Due By	Complete	Comments
Discuss roles within the Murchison Disaster Resilience Group and develop procedures.					
Develop a response plan that outlines triggers and actions for the Murchison Disaster Resilience Group.					
Develop a resource that lists credible sources for use in sharing disaster related information to community.					
Conduct education session/s to increase community knowledge of emergency warnings and what happens when disaster strikes (who does what and when)					
Map aerial locations within the town.					

LONG TERM OBJECTIVES

Action	Lead	Support	Due By	Complete	Comments
Record the history of emergencies that have impacted Murchison and surrounds.					
Conduct education session/s on disaster recovery.					



Emergency Contacts

Agency	Phone Number	Website
Triple Zero	000	
VicEmergency	1800 226 226	emergency.vic.gov.au
VicSES	132 500	ses.vic.gov.au
CFA		cfa.vic.gov.au
VicTraffic	13 11 70	traffic.transport.vic.gov.au
Police assistance line & online reporting	131 444	onlinereporting.police.vic.gov.au
Bureau of Meterology	Automated warnings - 1300 659 210	bom.gov.au
Powercor Outages	13 24 12	powercor.com.au/power-outages-and-emergencies/
Poisons Information Line	13 11 26	austin.org.au/poisons
Nurse on Call	1300 60 60 24	
Better Health Channel		betterhealth.vic.gov.au
Greater Shepparton City Council	5832 9700	greatersepparton.com.au



Murchison Disaster Resilience Group (MDRG)

The Murchison Disaster Resilience Group was established in 2025 and consists of the following members:

Members
Rachel
Noela
Des
Peter
Jenny
Thaniel
Derk
Rob
Linda

The Murchison Disaster Resilience Group welcomes new members.



Community support services in Greater Shepparton

There are a range of support services throughout our community who can help during difficult times. This brochure outlines a few of those available.



Business Support

Find out about grants, support, workshops and other resources available for your business.

Business Victoria

☎ 13 22 15
🌐 business.vic.gov.au

Greater Shepparton Business Centre

🌐 sheppartonbusiness.com.au

Carer Respite

Respite care can be arranged in a few different ways.

It is important to take care of yourself so you can take care of others.

Carers Victoria

☎ 1800 514 845
🌐 carersvictoria.org.au

Carer Gateway

☎ 1800 422 737
🌐 carergateway.gov.au

Community Support

Neighbourhood/Community Houses offer information, resources, support, activities, programs, training, lifelong learning and so much more. Check out your local NH House

Mooroopna Education and Activity Centre

☎ 03 5825 1774

Murchison Community House

☎ 03 5826 2373

North Shepp Community and Learning Centre

☎ 03 5821 5770

South Shepp Community House

☎ 03 5821 6172

Tatura Community House

☎ 03 5824 1315

Community Transport

Community Accessibility

☎ 03 5831 8515
🌐 communityaccessibility.com.au

Dyson Group

(Shepparton Bus Services)
☎ 03 5831 2150
🌐 dysongroup.com.au

Jacobson

(Mooroopna Bus Services)
☎ 03 5825 2323
🌐 jacobsoncoachtours.com.au

Drug and Alcohol Support

Practical help, information and support is always available.

Australian Community Support Program (ACSO) Shepparton

☎ 1300 022 760
🌐 acso.org.au

Direct Line

☎ 1800 888 236
🌐 directline.org.au

Family Support

Caroline Chisholm Society

☎ 1800 134 863
🌐 caroline.org.au

FamilyCare

☎ 03 5823 7000
🌐 familycare.net.au

Greater Shepparton Lighthouse Project

☎ 0419 555 939
🌐 gslp.com.au

Maternal Child Health at Greater Shepparton City Council

☎ 03 5832 9312
🌐 greater-shepparton.com.au

Maternal Child Health Line

☎ 13 22 29

National Home Doctor Service

☎ 13 74 25
🌐 homedoctor.com.au

Nurse on Call

☎ 1300 606 024

Family Violence

Violence and abuse is never okay. These times are stressful but help is always available.

If you are unsafe or in danger call Triple Zero “000” immediately.

1800RESPECT

☎ 1800 737 732
🌐 1800respect.org.au

Marian House (Vincent Care)

☎ 03 5825 9400 (business hours)
☎ 1800 015 188 (after hours)
🌐 vincentcare.org.au

Men’s Referral Service

☎ 1300 766 491
🌐 ntv.org.au

Orange Door

☎ 1800 634 245
🌐 orangedoor.vic.gov.au

Safe Steps

☎ 1800 015 188
🌐 safesteps.org.au

Financial Help

Situations are changing and this is making it difficult for people to pay expenses.

AgBiz Assist

☎ 1300 834 775
🌐 agbizassist.org.au

MoneyCare

☎ 1800 722 363
🌐 salvationarmy.org.au

Salvation Army

☎ 03 8873 5288
🌐 salvationarmy.org.au

Services Australia (Centrelink)

☎ 136 240
🌐 servicesaustralia.gov.au

Shepparton Family & Financial Services

☎ 03 5831 7755

Vincent Care

(Free financial counselling service)
☎ 03 5825 9400
🌐 vincentcare.org.au

Food Assistance

Reaching out can be hard but it is always okay to ask for help. We are here **with** you.

