

[View this email in your browser](#)

River Murray Flood Community Newsletter

Issue 15: Friday, 2 June 2023



In this issue

- [Message from the Community Recovery Coordinator](#)
- [Congratulations - Renmark Paringa Council](#)
- [Vouchers - SA Houseboats, Accommodation, Experiences? - Check! Operators can register NOW!](#)
- [Article of Interest - Rebuilding with resilience & recovery in mind](#)
- [Article of Interest - River Murray flooding has rejuvenated local flora and fauna](#)
- [Grants - Non-Government Organisation \(NGO\) grants](#)
- [Grants - Foundation SA's Disaster Recovery Grants remain open](#)
- [Event - \(Free\) Soil management - 8 June 2023](#)
- [Event - \(Free\) Regrowth: Garden recovery after flood \(various dates and locations\)](#)
- [Webinar - Resilient businesses, thriving communities](#)
- [Welcome - SAHA Berri Recovery Centre welcomes Chloe to the team](#)
- [Update - Johns Lyng Disaster Management Australia](#)
- [Update - Japanese Encephalitis Vaccine Program Expansion](#)
- [Contact - Riverlands & Murraylands mental health support](#)
- [Contact - Marine safety hazard reporting](#)
- [Info - Visit a Recovery Centre](#)

- [Info - PIRSA's flood recovery update](#)
 - [Info - DEW River Murray newsletter - The flood of a generation](#)
 - [Info - Community Justice e-News](#)
 - [Info - Flood recovery health fact sheets](#)
 - [Info - Keep informed](#)
 - [Feedback - Tell us what you think](#)
 - [Catch up - Missed a newsletter?](#)
-

Message from the Community Recovery Coordinator

Welcome to the latest edition of the River Murray Flood Community Newsletter.

It is amazing to see the transformation of this part of the state not only from a clean-up and rebuilding perspective but from a nature and regrowth one also. The work that has been done by flood affected communities so far has been inspiring and it should give you confidence that we are well on the road to recovery.

You will hopefully notice a bit of a change to this week's newsletter with a few more inclusions and improved functionality to make it more relevant to a larger audience. We welcome any feedback or suggestions you may have.

Round 2 of the River Revival Vouchers has opened for operators to register and your feedback from round one has greatly assisted in shaping and hopefully enhancing this round.

My team and I have come across some interesting articles that may be of interest to you in respect of flooding & landscapes as well as recovery & rebuilding. Some things for you to consider and information about some benefits and opportunities that are emerging as a result of the flood. We have included these in this week's newsletter and hope you find them interesting.

Social recovery is just as important as the physical recovery. So, I encourage you, if you have the opportunity, please consider attending an event such as those listed in this newsletter. Embrace the opportunity to meet and talk with people just like yourself. We will post local events in the newsletter each week as they are made known to us and we look forward to possibly catching up at one or some of them.

Disaster Relief Australia (DRA) volunteers have hit the ground running and have commenced their support operations. The assistance DRA volunteers can provide is excellent and we welcome their support and efforts.

Deb has been busy and getting out and about in to communities. If you haven't yet had the chance to meet her I'm sure you will come across Deb as she visits the many impacted communities. Feel free to introduce yourself and have a yarn.

Please don't hesitate to contact me should you need further information or be

linked to someone who can assist with issues you may be confronting.

For any flood-related queries call the State Relief and Recovery Infoline on 1800 302 787, visit sa.gov.au/floods, visit a [Recovery Centre](#), or contact either Deb Richardson or myself. I hope you enjoy this week's newsletter.



Alex Zimmermann

Community Recovery Coordinator

[0455 984 411](tel:0455984411)

alex.zimmermann@sa.gov.au



Deb Richardson

Community Development Officer

[0459 283 878](tel:0459283878)

