

# Wine Industry Support- bushfires and smoke taint

AGRICULTURE VICTORIA

*The Victorian Government is providing a range of measures to support the wine industry following the 2019/2020 bushfires. This comes in addition to the strong investment in programs and services already provided to Victorian wine makers and grape growers.*

February 2021

SUPPORT TO ASSESS AND MANAGE THE IMPACTS OF BUSHFIRE SMOKE		
<b>Technical Advice and Support</b>	<p>Agriculture Victoria and Wine Victoria have launched the Wine Technical Support Package. This package includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical information and advice on managing the effects of smoke exposure on grapes and wine.</li> <li>• Technical workshops, sensory and analytical evaluations of wine and benchmarking kits to enable winemakers to assess products.</li> <li>• Research into treatments for, and management of, smoke-affected wines.</li> </ul>	<p>For more information contact Wine Victoria at <a href="mailto:secretariat@winevictoria.org.au">secretariat@winevictoria.org.au</a> or (03) 8658 5716</p> <p>Program open until December 2021.</p>
RECOVERY ASSISTANCE FOR THOSE IMPACTED BY BUSHFIRES		
<b>The Wine Industry Recovery and Resilience Project</b>	<p>Stage 1 of this project will support growers and winemakers in the North-East and Gippsland regions with strategic planning and resilience building.</p>	<p>For further information contact Agriculture Victoria <a href="mailto:megan.hill@agriculture.vic.gov.au">megan.hill@agriculture.vic.gov.au</a></p> <p>Program open until December 2021</p>
FINANCIAL COUNSELLING		
<b>Rural Financial Counselling Service</b>	<p>The Rural Financial Counselling Service provides free financial counselling to eligible primary producers and small rural businesses, in, or at risk of, financial hardship.</p> <p>Counsellors can provide referrals to other professional services including accountants, agricultural advisors, education or wellbeing support services.</p> <p>Counsellors can analyse cash flow and business viability, help develop strategies and action plans, negotiate with banks and assist applicants to apply for financial support.</p>	<p>Call the Rural Financial Counselling Service on 1800 686 175.</p> <p>Or for a list of counsellors:</p> <p><a href="http://www.agriculture.gov.au/ag-farm-food/drought/assistance/rural-financial-counselling-service/vic">www.agriculture.gov.au/ag-farm-food/drought/assistance/rural-financial-counselling-service/vic</a></p>

## OTHER ACTIVITIES AND GRANTS

<p><b>Business recovery and resilience mentoring</b></p>	<p>The Victorian Government is partnering with the Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry to deliver a business mentoring program to help small businesses navigate current economic challenges, particularly due to Covid-19 restrictions.</p> <p>Open to the owners of small businesses with less than 20 full-time employees, the program provides up to four 2-hour mentoring sessions with an experienced professional who will help them make informed decisions about the future of their business.</p> <p>Topics include business recovery, market transformation, digital literacy and engagement, market and supply chain diversification and reskilling and retraining.</p>	<p>For more information contact Business Victoria at:</p> <p><a href="http://www.business.vic.gov.au/support-for-your-business/grants-and-assistance/business-support-package/business-recovery-and-resilience-mentoring">www.business.vic.gov.au/support-for-your-business/grants-and-assistance/business-support-package/business-recovery-and-resilience-mentoring</a></p> <p>or phone (03) 8662 5333.</p>
<p><b>Agriculture Victoria Programs, Support, Resources and Services</b></p>	<p>Agriculture Victoria provides a broad range of services to support agricultural industries, many are relevant to the wine industry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recovery information, support and resources.</li> <li>• Workshops and incentives for farmers to undertake whole farm planning and make on-farm irrigation and water efficiency improvements.</li> <li>• Climate and seasonal risk information providing technical expertise in climate change and industry development.</li> <li>• The Horticulture Industry Network which links state and national industry bodies, Government and research institutions.</li> <li>• The Young Farmers Business program provides learning and sharing activities for new entrants and young farmers across all sectors.</li> <li>• Programs and activities including international and domestic marketing, trade, tourism investment and small business advice.</li> </ul>	<p>For more information, visit: <a href="http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/support-and-resources">agriculture.vic.gov.au/support-and-resources</a></p> <p>or call 136 186</p>

## ACCESSIBILITY

If you would like to receive this publication in an accessible format, please telephone the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions on 136 186.

This document is also available in (insert HTML and/or PDF and/or Word) format at  
<http://www.victoriangovernmentdepartment.vic.gov.au>

---