

Mirboo North and Surrounds Emergency Planning Information



2023

Local Township Area Information for Emergency Planning for Communities

Background

This Plan was developed as an outcome of the 2023 Mirboo North RediCommunities sessions which identified opportunities for emergency services agencies, essential infrastructure owners and South Gippsland Shire Council to share information on planning completed in relation to emergency incidents.

The document also contains community information taken from a variety of sources and tested with members of the Mirboo North community. The Plan will be used to help integrate planning for emergency events and to support resilience-building activities in Mirboo North. The Plan will be recognised as a Community Emergency Management Plan in the Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP) and will be reviewed as part of the MEMP three-yearly review cycle.

Feedback on the document can be provided to em@southgippsland.vic.gov.au

Local Area Information

Name of Community:	Local Government Area:	South Gippsland Shire Ward:
Mirboo North and District	South Gippsland Shire Council	Tarwin Valley

Mirboo North is located in the South Gippsland Shire Tarwin Valley Ward.

Mirboo North is located along a ridge in the Strzelecki Ranges, running in a north to south direction. The township has heavily timbered Gippsland dry sclerophyll forest and temperate rain forest.

There are a number of outlying communities that go into making up the Mirboo North District. Darlimurla, Mirboo, Mardan, Allambee South and Berrys Creek, who depend on the services made available in the Mirboo North township.

Community Profiles

- [Allambee South.](#)
- [Berrys Creek.](#)
- [Darlimurla.](#)
- [Mardan.](#)
- [Mirboo North.](#)
- [Mirboo.](#)

How many people live here? Where can people stay here?	Identify any peak periods for tourists and/or visitors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mirboo North Hotel. • First T Motel. • Various B&Bs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mirboo North Winterfest (August). • Christmas in the Boo. • Mirboo North Art Show. • Mirboo North Italian Festa. • Mirboo North Market.

Tourism

Many travellers pass through Mirboo North en route to the South Gippsland coast, Wilson’s Promontory and on day trips around the Strzelecki Ranges. The Grand Ridge Road is a popular drive and passes through Mirboo North. The Grand Ridge Rail Trail traverses the Strzelecki Ranges and commences in Mirboo North, and continues towards the forested areas to Boolarra. A number of tourist coaches travel through this area. High visitation of approximately 17,000 people are attracted to the annual Mirboo North Italian Festa.

Employment

The top five industries of employment include:

- Primary and Secondary education.
- Aged care services.
- Supermarket and other retail.
- Beef and Dairy farming.
- Hospitality.

Roads and Transport

Mirboo North has four primary access road and three secondary access roads.

Primary Access / Egress Roads

- Strzelecki Highway.
- Grand Ridge West Road.
- Ridgway.
- Thorpdale Road.

Secondary Access / Egress Roads

- Baromi Road.
- Meeniyen Mirboo North Road.
- Grand Ridge Road East.
- Boolarra South - Mirboo North Road.
- Boolarra - Mirboo North Road.

Strzelecki Highway bisects the township and provides major access from South Gippsland to Latrobe Valley, it is heavily timbered in parts especially between Mirboo North and Driffield. In storm conditions and high winds, trees often fall across the highway requiring removal with machinery.

Heavy vehicles, milk tankers, school buses and a twice daily bus service from Wonthaggi to Traralgon traverse this route during holiday season November to April a large number of travellers use this highway to reach the coastal areas and Wilson's Promontory.

Although traffic flows could be described as medium, they can become heavy at times.

Public Transport Services

- Wilsons Buslines and South Coast Buslines provide public transport between Traralgon and Wonthaggi.
- Morwell Taxis.
- South Gippsland Regional Taxis.

What services exist in this community to support local residents and visitors?

e.g. medical centre, local hospital, police station, primary school, community house etc.

Supermarkets and Food

- Foodworks.
- Various cafés, restaurants and pub.
- Bakery.
- Pizzeria.
- Butcher.

Pharmacy

- Mirboo North Pharmacy.

Banks

- Bendigo Community Bank.

Medical

- Mirboo North Medical Centre.
- Mirboo North Ambulance Auxiliary.

Aged Care

- Calvary Strzelecki House aged care facility.
- Friends of Mirboo North Aged and Community Services.

Fuel Supplies

- BP Service Station.

Schools / Education

- Mirboo North Primary School.
- Mirboo North Kindergarten.
- Mirboo North Secondary College.
- Mirboo North Early Learning Centre at St. Andrews.
- U3A Mirboo North and District.