deb.richardson@sa.gov.au

Congratulations - Renmark Paringa Council

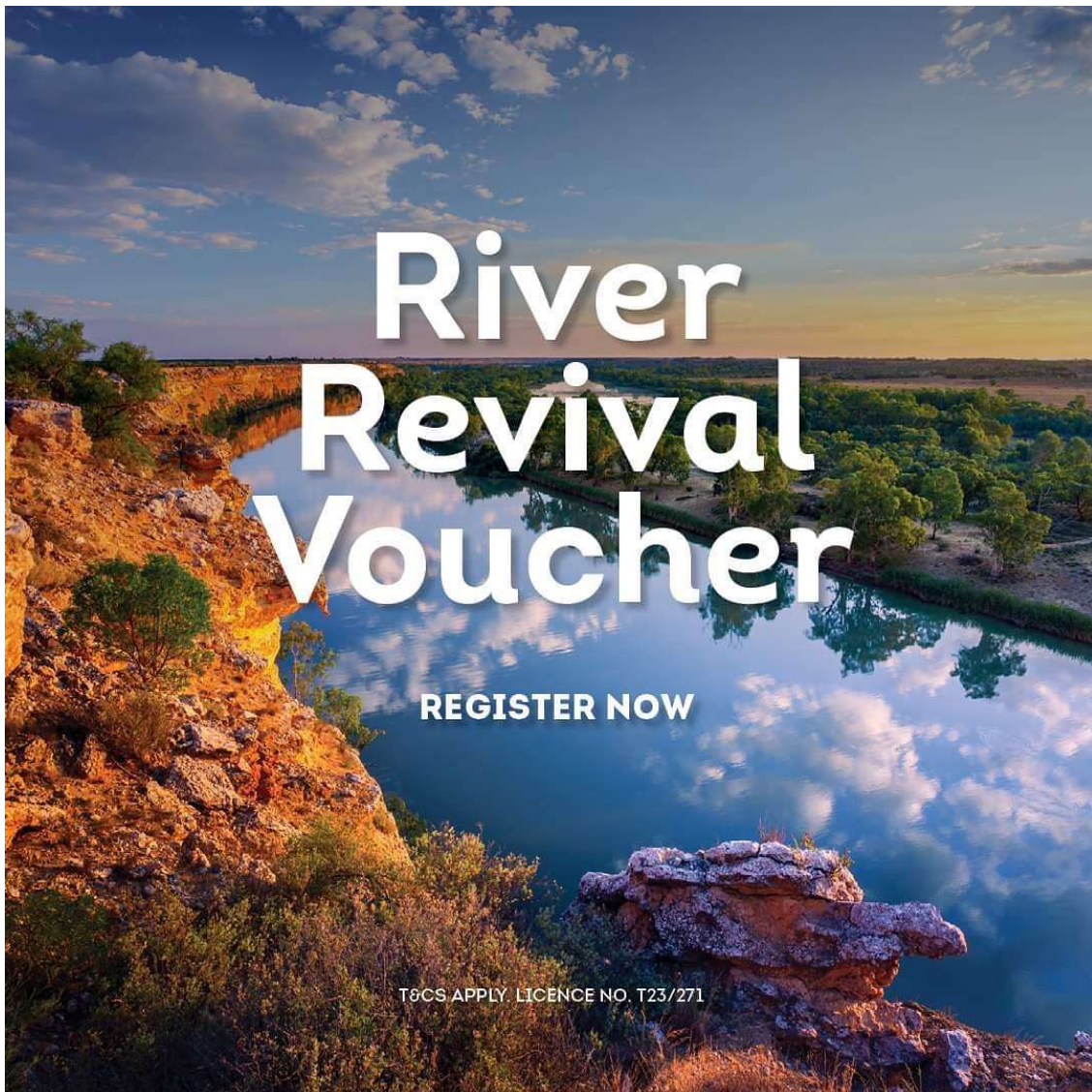


Renmark Paringa Council Emergency Incident Management Team attended the [Local Government Professionals Australia](#) SA Awards Ceremony earlier this month.

It is with great pleasure that we acknowledge the Renmark Paringa Council who was the winner of the Emergency Management Award for their tireless efforts during the River Murray Flood 2022.

We would like to congratulate them on this amazing award and the due recognition for the entire Renmark Paringa Council team who demonstrated exceptional leadership, communication, and resilience in responding to the flood event. An outstanding achievement. Well done!

**Vouchers - SA Houseboats, Accommodation, Experiences?
- Check! Operators can register NOW!**



Its confirmed! Details for round two of the River Revival Vouchers - which for the first time includes a \$750 houseboat voucher – have been released, with more time to travel and more options to book. See more details [here](#).

