

Community Update

Buloke.

Win Free Green Waste for a Year - New closing date will be Thursday 4th January!

The much-anticipated 'Buloke's Best Lawn' and 'Yard Transformation' competitions have returned, spotlighting the passion and care that Buloke's residents invest in their residential green spaces.

Show off your immaculately kept lawns or stunning yard makeovers and you could win a year's supply of free green waste disposal along with a coveted trophy, all made possible by the support of the Australian and Victorian governments and the Community Recovery Program.

As a result of the recent rainfall, we have decided to extend the closing date for the Buloke's Best Lawn competition. The new closing date will be Thursday 4 January 2024.

Visit www.buloke.vic.gov.au to learn more.

Buloke Busy Bees Colour And Connect

Get ready for a splash of colour and a burst of youthful imagination with the 'Buloke Busy Bees Colour and Connect Activities Book!'

Through fun and educational activities found in the 'Buloke Busy Bees Colour and Connect Activities Book', eager primary aged child across Buloke are introduced to the various places and services available in our towns, sparking their curiosity to explore them, whilst collecting Buloke Busy Bee stickers from participating retailers on their travels.



Have Your Say - Draft Children Youth and Families Plan

The Draft Children Youth and Families Plan combines the Buloke Shire Council Children & Youth Strategy and Buloke Shire Council Municipal Early Years Plan into a single ten-year plan to address the needs of children, young people, and families.

The plan focuses on planning, advocacy, and the delivery of services, programs, events, and spaces for children, young people, and their families under four priority areas.

To read the plan and to make a submission visit <https://www.buloke.vic.gov.au/have-your-say>

Australia Day Eve Event

Council is again hosting an Australia Day Eve event to celebrate our community.

The 2024 event will be held at the Sea Lake Community Centre and will feature the presentation of Council's Australia Day Awards and a guest speaker.

Mark your diary for Thursday 25 January 2025. The evening will kick off with a community dinner from 6:00-6:30PM incorporating finger food for casual dining will be provided free-of-charge to the community ahead of the official proceedings. See you there!

Maintaining Buloke's Road Networks

Council remains committed to uphold the condition of the 4,300 kilometres of gravel sealed roads, especially as we approach the hot and dry months of the year. Council deploys 6 graders throughout the Shire year-round as well as water trucks, roller trucks, and specialised vehicles to combat the impact of weather and keep our roads in optimal condition.

Demonstrating our commitment to sustained road maintenance, Council has allocated \$5.5 million in the 2023-24 budget for capital improvements across the road network and \$6 million in maintenance. This funding aims to preserve the integrity of the road network throughout Buloke and to continue Council's commitment to preserving the quality and safety of our road network into 2024.



Council Christmas and New Year's Arrangements

With the holiday Council's service arrangements are outlined below. Stay up to date via Council's website and social media.

Customer Service

Please note that Council will be closed from 12.00 noon on Friday 22 December 2023 until 8.30am Tuesday 2 January 2024.

Emergency And Maintenance Works

For emergencies outside these hours, please call 1300 520 520 and follow the prompts for the service response required.

Swimming Pools

Swimming pools at Berriwillock, Birchip, Charlton, Donald, Sea Lake, Watchem, and Wycheproof will operate every day except for being CLOSED on Christmas Day. Any unscheduled closures will be advertised on Council's Facebook page.

Maternal And Child Health Service

All Council Maternal and Child Health Centres will be CLOSED from close of business Friday 22 December 2023 reopening on Tuesday 2 January 2024. During January, only bookings for Key Age and Stages visit of 8 weeks and younger will be taken to consider staff shortages due to holidays.

(MCH advice is also available via the 24 Hour Maternal and Child Health Line on 132 229).

Aged And Disability Services

Council transitioned from these services, including Meals on Wheels, in December 2023. To make any special arrangements please call your service provider who has taken over your service provision, Annetto (1800 266 328), East Wimmera Health Service (03 5477 2100), Inglewood and Districts Health Service (03 5431 7000) or Mallee Track Health and Community Service (03 5092 1111). Navigational assistance for services deemed urgent can be made by calling 0407 328 472 during normal office hours.

Libraries

Buloke Shire Library Service will be CLOSED from 12.00 noon Friday 22 December 2023 until Monday 8 January 2024. Allowances will be made for borrowings that fall due over this period. Reduced hours of operation may occur during this period. Please call 1300 520 520 or visit the Buloke Library website www.buloke.vic.gov/libraries for updates.

Kerbside Collections And Landfills/Transfer Stations

All kerbside garbage and recycle collections will occur as normal except for scheduled garbage collections on Christmas Day. This will now happen the following day, Boxing Day, 26 December 2023. Landfills and Transfer Stations will be CLOSED 25 and 26 December 2023 and then 30 December 2023 through to 1 January 2024.

* Please ensure bins are out the night before collection and accessible to the garbage truck.

Councillors and staff wish everyone a safe and enjoyable festive season.



Phone: 1300 520 520
www.buloke.vic.gov.au

