

LAKE HAMILTON PLANNED FUEL REDUCTION BURN

With CFA assistance, Council will conduct a planned burn to reduce the fire hazards in the plantation at Lake Hamilton near Lakes Edge Adventure Playground.

Environmental and cultural assessments have been undertaken. A wildlife survey has also been completed. No koalas were located.

The planned burn will occur in coming weeks on a day when the weather allows a slow and cool burn to reduce fire hazards but limits scorching higher trees.

Emergency services will be patrolling the site before, during and after the burn.

SUPPORT FOR BUSINESS DURING COVID-19

Council has created a new COVID-19 web page to assist Greater Hamilton businesses through this pandemic: www.businessgreaterhamilton.com.au

Here you will find:

- A quick reference guide summarising available financial packages and eligibility criteria
- Business Support Bulletins, outlining Council initiatives such as 1:1 support, subsidised websites plus 3rd party opportunities and resources
- Up-to-date local business and service listings
- A resource hub containing articles, tutorials and online training opportunities

Local industry are also encouraged to join the '**Greater Hamilton Business & Tourism – Covid-19 Facebook Group**' to stay connected during this challenging time.

HAMILTON TRANSFER STATION OPEN SATURDAYS

The Hamilton Transfer station **will be open Saturdays** to help community members across the Shire dispose of waste, green waste and recycling during COVID-19. Normal Saturday opening times apply **9.30am - 4.15pm**.

Limits will be placed on the number of people let inside the gates at any one time, so please expect some delays. Please stay in your car while waiting for entry.

ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS ONLY. No cash will be accepted.

In line with social distancing regulations, please limit the number of people in your own vehicle when visiting the transfer station (i.e. please leave the kids at home).

This applies to the Hamilton Transfer Station only, and will remain in place for as long as it is possible to do so under the Government COVID-19 restrictions.

Please note. Transfer stations in outer townships (Cavendish, Balmoral, Coleraine, Penshurst, Dunkeld, Glenthompson and Branhholme) are closed to the general public but remain open to account holders and commercial operators on weekdays.

All Transfer Stations will be closed Good Friday, Easter Sunday and Easter Monday. Hamilton Transfer Station will be open Easter Saturday.

CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 RESPONSE: UPDATE ON COUNCIL OPERATIONS

Please note information current at time of printing Saturday 11 April 2020. For more and up-to-date information, please visit Council website on sthgrampians.vic.gov.au or contact Council on 5573 0444.

The following measures will be implemented as of 5.00pm Friday 20 March 2020.

SERVICE	OPERATION
Customer Service Centres	Brown Street and Market Place offices will be closed to the public but staff are on hand to take enquiries over the phone 5573 0444 or via email council@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au .
Visitor Information Centres	Closed
Hamilton Gallery	Closed
Hamilton Cinema	Closed

SERVICE	OPERATION
Hamilton Library	Closed. Scheduled events and programming, including school holiday programs will not proceed. This includes the Greater Hamilton Mobile Library. Digital Services are still available to borrow through library memberships. Items currently on loan will not have a due date and overdue fines will not apply during this close down period. Out of hours return chute is currently open for returns.
Hamilton Performing Arts Centre	Closed. Upcoming events have been cancelled. Contact the PAC on 5573 0429 to access a refund for tickets purchased.
Hamilton Indoor Leisure and Aquatic Centre	Hamilton Indoor Leisure and Aquatic Centre (and all associated facilities and programs including Vitality Gym), and all outdoor pools throughout the Shire will be closed.
Outdoor Pools	Closed, including early morning swimming.
Hamilton Regional Livestock Exchange	Will remain operational however access to HRLX weekly sales will be limited to buyers, stock agents, transport operators and council staff. The general public will not be able to attend, even if they are sellers at the sale.
Home and Community Care Services	Operating as normal.
Meals on Wheels	Operating as normal.
Senior Citizens Centre	Flu vaccination programs will not be provided through the senior citizens centres this year, to avoid large gathering of at risk persons in one place.
Family Day Care	Family Day Care will remain available until the Department of Education advises that the service should not be operated.
HILAC Occasional Care	Closed
Maternal and Child Health	Phone only basis. Anyone who had a scheduled appointment will be contacted by the Maternal Child Health nurses. If face-to-face appointments are required (immunisations, key age and stage appointments) 15 minute appointments will be scheduled. If you are unwell please reschedule your appointment. Contact the Frances Hewett Community Centre on 5551 8480 for concerns or queries.
L2P Program	Suspended
Council Meetings and Engagement Sessions	The April Council Meeting, scheduled to be held in Mirranatwa, will now be held in Hamilton. While this meeting is still open to the public, it is anticipated it be live streamed via council's Facebook page and we would strongly encourage you to engage with the meeting in this format. All other Council organised engagement sessions and events (eg Listening Posts, community meetings) will also be cancelled for the foreseeable future.
DISA Festival 2020	Cancelled
Regulatory Services	Market Place office will be closed to the public. Services will be by appointment only. Please contact 5573 0227.
Kerbside Waste and Recycling Services	Services will continue as normal with the exception of Easter. Easter changes are as advertised.
Transfer Stations (Hamilton and all towns)	Hamilton Transfer Station open Saturdays only 9.30am - 4.15pm. Other Shire Transfer Stations are closed to the general public but remain open to account holders and commercial operators on weekdays. Anyone who is adversely affected should contact 5573 0444 to discuss.