Emergency Services

- Fire Station (Mirboo North, Berrys Creek).
- Ambulance Station.
- Police Station.

Churches

- St Joseph's Catholic Church.
- St Mary's Anglican Church.
- St Andrew's Uniting Church.
- Mirboo North Mission of the Antiochian Orthodox Church.
- Equip Church.

Accommodation

- Mirboo North Hotel.
- First T Motel.
- Various B&Bs.

Other Services and Facilities

- Post Office.
- Real Estate agencies.
- Hair and beauty services.
- Mirboo North Community Bus.
- Mirboo North Swimming Pool.
- Mirboo North Community Op Shop.
- Mirboo North Library (Myli).
- Art galleries.
- Homewares and Hardware store.
- Mirboo North Cemetery Trust.
- Legal services.
- Mirboo North Veterinary Services.
- Trades and professional services.

Describe the economic / social / educational / sporting / community networks that connect this community.

This is a representative list – check local websites/social media for more information.

- Baromi Community Centre – Couper Street.
- Mirboo North Memorial Hall.
- Mirboo North Scout Hall.
- Walter J Tuck Recreation Reserve.
- Commercial Hotel.
- Grandridge Brewery.
- Seniors Retirement Village – Couper Street.
- Mirboo North Golf Club.
- Mirboo North Swimming Pool.
- Mirboo North Lions Club.
- Lyrebird Forest Walk.
- Baths Road Reserve.
- Mirboo North Scouts.
- Mirboo and District Historical Society Inc.
- Various sporting / recreation clubs.
- Baromi Park.
- Grand Ridge Rail Trail (Mirboo North to Boolarra).
- Mirboo North and District Foundation.
- Mirboo North RSL.
- Wednesday Warriors.
- Mirboo North Men's Shed.
- Mirboo North Community Shed Cooperative.
- Mirboo North U3A.
- Mirboo North Times Newspaper.
- Mirboo Country Development Inc.
- Darlimurla Community Association Hall.
- Berrys Creek Hall.
- Allambee South Community Centre.
- Mardan Hall.

What communication channels and mediums are commonly used by the community?

e.g. local publications, community or local radio, newsletters, community Facebook page.

- Mirboo North Times weekly newspaper.
- Mirboo North Community Noticeboard (Facebook).
- Mirboo Country Development Inc. – [Discover Mirboo North | South Gippsland, Victoria.](#)
- Community Noticeboards – outside supermarket and at the Memorial Hall.
- Mirboo North Community Foundation Newsletter.

Other Information

N/A.

Describe the community's disaster risk profile (including any relevant disaster history)

Flood History

February 2016

27 millimetres of rain fell in a matter of minutes causing flooding across the Shire.

Mossvale Park can be flooded by the Tarwin River West Branch. Berrys Creek may be impacted by limited flooding in significant rain events.

Fire History

2012

Hallston fire.

2009

Delburn fire – The Delburn Complex Fire was deliberately lit and directly impacted 128 properties in the Darlimurla, Mirboo North and Boolarra areas.

1944 and 1964

Significant fires affected the South Gippsland area.

1930 - 1931

Fires at Wonthaggi, Koo Wee Rup, Foster, Haunted Hills at Yallourn, and Trafalgar.

1925 - 1926

Forest fires burned across large areas of Gippsland throughout February and into early March.

Source: [Bushfires in Gippsland](#)

Severe Weather History

29 October 2021

Severe flooding and winds heavily impacted the Shire on 29 October 2021. Significant power outages occurred throughout the Shire. Properties were isolated, with some having no power for three plus days.

June 2021

A cold front crossing south eastern Victoria with damaging winds and heavy localised rainfall was forecast for Wednesday 9 June 2021. Severe flooding and winds heavily impacted the Shire over the 9th and 10th of June 2021. Significant power outages occurred throughout the Shire. Properties were isolated, with some having no power for three plus days.

Over 641 roads (essential public assets) were impacted by trees down, flooding and landslips impacted the Shire.

March 2018

South Gippsland experienced significant damage as a result of a wind event that occurred on Sunday 18 March 2018.

2015 - 2016

Drought – water restrictions in place.

2007 - 2010

Drought – water restrictions in place.

August 2005

Victoria was impacted by a snow event across the State with South Gippsland receiving up to 5 centimetres (2 inches) in most parts of the Shire. The Mirboo North and District communities were heavily impacted, mainly due to main roads being closed between the Strzelecki's and the Latrobe Valley, as well as nearby secondary roads because conditions were too dangerous. These blocked roads also impacted school bus services.