Round one of the River Revival Vouchers created a direct economic injection of

\$1.8 million into the river regions in bookings value alone. The wider economic impact (which incorporates what voucher holder visitors will spend on other things while they are in region such as meals, retail, petrol, experiences, etc) is expected to be substantially more. In total, 84 of the 93 operators in the program received at least one booking.

More information is available at [Rise Up for our River | Tourism SA](#). Operators will be able to register their Expression of Interest from 1 – 6 June, and consumers can register for the ballot from 19-21 June, with the ballot taking place on 22 June.

[Terms and conditions apply.](#)

Article of Interest - Rebuilding with resilience & recovery in mind



As we clean up and try and get back to a resemblance of normal, many are turning their thoughts to rebuilding options. With this in mind, the amount of waste post flooding, materials used in rebuilding to minimise cost, and impact in clean-up has been at the forefront in some discussions. We thought it might be useful to research this a bit and maybe generate some consideration as you begin and work through your own decision making.

In 2021, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC), published an article focusing on a resident who has rebuilt post a major flooding event in conjunction with an innovative company having these very thoughts in mind. It is definitely worth a read and generated some helpful thoughts about rebuild for us that not only reduces impact and waste but also builds resilience through recovery. If you're interested, we have provided the link below. We hope you find it interesting and useful.

[Flood-resilient design is making Brisbane homes like Margherita's ready for the next big soak.](#)

Article of Interest - River Murray flooding has rejuvenated local flora and fauna



A floodplain about 15 kilometres South Australia's eastern border. (ABC News: Che Chorley)

The ancient flood plains of South Australia's River Murray have sprung to life in the wake of its biggest inundation in 66 years.

"I've just witnessed an event that has produced really the next forests of red gums and the next woodlands of box trees, given that every red gum and every box tree is a signature of a former flood" (Rix, 2023).

If you wish to read more on this amazing phenomenon the flood has produced reported by Australian Broadcasting Corporation's (ABC) Ethan Rix, visit the article [here](#) or simply click the image above.

Rix, E. (2023, May 30). Flooding hit River Murray communities hard, but there's a silver lining for the environment. *ABC News*. https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-05-30/ancient-flood-plains-come-to-life/102407154?utm_campaign=abc_news_web&utm_content=link&utm_medium=content_shared&utm_source=abc_news_web

Grants - Non-Government Organisation (NGO) grants



Non-Government organisations (NGOs) and/or Not-for-profit organisations (NFP) play an important role in assisting communities and individuals with recovery from emergencies and disasters.

These organisations generally deliver their services through volunteers who are crucial in helping out communities. While volunteers offer their time for free, it is acknowledged that NGOs/NFPs have ongoing costs in providing the supervision, training, equipment, and supplies that enable volunteers to undertake activities and work safely and effectively.

In November 2022, the Premier announced a Community Recovery Fund (the Fund) to assist communities affected by the 2022 River Murray floods with their preparedness and recovery.

A portion of the Fund is available to support NGOs/NFPs with deployment and activities to support recovery of flood-affected individuals, communities, and businesses. The first round of flood-related NGO grants was announced in February 2023.

Round 2 is now open. If you feel you qualify and would like to apply for an NGO grant, please get your application in now to help you help others.

The closing date for Round 2 is 31 August 2023. For more information or to apply, please visit [Relief and financial assistance | Recovery](#).

Grants - Foundation SA's Disaster Recovery Grants remain open



APPLY NOW — GRANTS TO SUPPORT RECOVERY INITIATIVES FOR FLOOD IMPACTED COMMUNITIES

Applications for Foundation SA's Disaster Recovery Grants remain open, offering South Australian-based non-profit organisations up to \$10,000 to support community-led recovery initiatives in the Riverland and Murraylands areas.

The South Australian Disaster Recovery Fund was developed by Foundation SA as a disaster response for non-profit organisations working in impacted regions.

Foundation SA activated the fund to gather donations and support flood-impacted communities.

Thanks to the generous support of four South Australian philanthropic foundations and the general public more than \$75,000 for these grants has been raised so far.

