



Update 13– October 2020

Welcome to our newsletter combining news and information on renewable energy and climate change adaptation in our region and beyond.

The Victorian Government is committed to [being climate ready and resilient by 2050](#) and is helping our regional communities and organisations work together to adapt to the impacts of climate change by investing \$9.3 million in the [Supporting our Regions to Adapt program](#) over the next three years.



DELWP Hume is working with our communities to develop a Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (RAS) identifying our regional priorities, the necessary skills and knowledge required by communities, and to fund local adaptation and mitigation projects.

Climate Ready Hume project update

Our [2040](#) film screenings and online streamings are popular across Hume region with so far over 1000 people viewing this inspiring film. Communities including Benalla, Shepparton, Alexandra, Tallangatta, Wangaratta, Seymour, and youth groups have hosted screenings. We are halfway through this program of events with more to come.

We asked our 2040 community film screening participants to share their feedback on the impacts of climate change. So far, we have heard that bushfire and emergency events; the health of our natural environment; water availability and management; and the urgency in taking personal action were of greatest concern to them.

Many people are inspired by the 2040 message that each individual person and action brings about change.

The majority of our participants said they have instigated a new activity to combat climate change personally, including through solar installations, alternate travel routines, growing food, joining Landcare, planting trees and leading other sustainable community activities.

Thanks, from the Climate Ready Hume team.



Climate Ready Hume community survey NOW OPEN

We are seeking your opinions to help inform the Hume Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategy. The online **survey** is now open and closes **30 October 2020**. [Click here](#) to have your say.

Solar on public buildings program EOIs NOW CLOSED

Expressions of interest (EOI) from DELWP volunteer committees of management closed on 30 September.

There has been a terrific response and the project team is currently assessing the EOI applications to get a shortlist of sites to receive an energy audit before installations start.

We are currently selecting a team of energy auditors who will provide an audit for each approved site to improve their energy efficiency.

The tender for solar installers is now open on www.tenders.vic.gov.au and will close on 29 October. We have conducted a virtual briefing for potential tenderers aiming to get a wide variety of quality tenderers with a wealth of experience to maximise value for money for our many public buildings on DELWP land managed by volunteer committees of management.



New Energy Job fund projects announced

Communities in Hume will be able to implement important local projects after receiving grants from the Victorian government in round five of its \$1 million New Energy Jobs Fund. The grants will support 13 community owned projects right across the state that are aligned with the [Regional Renewable Energy Roadmaps](#) released in May. Visit this [website](#) to find out more about the projects. The successful Hume region projects are:

- **Yackandandah community "supersize" battery**
Read the [One Step Off the Grid article](#) and watch the [Prime News video](#)
- **Walwa bush nursing centre renewable energy system**
Check out the [ABC news item](#).
- **Wangaratta Lawn Tennis Centre solar system**
- **Bonnie Doon Recreation Reserve solar panels and battery to power community sport, emergency relief and refuge place.**



Building a connected food system for our region

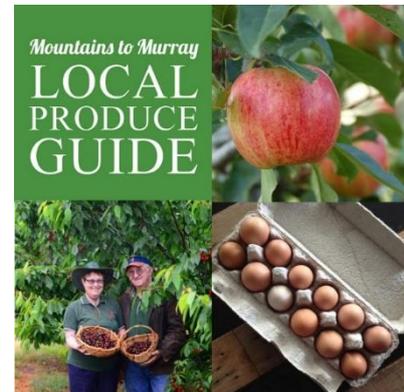
🍏 Are you a local food grower or producer in North East Victoria or the Albury region?

🍎 Food consumption and food access practices are embedded in everyday life and social relationships. Supported by Beechworth Health Service and North East Catchment Management Authority, the **Mountains to Murray Local Produce Guide** aims to support a vibrant regional food system where local people have access to fresh and healthy local food, profits stay in our local communities and community connections are nurtured.

🥕 Over 100 food growers and producers from North East Victoria and the Albury region are already included in the guide.

🍓 Get your FREE business listing on the Mountains to Murray Local Produce Guide website. Register at:

www.localproduceguide.com.au/register



North East Water solar carpark initiative

North East Water's commitment to being carbon neutral by 2050 is a step closer! Construction has started on a mini-solar farm over the top of the North East Water office carpark in Wodonga. The 330 solar panels will act as shade for parked cars and will generate 50% of the electricity needed to power their office. Check out this [video](#) to see how construction is going .

Example of a solar carpark



Take part in the Aussie Backyard Bird count 19-25 October



The [Aussie Backyard Bird Count](#) provides important information for Birdlife Australia on the birds that live where people live.

Anyone with a backyard - large or small, urban or rural - can take part. Your backyard can also be the local park, a patch of forest or the main street of town.

Count as many times as you like over the week of 19-25 October but make sure each count is completed over a 20 minute period.

Unsure about who is visiting your backyard? Refer to this [handy poster](#) or use this [bird finder tool](#) .

New 3-part documentary series on extreme weather



Big Weather (and how to survive it) is a three-part documentary series highlighting the devastating impact of extreme weather screening on ABC TV and iview.

The ABC and Red Cross have partnered to create this [Ready Together Toolkit](#) to help you organise your community getting ready. We know that when big weather strikes, being prepared, knowing your neighbours and being connected with your community, can make a difference.



Catch up on the first episode on [ABC i-view](#) and the following episodes live on the ABC on 20 and 27 October.

Virtual Albury Wodonga Sustainable Living Festival 9-15 Nov

This year's sustainable living festival program is going digital.

An online art competition is now open for children 5-18 years of age with great prizes for original pictures of native animals in a garden setting.

For more details on this art event and program information checkout the [SLF Facebook](#) page.



Webinars

Can we create sustainable, resilient and healthy communities, or do they just happen?

Presented by [Simon Kingham](#), Professor of geography at the University of Canterbury, New Zealand. Simon's research focus is the impact of the urban environment on individual and community health and wellbeing.

11am Thursday 22nd October 2020

[Register here](#)



AUSTRALIAN-GERMAN
CLIMATE & ENERGY COLLEGE

Global Smart Energy Conference recording – access it for FREE

An impressive cast of international and local industry and political leaders presented at the Global Smart Energy conference on 29 -30 September 2020.

Access the recording via this [link](#) to hear ideas that explore ways to tackle the economic and climate crises simultaneously.



SMART ENERGY
COUNCIL
SOLAR, STORAGE, SMART ENERGY

ARENA Rewired



Over six episodes ARENA's [Solving the Energy Puzzle](#) brings together innovators, industry, energy sectors and policy makers to examine the pieces of Australia's energy puzzle and discusses how they might come together in a future powered by renewables.

RenewEconomy

Check out a variety of expert podcasts including Energy Insiders, the EV-focused The Driven and also Solar Insiders. Find the episodes here: <https://reneweconomy.com.au/series/podcasts/>

Wondering how Victoria's regions are transitioning to renewable energy?

[Visit the link](#) to see how Hume and other regions are making the transition to renewable energy and access all the regional renewable energy roadmaps.

For a printed copy of the Hume roadmap email HumeRenewableEnergy.Roadmap@delwp.vic.gov.au

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Climate Ready Hume | Hume Region

Forest, Fire and Regions | Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