CFA Local Information – Local Bushfire Risk Information

[Local Information | CFA \(Country Fire Authority\)](#)

Select the 'Change Location' toolbar and set your location.

Municipal Emergency Management Planning Information – Municipal Risk Information

[South Gippsland Shire Council – Emergency Management Planning](#)

Mirboo North and Surrounds Communications and Engagement Plan

The following table provides links to local community groups that can provide information before and after an emergency event. During the emergency event, it is advisable to source information from credible sources.

Using credible sources during a disaster is of utmost importance because the accuracy and reliability of information can significantly impact decision-making, public safety, and the effectiveness of response efforts.

Accurate Information Saves Lives: During a disaster, timely and accurate information can be a matter of life and death. Credible sources provide verified data on the magnitude, location and potential impacts of the disaster, allowing authorities to make informed decisions and issue appropriate warnings and instructions to the public.

Prevents Panic and Misinformation: Reliable sources help prevent the spread of rumors and misinformation, which can lead to panic and chaos. Clear and consistent information from credible sources helps maintain calm and ensures that people receive accurate guidance on what actions to take during the emergency.

VicEmergency App and Hotline

The **VicEmergency app** (available from the App Store or Google Play Store) aligns with the [VicEmergency website](#) to provide a centralised location for Victorians to access timely emergency information and warnings.

The **VicEmergency Hotline** (1800 226 226) also provides information during and after major incidents in Victoria. It offers information to help householders, landowners and small businesses plan for and recover from emergencies.

In a situation where you can see or smell smoke, the VicEmergency Hotline can also advise whether or not a planned burn is in progress.

Emergency Broadcasters

During emergencies, emergency broadcasters will broadcast information which will help you make decisions based on the advice of emergency services. If necessary, emergency broadcasters will interrupt normal programming on the radio or television station.

Radio – ABC 828AM, ABC 774 AM, ABC 100.7FM, 3GV GOLD 1242AM, Triple M 94.3FM, 3TR 99.5FM, 3GCR Gippsland Community Radio 104.7FM.

Television – SkyNews.

ABC Gippsland is also available to be listened to [online](#) or on the [ABC Listen app](#) if you have access to mobile data or WiFi.

It is important to understand that this is a guide only, as radio reception varies and may also depend on local weather and geographical conditions. In addition, you should always use more than one source of information to make sure you have the most accurate and up-to-date information possible.

Channels	Municipality	Mirboo North / Baromi / Darlimurla / Mirboo
Vulnerability (Elderly, disability, tourists, other).	South Gippsland Shire Community Profile.	About the Profile Areas Mirboo North - Baromi. About the Profile Areas Rural North East.
Radio and Television	ABC – 828FM / 100.7FM ABC Radio Gippsland Live South Coast FM – 88.1 / 89.1 / 89.5	
Social Media	South Gippsland Shire Council Facebook page. CFA Facebook page. CFA District 9 Facebook page. CFA social media / Facebook – Brigades. Leongatha SES Facebook page. Foster SES Facebook page. SES East Region Facebook page. Bureau of Meteorology Facebook page.	Mirboo North and District Community Foundation Facebook page. Mirboo and District Historical Society Facebook page. Community Bank Mirboo North and District Facebook page. Mirboo North and District Community Noticeboard Facebook page. Mirboo Country Development Inc Facebook page. Mirboo North Market Facebook page. Mirboo North CFA Facebook page. Mirboo North Times Facebook page.
Websites	South Gippsland Shire Council. Vic SES. CFA. Australian Red Cross. VicEmergency. ABC Emergency. Bureau of Meteorology (BoM). FFMVic Website	Mirboo North Country. Mirboo North and District Community Foundation. Mirboo North Community Energy Hub. Mirboo Recreation Reserve.
Newspapers	South Gippsland Sentinel Times. Foster Mirror.	Mirboo North Times Facebook page (weekly newspaper).
Newsletters and Bulletins	South Gippsland Shire Council – In the Know.	The Mirboo North Community Foundation have a newsletter they send out electronically to subscribers.
Local Noticeboards	N/A.	Community Noticeboard at the Halls and also in IGA.
Public Meetings	Leongatha Council Offices.	Halls South Gippsland Shire Council.
Community Plans		
Other Resources	Community 55+ Resources.	Mirboo North Vital Signs Report.

Information on agency-led and community-led emergency management engagement activities can be found in the [Municipal Emergency Management Engagement and Resilience Plan](#).

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