Who is eligible to apply?

All local South Australian community organisations, non-profits and local councils working in flood-impacted communities across the following LGA's are invited to apply:

Alexandrina
Berri Barmera
Coorong
Karoonda East Murray

Loxton Waikerie
Mid Murray
Murray Bridge
Renmark Paringa

Applicants do not require DGR 1 status, however organisations must prove charitable purpose, ideally through registration with The Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC).

How much funding is available and when do applications close?

Grants will be offered between \$5,000 to \$10,000 depending on the nature of the proposed project.

Foundation SA understand not all organisations are ready to apply for funding. Applications will remain open until all funds are expended. Foundation SA encourage you to apply when you are ready. Applications will be assessed as they are submitted.

Grants will be offered for projects in two focus areas

Community Recovery

Grants to support the delivery of programs, initiatives and events that bring people together, enhance community resilience and support local needs throughout the long-term recovery efforts; and programs that build preparedness for future disasters.

Environmental Recovery

Foundation SA will fund projects that aim to restore natural environments and leverage positive environmental outcomes the floods have presented, such as native flora and fauna restoration and recovery projects, cultural site protection measures and research and education for future resilience and preparedness.

[For more information and to apply click here.](#)

Event - (Free) Soil management - 8 June 2023



In collaboration with Soil Science Australia, the Mineral Resources Limited (MRL) Board is presenting a free session for farmers and primary producers on 8 June 2023 (date has changed from previous), 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, at the Bridgeport Hotel, Murray Bridge. For more information and to register, see [Soil management after flood](#).

Event - (Free) Regrowth: Garden recovery after flood (various dates and locations)



REGROWTH: GARDEN RECOVERY AFTER FLOOD

FREE EVENT

Join Sophie Thomson from Sophie's Patch and Gardening Australia as she guides us through:

- ✓ Gardening for Health & Wellbeing
- ✓ Gardening After Flood - Practical Steps to Rebuild a Garden After Flooding & Plant Soil Recovery
- ✓ Growing Food with Raised and Wicking Beds

EVENT DATES & LOCATIONS

- Friday 9th June at Mannum - Mannum Golf Club
- Friday 16th June at Murray Bridge - Edwards Square
- Friday 23rd June at Monteith - Monteith Town Hall
- Friday 30th June at Swan Reach - Swan Reach Town Hall

10:00 am - 3:00 pm - Free Morning Tea & Lunch Provided

Book via the
Location Specific
QR Codes
or contact iREACH
Rural Health
on 8531 1303

