

Flood Recovery Newsletter

The Shoalhaven Recovery Committee is dedicated to helping the community get back on its feet after the March East Coast Low and flooding event. We'll let you know where you can receive support and assistance and keep you up to date on the region's recovery.

Edition 1



132 500



Contact Us

You can call Council's Recovery Outreach Team on **1300 293 111** from 9am to 5pm Monday – Friday, or access important resources online at shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/floodrecovery

Recovery services can also be accessed through Service NSW on **13 77 88** from 7am to 7pm every day or online at www.service.nsw.gov.au



Community Meetings

Community Meeting - Roads (Transport for NSW)

[Kangaroo Valley](#)

Tuesday 29 March, 6.30pm
Kangaroo Valley Hall, Osborne Park

Community Meeting - Water Quality

[Sussex Inlet](#)

Tuesday 29 March, 4.30pm - 6pm
RSL Subbranch Hall,
19 Neilson Road, Sussex Inlet

Service NSW Mobile Service Centre

[Sussex Inlet](#)

Wednesday 6 April, 9am - 2pm
Sussex Inlet Neighbourhood Centre,
Corner Jacobs Drive and Nielson Road

[Sanctuary Point](#)

Thursday 7 April, 10am - 2.30pm
The Country Club, 11 Paradise Beach
Road, Sanctuary Point



For more information visit shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/floodrecovery

QUICK STATS



More than **15,000** potholes have been repaired using **300** tonnes of bituminous asphalt.



2,200 individual sites have been logged with damage.



Rapid damage assessment has indicated more than **\$25M** of road damages.

SERVICE UPDATES



Stay Clear of Floodwater

NEVER enter floodwater. This includes driving, riding, walking and playing in floodwater. Floodwater may be deeper or faster flowing than it appears and contain hidden snags or debris. Floodwater and leftover debris may also be contaminated. To prevent illness, avoid swimming in rivers, lagoons and estuaries for at least three days after heavy rain.



Flood Clean-up

When carrying out a post-flood clean-up, always wear solid shoes and heavy-duty gloves. Take frequent breaks and drink plenty of water. If you're feeling unwell or experience a prolonged period of distress, please contact your local doctor. For further information contact your local Public Health Unit on 1300 066 055.



Mosquitoes are a Health Hazard

The wet weather has brought mosquitoes. They are a nuisance and can also transmit serious diseases.

To avoid infection, avoid being bitten:

- Cover up while outside with loose, light-coloured clothing and covered footwear
- Avoid being outdoors at dawn and dusk
- Use insecticide sprays, vapour dispensing units and mosquito coils to repel mosquitos
- Cover openings such as windows and doors with insect screens
- Remove water-holding containers outside your house where mosquitoes can breed.

For further information please call your local public health unit on **1300 066 055** or visit the NSW Health www.health.nsw.gov.au



Health



Roads

Roads across our entire local government area have sustained considerable damage. Council recently completed a 'Rapid Damage Assessment' which indicates a damage bill of more than \$25 million. Our crews are working hard to ensure the roads are safe, however it will take time and we ask for the community's patience. Whilst thousands of potholes have already been repaired 12 local roads remain closed. To stay up to date with local road works information, visit: <https://bit.ly/3gMCF0u>

Some roads in Shoalhaven are managed by Transport for NSW, this includes Moss Vale Road and Barrengarry Mountain. To stay up to date with NSW Government road works information, please check: <https://www.livetraffic.com/>

Please always drive with caution and to the conditions and follow all instructions.



Water Quality

The water at some beaches and coastal estuaries may appear discoloured from a high level of nutrients, sediments and pollutions, and some areas have a particular strong smell of rotting vegetation. To prevent illness, NSW Health advises that contact with floodwater should be minimised and to avoid swimming within 24 hours of heavy rain at ocean beaches and within 3 days in estuaries or rivers.

Council manages multiple water quality monitoring programs throughout the Shoalhaven and regularly increase sampling during environmental events that heighten potential hazards. Recent testing has found water quality across many locations in the Shoalhaven to be fair-good. Recent testing results can be found online via the Aquadata portal: <https://bit.ly/3iLQrU4>

If you have any concerns regarding water quality, please take photos of the affected area and contact Council for our Environmental team to investigate.

Flood Disaster Relief

If you have been impacted by the recent flooding event, you may be eligible for disaster relief assistance and support from the Commonwealth and NSW Governments.

Support is available for:

- Individuals and households
- Primary producers
- Businesses
- Sport and recreation clubs
- Not-for-profit organisations and churches

For more information, please call Service NSW on 13 77 88 between 7.00am and 10.00pm or visit

<https://nsw.gov.au/floods>



Australian Red Cross \$500 Relief Grant



Australian Red Cross

Cash assistance is available for people who are experiencing financial hardship as a result of flood impact to their primary place of residence. To assess your eligibility and to apply online <https://www.redcross.org.au/grants/> or call the Red Cross Grants team on **1800 733 276**

Health and Wellbeing

Many people within flood-affected communities may be feeling anxious, worried or afraid. Should you or someone you know need support, there are crisis care services available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week:

- Lifeline **13 43 57**
- Kids Helpline **1800 55 1800**
- NSW Mental Health Line **1800 011 511**

FROM THE COMMUNITY



Thank you to our local SES Units for coordinating the flood response and recovery. Together with help from Defense Australia, NSW Rural Fire Service and local volunteers, you've helped our community through yet another challenging natural disaster.

Photo Credit: Courtesy of NSW SES St Georges Basin Unit.



Kangaroo Valley is open.

Photo Credit: Courtesy of Kangaroo Valley Community