Salvation Army

☎ 03 8873 5288
🌐 salvationarmy.org.au/

Shepparton Family & Financial Services

☎ 03 5831 7755

St Vincent de Paul Welfare Assist

☎ Shepparton: 03 5821 0317
☎ Mooroopna: 03 8199 4243

Hospitals & Health Services

GV Health

☎ 03 5832 2322
🌐 gvhealth.org.au

Mental Health & Wellbeing Local

☎ 1300 000 559
🌐 betterhealth.vic.gov.au

Primary Care Connect

☎ 03 5823 3200
🌐 primarycareconnect.com.au

Priority Care Clinic

☎ 03 5823 3132
🌐 shepmed.mthc.com.au/ppcc

Rumbalara Aboriginal Co-Operative

☎ 03 5820 0000
🌐 rumbalara.org.au

VVED (Victorian Virtual Emergency Department)

🌐 vved.org.au – then register

Housing/ Homelessness

If you need extra support for housing reach out now.

Beyond Housing Shepparton

☎ 03 5833 1000
☎ 1800 825 955 (after hours)
🌐 beyondhousing.org.au

Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

☎ 1300 650 172
🌐 dffh.vic.gov.au

Rumbalara Homelessness & Housing Support

Ph: 5820 0000
🌐 rumbalara.org.au/service/homelessness-housing-support/

Salvocare (Social Services)

☎ 03 5820 8000
🌐 salvationarmy.org.au/shepparton

Legal Help

Goulburn Valley Community Legal Centre (ARC Justice)

☎ 03 5831 0900
☎ 1800 310 900
🌐 arcjustice.org.au

LGBTIQA+

Diversity Project Shepparton

☎ 03 5831 6157
📧 diversity@vt.uniting.org
🌐 pridecentre.org.au

GV Pride

🌐 gvpride.org/contact
🌐 facebook.com/gvprideshepparton

qLife

☎ 1800 184 527
🌐 qlife.org.au

Rainbow Door

☎ 1800 729 367
🌐 rainbowdoor.org.au

Mental Health

If you are feeling higher instances of stress and anxiety at this time reach out, you are not alone.

13YARN (Aboriginal & Torres Straight Islanders Crisis Support Line)

☎ 13 92 76
🌐 13yarn.org.au

Beyond Blue

☎ 1300 22 4636
🌐 beyondblue.org.au

Head to Health

☎ 1800 595 212
🌐 headtohealth.gov.au

Headspace Shepparton

(for 12-25 year olds)
☎ 03 5823 8800
🌐 headspace.org.au
Headspace 1800 650 890 (9am-1pm – 365 days year)

Lifeline

☎ 13 11 14
🌐 lifeline.org.au

Mental Health & Wellbeing Local

☎ 1300 000 559
🌐 wellways.org

Wellways

☎ 1300 111 400
🌐 wellways.org

Multicultural Support Services

Ethnic Council of Shepparton & District

☎ 03 5831 2395
🌐 ethniccouncil.com.au

Translator Services

☎ 1800 560 760 (press 9)

Older People

Find out more about support for older people.

Seniors Rights Victoria

☎ 1300 368 821
🌐 seniorsrights.org.au

People with Disability

For information about NDIS eligibility and access to support groups and mainstream services, contact IntoRec or Council’s Access & Inclusion Officer today.

ConnectGV

☎ (03) 5821 2466
🌐 connectgv.com.au

Intereach

☎ 1300 488 226
🌐 intereach.com.au

IntoRec (Family Care)

☎ 03 5823 7041
🌐 familycare.net.au

Rights Information and Advocacy Centre (RIAC)

☎ 03 5222 5499
🌐 riac.org.au

Shepparton Access

☎ (03) 5831 6180
🌐 sheppaccess.com.au

Places of Worship

Visit the Greater Shepparton Great Things Happen Here website for a listing of places of worship.

🌐 greatthings.com.au/places-of-worship

Sexual Assault Victims/Survivors

GV CASA

(Centre Against Sexual Assault)
☎ 1800 806 292
🌐 gvcasa.com.au/contact_us

Social Connection

Visit our neighbourhood houses or the links below to get involved and stay connected.

Get Mooving

🌐 getmoovingshepparton.com.au/activities-in-the-park

Greater Shepparton Community Group and Sports Club Directory

🌐 greater-shepparton.com.au/community/community-directory

Volunteer Opportunities

🌐 greater-shepparton.com.au/community/volunteering/volunteer-opportunities

Weather Emergency

As extreme weather events are occurring more frequently, be prepared for an emergency situation.