Funded by

phn
COUNTRY SA

An Australian Government Initiative

Click the location and date you wish to attend for flyer and QR Code

MANNUM - 9th June 2023

MURRAY BRIDGE - 16th June 2023

MONTEITH - 23rd June 2023

SWAN REACH - 30th June 2023

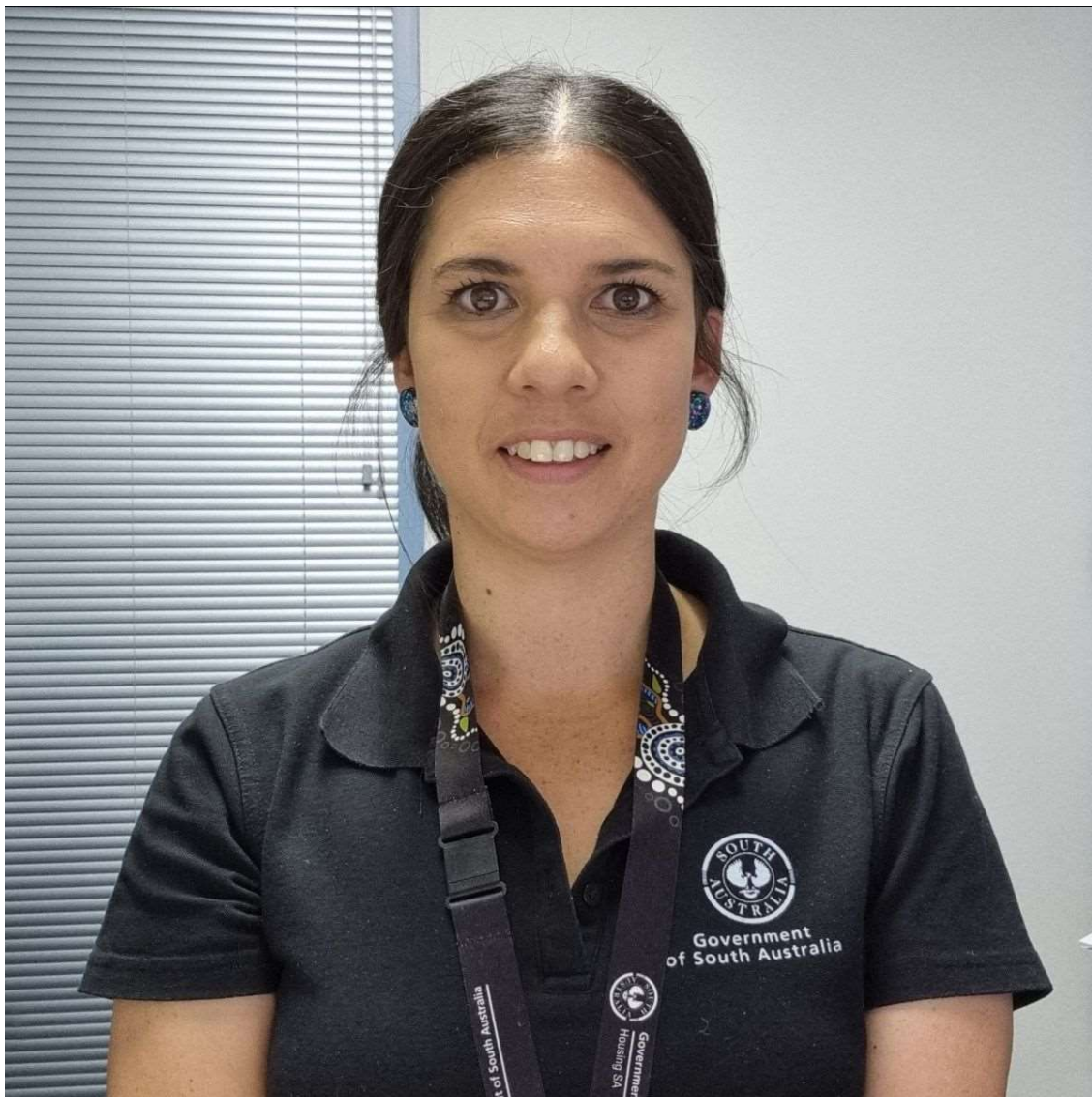
Webinar - Resilient businesses, thriving communities



Resilience to natural hazards has historically been viewed in terms of physical infrastructure. However, social infrastructure like personal, professional, and community-based networks can have a much stronger influence on community resilience.

[Resilient businesses, thriving communities: A Kangaroo Island case study featuring Daniel Aldrich](#) is now available to watch online through the Australian Disaster Resilience Knowledge Hub. In this webinar, Daniel Aldrich provides perspectives about social capital and the small business environment in conversation with Fiona Jago (Western Kangaroo Island Caravan Park), Renae Hanvin (Resilient Ready) and Margaret Moreton (AIDR).

Welcome - SAHA Berri Recovery Centre welcomes Chloe to the team



My name is Chloe, I am a Recovery Officer based in the Berri Recovery Centre - Housing SA Office. I previously worked as Assistant Manager for Service SA - Department for Infrastructure and Transport, at the Berri Customer Service Centre.

It gives me great pride to be given the opportunity to assist my community on their road to recovery and I look forward to achieving great outcomes for my clients. I hope to make a positive impact during my time in the Recovery Centre and will always strive to get the job done.

A quirky fact about myself - after finishing school, I went to work on dairy farms milking cows.

Update - Johns Lyng Disaster Management Australia



The past week has seen the start of Disaster Relief Australia (DRA) volunteer assistance, the continuation of kerbside collection, site assessments, and sandbag collection. We have also commenced issuing site assessment reports to registrants and will be commencing demolition works in the coming weeks.

Disaster Management Australia (DMA) has now conducted over 380 free structural assessments. If you have not yet had an assessment scheduled, please reach out to get an update or schedule an assessment through the contact centre on the DMA number below.

