

Wildlife Rehabilitator Bushfire Grants

2019-2020

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the Wildlife Rehabilitator Bushfire Grants?

The Victorian Government is supporting authorised Wildlife Rehabilitators to care for wildlife affected by bushfires in the 2019-2020 fire season.

The role that wildlife shelter operators and foster carers play in responding to the bushfire crisis is vital and funding is now available to help them.

Authorised shelter operators and foster carers in Victoria are invited to apply for a Wildlife Rehabilitator Bushfire Grant from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP).

Who can apply?

Grants are available for eligible shelter operators and foster carers caring for wildlife affected by bushfires occurring in the 2019-2020 fire season, such as devastating fires of East Gippsland, North East and South West Victoria.

To be eligible wildlife rehabilitators must:

- Have current DELWP authorisation to operate as a wildlife rehabilitator.
- Be rehabilitating wildlife affected by significant fires in the 2019-2020 fire season.
- Not hold any convictions for fraud, convictions under the *Wildlife Act 1975* or the Prevention of *Cruelty to Animals Act 1986* during the past ten years.

How much can I apply for?

A one-off payment of up to \$1,000 is available to assist authorised wildlife rehabilitators in their capacity to care for bushfire-affected wildlife.

What items are eligible?

These grants are for the most immediate and basic supplies and services to support your wildlife emergency response. Feed, consumables and veterinary consultations are eligible items.

How do I apply?

Apply online at:

<https://www.wildlife.vic.gov.au/grants/wildlife-rehabilitator-bushfire-grants>

From this web page, click on the 'Start New Application' button.

You will then be asked to log in to Grants Online Portal using your account. If you don't have one, click on the **Create an Account** button.

Note your username (email) and password for future reference. Try to choose an email that will not change into the future – because over time your account will record your grant history for you.

Save your work often. To return to a saved draft application, click on the 'Access Saved Application' button, or from the link on the email you have received. You can preview the application before submitting. You can print a copy of your application for your records.

If you are unable to access the internet, please contact Grants Info Line by calling 1300 366 356 to request a hardcopy application form.

What is the application period?

Applications are open during the 2019-20 fire season period, and unlike regular WRG grants, these will be assessed on a case-by-case basis as they are submitted. This grant round will close by 30 April 2020 at 5:00 PM.

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What happens next?

The administration process for these bushfire grants has been streamlined to ensure prompt payments and minimal administration burden for wildlife carers.

1. We will assess each application as they are submitted.
2. If successful, we will send via email a simple contract and a form to collect your bank account details for us to pay (i.e. a Supplier Details form). If unsuccessful we will let you know.
3. You then accept the grant by sending back to us an email saying you are accepting the grant; and please attach your Supplier Details form. That is, there's no need to sign and post back the contract.
4. We will pay you soon after.
5. You don't need to give us a final report or shelter records. We ask you to keep your receipts, but you don't need to send them to us.

We hope this will help you focus your efforts on rescuing and caring for wildlife.

When will we receive the funding?

We expect that after receiving your grant acceptance email (see point 3 above) and correct payment details (in Supplier Details form), we can pay you within 10 business days.

Where can I get more information?

There are a few ways:

- The **Grants Info Line - 1300 366 356** is open 8:30am to 5:00pm Monday – Friday.
- Visiting the website www.wildlife.vic.gov.au/grants/wildlife-rehabilitator-bushfire-grants, or
- www.wildlife.vic.gov.au/home/bushfire-response-wildlife-shelters-and-carers
- Emailing the DELWP Wildlife Rehabilitator Grants (WRG) team at enviro.grants@delwp.vic.gov.au
- The WRG Program Manager Andrea Liebert 0439 148 702 during business hours

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