ABC Radio (local ABC radio)

Emergency radio broadcast ABC Local 107.9 FM, 594 AM & 774 AM

CFA (Country Fire Authority)

☎ 1300 367 617
🌐 cfa.vic.gov.au

SES (State Emergency Service)

☎ 132 500
🌐 ses.vic.gov.au

Vic Emergency

☎ 1800 226 226
🌐 emergency.vic.gov.au
You can download the VicEmergency app from the App Store or Google play

Young People

Berry Street

☎ (03) 5822 8100
🌐 berrystreet.org.au

Foyer Foundation – Youth Foyer

☎ 0438 716 974 or 03 5822 8100
🌐 foyer.org.au

Headspace Shepparton

☎ 03 5823 8800
🌐 headspace.org.au

Oilly (The Greater Shepparton Lighthouse project)

☎ 0419 555 939
🌐 gslp.com.au

The Bridge Youth Service

☎ 03 5831 2390
📧 shepparton@thebridge.org.au
🌐 thebridge.org.au

Uniting

☎ (03) 5831 6157
🌐 unitingvictas.org.au

For more information on what is outlined in this poster email council@shepparton.vic.gov.au or phone **03 5832 9700**.

September 2024



Scan the QR code to view the Community Support Services

GREATER SHEPPARTON

greater-shepparton.com.au

Food relief in the Goulburn Valley



FOOD ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS

Shepparton Family & Financial Services

1 Naomi St, Shepparton T: 5831 7755

Mon - Fri, 10am - 4pm

South Shepparton Community Centre

290 Archer Street, Shepparton T: 5821 6172

Mon - Fri, 9am - 3pm

Mooroopna Education & Activity Centre (MEAC)

2 Northgate Street, Mooroopna T: 5825 1888

Mon - Fri, 9am - 3pm

Family Haven

15 - 17 Young St, Mooroopna T: 0428 736 961

For families only. Tue - Thu, 9.30am - 3pm

Generations Op Shop

119 Hogan St Tatura T: 5824 3059

Mon - Fri, 10am - 4pm

Caroline Chisholm Society

15a St Andrews Rd, Shepparton T: 5821 0826

Emergency supplies - clothing, nappies, formula etc.

Assistance for children up to 10 years.

Mon - Wed, 9am - 12pm.

SalvoCare Shepparton

99 Nixon Street, Shepparton T: 8873 5288

Mon, Tue, Thur, 10am - 4pm (call at 9am for apt)

St Vincent de Paul Society Shepparton

290 Wyndham Street, Shepparton T: 5821 0317

Mon - Fri, 10am - 12pm

South Shepparton Community Church

15 St Andrews Road, Shepparton T: 0408 738 967

By appointment

Rumbalara

20 Rumbalara Rd, Mooroopna T: 5820 0000

ATSI clients only. **Mon - Fri, 9am - 4pm**

The Salvation Army Kyabram Doorways

24 Unitt St, Kyabram T: 5853 2684

Servicing Kyabram & district.

By appointment

Shalom Worship Centre Merrigum

116 Waverley Ave, Merrigum M: 0429 866 478

Tue & Wed, 1pm - 4pm, or call/text

Shalom Worship Centre Girgarre

10 Morgan Crescent, Girgarre M: 0409 510 871

Please text for assistance

Girgarre Community Cottage

27 Olympic St, Girgarre T: 5854 6482

Mon - Thu, 10am-3pm

Euroa Foodshare

1A Clifton Street, Euroa T: 0491 721 024

By appointment

Euroa Christian Fellowship

Old School House, Clifton St, Euroa

T: 0402 427 955

By appointment

Murchison Neighbourhood House

23 Impey Street, Murchison T: 5826 2373

Mon - Fri, 9am-3pm

Love In Action Broadford Living & Learning Centre

58 High St, Broadford T: 0473 845 808

Assistance for the Broadford community in need

Mon - Thu by apt or Fri collections, 11am - 2pm

Food relief in the Goulburn Valley



COMMUNITY MEALS PROGRAMS

Mooroopna Education & Activity Centre (MEAC)

23 Alexandra St, Mooroopna T: 5825 1774

\$10 per meal - 2 courses

Tue, 12pm - open to all

Bookings necessary

Family Haven

15 - 17 Young St, Mooroopna T: 0428 736 961

Lunch - For families only

Tue - Thu, 12pm - 1pm

Murchison Neighbourhood House

23 Impey Street, Murchison T: 5826 2373

Mon & Wed, 12 noon - open to all

\$8 per meal - 2 courses

The Salvation Army

99 Nixon St, Shepparton T: 5821 2666

\$5 if you can contribute

Wed, 11.45am - 1.30pm

People Supporting People

Lutfiyes Shish Kebabs

338 Wyndham Street, Shepparton.

Mon - Fri, 4pm - 5pm



03 4840 5280



7 Doonan St, Mooroopna VIC 3629



info@sheppartonfoodshare.org.au



sheppartonfoodshare.org.au



/sheppartonfoodshare



Compiled by Shepparton Foodshare.

Subject to change without notice,

correct as at May 2025