Kerbside collection activities will continue throughout the duration of the recovery program when there is a demand for this support. Operations planners generate the schedule based on demand and the presence of waste on the kerbside. Due to the unique nature of residential arrangements, which can vary from permanent to occasional occupancy of homes, the schedule is designed to meet this requirement.

DMA recommends that occasional residents place waste on the kerb early so it can be incorporated into future collections. You can report that you have waste ready to collect through the Contact Centre, or our teams will identify it and incorporate it into the schedule.

We also recommend that only waste that is required to be removed be placed on the kerb to ensure that only flood-damaged items are disposed of. In cases where this is not feasible, we can arrange an extended kerbside collection, which requires registrant approval and will be scheduled alongside other works. Registrants will receive schedule updates through this newsletter, the GISA website flood clean-up map, and SMS messages.

Shoulder remediation works have occurred in Blanchetown, and we will continue monitoring any impacts of kerbside collection and schedule remediation work accordingly.

Sandbag collection is nearing completion based on the requests from registrants. If you have sandbags that need to be incorporated into the

collection, please ensure that you have informed DMA. If you wish to receive an update on your sandbag collection, please contact the DMA number below.

Disaster Relief Australia (DRA) volunteers are now on the ground to assist the community with flood clean-up. The 15-strong team of volunteers has established a base in Mannum and has begun work on flood recovery tasks assigned by DMA. DRA will be in the area for a minimum of four weeks and will assist with flood-damaged debris removal.

If you require assistance or would like to confirm that you have registered for assistance, please contact the DRA number below. Alternatively, if you are seeking more information on how DRA can help, please email opcamilleri@disasterreliefaus.org, and a DRA team member will be in touch.

If you have not yet registered your property and would like assistance, please register with GISA on 1800 302 787 between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday to Friday. If you have already registered and wish to discuss your case, please contact DMA on 1800 418 491

Kerb-side collection schedule

This schedule is as accurate as possible and seeks to meet the demand of a dynamic waste collection requirement and is subject to change based on workload. Disaster Management Australia (DMA) is coordinating the collection of all eligible flood-affected waste in the following areas:

Monday, 5 June 2023

Brenda Park
Walker Flat – Rob Loxton Road, Bond Street,
Lakeside Drive

Tuesday, 6 June 2023

Beaumonts
Scott Creek
Walker Flat – Rob Loxton Road, Bond Street,
Lakeside Drive

Wednesday, 7 June 2023

Brenda Park
Old Murbko Road
Marks Landing
Curnamont – Purnong Road
Walker Flat – Rob Loxton Road, Bond Street,
Lakeside Drive

Thursday, 8 June 2023

Marks Landing
Nildotti – Kruoens Landing Road, Shack Front
Road
Bowhill – Providence Drive

Friday, 9 June 2023

Marks Landing
Bowhill – Providence Drive

If you have not yet registered your property and would like assistance, please register with GISA on 1800 302 787 between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday to Friday. If you have already registered and wish to discuss your case, please contact DMA on 1800 418 491.

Update - Japanese Encephalitis Vaccine Program Expansion



Eligibility for the Japanese Encephalitis Virus (JEV) vaccine has been expanded in South Australia.

The expansion removes the requirement to be outdoors for four hours on most days for people living or engaging in outdoor flood recovery (clean-up) efforts in eligible high-risk areas adjacent to the River Murray.

This expansion criteria brings South Australia in line with Victoria and New South Wales, and includes those who:

- regularly spend time outdoors placing them at risk of mosquito bites, or

- are experiencing homelessness, or
- are living in conditions with limited mosquito protection (e.g. tents, caravans, dwellings with no insect screens), or
- are engaging in outdoor flood recovery (clean-up) efforts, including repeated professional or volunteer deployments.

It follows an expansion in December, in which the vaccine became available to shack owners who have, or were expecting to have, their holiday property flooded.

Eligible emergency services workers supporting the Riverland community were also included in that expansion.

Since the targeted JEV vaccination program began in October last year, almost 23,800 JEV vaccinations have been administered in South Australia. The vaccine continues to be available at participating local pharmacies and GPs.

The increased eligibility comes as 9,000 extra vaccines are available to SA Health with limited stock nationally.

People are encouraged to book their vaccination now.

Nine people in South Australia acquired JEV in South Australia last year – with all cases hospitalised and sadly two deaths. There have been no cases reported this year to date.

For more information about JEV, eligibility, and where to get vaccinated please follow the link below:

[Japanese encephalitis virus \(JEV\) vaccine | SA Health](#)

Contact - Riverlands & Murraylands mental health support



Fact Sheet

Riverland and Murraylands mental health support

When a disaster happens, it is common to feel stress and grief. Some people will recover without formal help, and others might need some extra support to help get things back on track.

If you or someone you know is feeling overwhelmed and struggling to cope, reach out to local services that can provide mental health and wellbeing support – they're here to help.

When a disaster happens, it is common to feel stress and grief. Some people will recover without formal help, and others might need some extra support to help get things back on track. If you or someone you know is feeling

overwhelmed and struggling to cope, reach out to local services that can provide mental health and wellbeing support – they're here to help.

Click here to view the [Riverlands and Murraylands mental health support fact sheet](#) where you will find all the relevant contact information for each service and provider.

Contact - Marine safety hazard reporting



As the water subsides, people are back on the water, and clean-ups begin, you may notice some substantial debris either in the water or submerged. If you do, and believe it to be a safety hazard created, please do not hesitate in reporting it. The most effective method to do this is via the Report a marine safety concern link (listed below). This will ensure that the report is the appropriate place to have it assessed and dealt with as necessary.

[SA.GOV.AU - Report a marine safety concern \(www.sa.gov.au\)](http://www.sa.gov.au)

Info - Visit a Recovery Centre



Recovery centres are operating in Mannum and Murray Bridge, with recovery services also available at the Berri Housing SA office. A range of agencies are available through these centres including Disaster Ministries, Services Australia, Good Shepherd, the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) and the Department for Industry, Innovation and Science (DIIS).

In addition, another round of pop-up recovery centres are continuing. Have a chat with a friendly Recovery Officer who can help with:

- Access to recovery information and referrals
- Quick and easy grant assessments
- Well-being check-ins and referral if needed
- GISA clean-up registrations and assistance with follow up
- Access to clean up suits, paint brushes and cleaning products
- A friendly ear to talk to
- Assistance with recovery grant applications

Berri

Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm
Housing SA office
[29 Vaughan Terrace, Berri](#)

Mannum

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday,
9:30am to 4:30pm
Mannum Institute
[47 Randell Street, Mannum](#)

Murray Bridge

Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm
[28 Bridge Street, Murray Bridge](#)

Info - PIRSA's flood recovery update



Bushfires

Drought

Storms & floods

River Murray flood recovery

Lower Murray reclaimed
irrigation areas

Flood recovery update

Flood recovery update

On this page

[Levee recovery and dewatering update](#)

[Predicted water levels](#)

[Meter readings](#)

[Grants closing](#)

[River Murray flood impacts survey](#)

[LMRIA Recovery Subcommittee update](#)

[Structural assessments for flood-affected properties](#)

The Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) continue to provide regular updates through their flood recovery update web page.

The web page provides important information on flood recovery activities undertaken by the PIRSA and the Department of Environment and Water (DEW), including the dewatering progress and levee assessment and stabilisation. Key flood recovery contacts are also provided.

[Click here](#) for more information and to view the latest updates.

Info - DEW River Murray newsletter - The flood of a generation



< Topics

River Murray floods

Topics > River Murray > Latest news and announcements

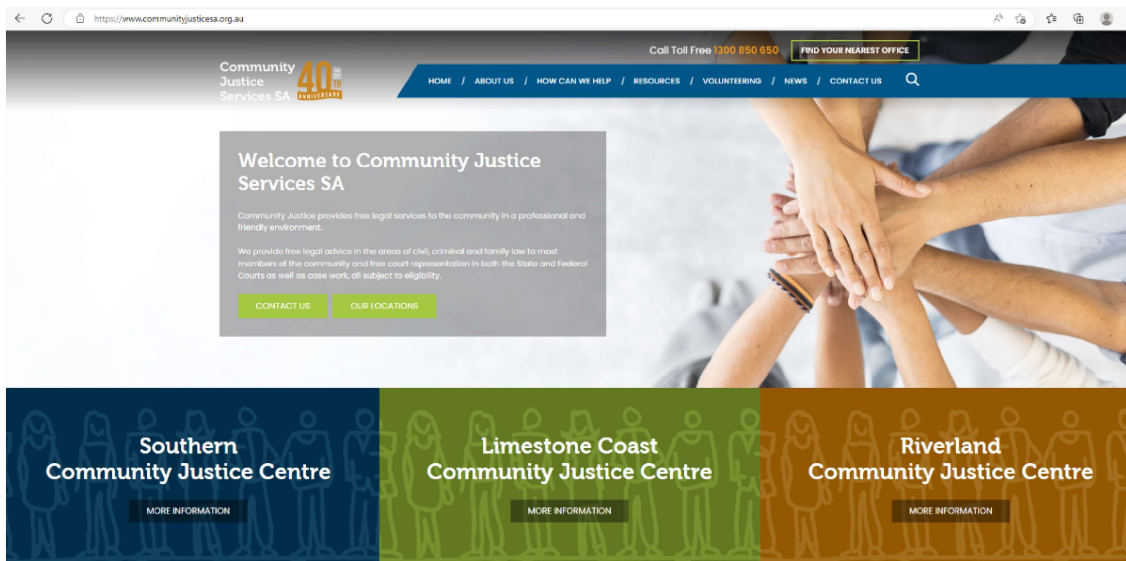
River Murray news

The Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth (CLLMM) region continues to receive water from the largest South Australian flood in more than 50 years.

The influx of freshwater to the Coorong throughout the summer months led to some of the largest peaks in average daily water levels on record, at both the Southern and Northern lagoons...

To read more or to subscribe to the Department of Environment and Water (DEW) newsletter, [click here](#) or the click the image above.

Info - Community Justice e-News



Community Justice is a registered charity providing free legal advice on Family, Criminal and Civil law matters to everyone in our catchment areas, regardless of their income or assets.

As a trusted community legal service for the past 40 years, we understand the importance of empowering the community with up-to-date information about the law, their legal rights and importantly, where to get free legal help and information when you need it.

Our new Community Justice E-News aims to provide:

- regular updates on our programs and initiatives
- information about upcoming events and free community legal education
- up to date legal information and resources
- latest news and announcements

We look forward to connecting with you!

For more information about [Community Justice](#), [please click here](#) or simply click the image above.

Info - Flood recovery health fact sheets



Staying safe and healthy during and after a flood

During and after a flood, there are increased risks to health and safety. The main health risks while in flood-impacted areas include:

On this page

[Avoid contact with floodwater](#)

[Cleaning up after a flood](#)


[Protect against disease as floodwaters recede](#)

[Watch out for snakes, spiders and other pests](#)

SA Health has developed a series of fact sheets to assist flood-affected communities recover from the River Murray flood event. These fact sheets cover a range of topics including managing flies after flooding, dealing with mould and snake bite first aid advice.


For more information and to view these fact sheets [click here](#).


Info - Keep informed




Government of South Australia

Helping flood-affected River Murray communities recover

 **1800 302 787**
State Relief and Recovery Infoline

 **sa.gov.au/floods**
Latest recovery information, financial assistance and support

For clean-up information and assistance, call the State Relief and Recovery Infoline on 1800 302 787



Recovery can be complicated so we are frequently updating our website to ensure you remain up to date.

Visit sa.gov.au/floods for information on the River Murray flood recovery. You can also view details of upcoming community meetings, subscribe to this newsletter and view previous editions.

Feedback - Tell us what you think

Please use the link below to let us know what you would like to see in upcoming newsletters.

Provide your feedback

Catch up - Missed a newsletter?

Missed a previous edition of the recovery newsletter? Catch up on all the recovery news.

Please share this newsletter with anyone interested in the River Murray flood recovery.

[See previous editions](#)

[Sign up for future newsletters](#)

 **Share this newsletter**





Government of South Australia
Department of the Premier
and Cabinet

Copyright © 2023 Department of the Premier and Cabinet, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).