

## Drought Support and Assistance Contacts – Oct 2008

	Phone	Website/Service Area/Contact
<b>Rural Support – Local Government</b>		
<b>Hindmarsh Shire</b> – Drought Response Officer – Joanne Thomas	5391 1811	<a href="http://www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au">www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au</a>
<b>Horsham Rural City Council</b> –Community Development Officer – Jo Gardner	5382 2083	<a href="http://www.hrcc.vic.gov.au">www.hrcc.vic.gov.au</a>
<b>Yarriambiack Shire</b> – Drought Officer – Faye Smith Gavin Blinman, Community Services Manager, emergency relief grants	0427 821 510 5398 0100	<a href="http://www.yarriambiack.vic.gov.au">www.yarriambiack.vic.gov.au</a>
<b>West Wimmera Shire</b> – Community Services Officer – Jenny Ackland	5585 9900 0428 327 771	<a href="http://www.westwimmera.vic.gov.au">www.westwimmera.vic.gov.au</a>
<b>Buloke Shire Council</b> - Community Development Officer Mark Remnant	5478 0175 0439 611 148	<a href="http://www.buloke.vic.gov.au">www.buloke.vic.gov.au</a>
<b>Northern Grampians Shire</b> – Climate Action Officer – Emily Tyson	5358 8700	<a href="http://www.ngshire.vic.gov.au">www.ngshire.vic.gov.au</a>
<b>Rural Financial Counselling Services – Identify and assess financial options for rural people (FREE)</b>		
<b>RFCS Victoria</b> – Murray/Mallee	0428 238 683 5022 0799	John Byrne – Ouyen/Woomelang Graeme Thornton, Don Seward, Stephanie Ferdelja, Kerryne McClelland - Mildura
<b>RFCS Victoria</b> – North Central	5442 2424 5450 3285	Lyn Simons, Jan Wickes, David Pitson, Greg Cahill, Ted Gretgrix – Bendigo Dominic Baxter, Geoff Reseigh -Kerang
<b>RFCS Victoria</b> – Wimmera South West	5381 1646 5573 0970 5592 2096 0428 120 141 5232 2976	Patrick White, Malcolm Wyeth – Horsham Greg Lowe, Debbie Milne – Hamilton Vince Thorne – Terang Brian Gardiner – Ballarat Wayne Stephen - Colac
<b>Victorian Farmers Federation</b> VFF Grains Group	1300 882 833	<a href="http://www.vff.org.au">www.vff.org.au</a>
Wimmera Contacts	5398 9224 5496 6255 5381 0084	Rob McRae Colin Coates Andrew Barber
Northwest Sunraysia Contact	5024 5775	Dennis Gale
<b>Rural Support – Government Organisations</b>		
<b>Australian Competition &amp; Consumer Commission</b>	1300 302 502	<a href="http://www.accc.gov.au">www.accc.gov.au</a>
<b>Australian Tax Office</b> (deferred payments)	131 142	<a href="http://www.ato.gov.au">www.ato.gov.au</a>
<b>Centrelink</b> (Drought relief payment, pension support, farm help, tax relief) Drought Assistance Hotline Farmer Assistance Chris Marshall - Horsham	131 021 132 316 1800 050 585 5362 5149	<a href="http://www.centrelink.gov.au">www.centrelink.gov.au</a>
<b>Consumer Affairs Victoria</b>	1300 558 181	<a href="http://www.consumer.vic.gov.au">www.consumer.vic.gov.au</a>
<b>Department of Innovation, Industry &amp; Regional Development</b> Facilitate economic, infrastructure and community development	5381 2762	<a href="http://www.diird.vic.gov.au">www.diird.vic.gov.au</a>
<b>Department of Primary Industries</b> Victorian State Drought Advice Hotline Technical farming and land management assistance; community drought forums – Chris Sounness (Horsham)	136 186 5362 2111	<a href="http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au">www.dpi.vic.gov.au</a>  <a href="http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/drought">www.dpi.vic.gov.au/drought</a>
<b>Drought Force Hotline</b> (assisting farm properties with workforce needs)	1800 004 226	<a href="http://www.workplace.gov.au/droughtforce">www.workplace.gov.au/droughtforce</a>
<b>Information Victoria</b> – Victorian Government departments & services	1300 366 356	<a href="http://www.information.vic.gov.au">www.information.vic.gov.au</a>
<b>Legal Aid</b> – Horsham based agency providing free legal advice	5381 6000 1800 177 638	<a href="http://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au">www.legalaid.vic.gov.au</a>
<b>Rural Finance Corporation</b> (Interest subsidy support for farmers)	5448 2600	<a href="http://www.ruralfinance.com.au">www.ruralfinance.com.au</a>
<b>Rural Women’s Network</b>	9208 3650	<a href="http://www.ruralwomen.vic.gov.au">www.ruralwomen.vic.gov.au</a>
<b>State Ombudsman</b>	1800 806 314	<a href="http://www.ombudsman.vic.gov.au">www.ombudsman.vic.gov.au</a>
<b>Victoria Business Line</b>	132 215	<a href="http://www.business.vic.gov.au">www.business.vic.gov.au</a>
<b>Wageline</b> – Federal awards and agreements and industry rates	1300 363 264	<a href="http://www.wagenet.gov.au">www.wagenet.gov.au</a>

This list has been developed by the Wimmera Drought Committee and prepared by Wimmera Primary Care Partnership.  
If you have any questions at all regarding this list please call (03) 5362 1222 or email [pccadmin@gchc.org.au](mailto:pccadmin@gchc.org.au) Oct 08

<b>Rural Support – General</b>		
	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Website/Service Area/Contact</b>
<b>Drought Personal Support Line</b>	1300 655 969	
<b>Wimmera Rural Skills Connect</b> -assistance with training costs for farmers, farm family members and agribusiness employees	0429 957 643	Hindmarsh, Yarriambiack and West Wimmera, Horsham Rural City Tim Martin
<b>WDA</b> Drought Business Recovery officer	0437 816 505	Steve Graetz
<b>Salvation Army</b>	5382 1770 5392 2304 5358 4072 5352 2720	Horsham Kaniva Stawell Ararat
<b>Christian Emergency Food Centre</b> – Emergency food supplies	5381 2311	Horsham base, servicing the Wimmera
<b>Citizens Advice Bureau</b> – Free impartial and confidential information	5381 2233	
<b>Wimmera Men’s Shed Network</b>	0428 358 672	Geoff Witmitz
<b>Red Cross</b> Emergency Services Liaison Officer	5387 1377	Bronwyn Brown
<b>GWMWater</b> , Water Carting and General Enquiries	1300 659 961	<a href="http://www.gwmwater.org.au">www.gwmwater.org.au</a>
<b>Counselling and Support Organisations</b> - In addition to this list, there are a number of private psychologists, social workers and counsellors available. Please refer to your local health practitioner, Wimmera Counsellors directory <a href="http://www.wimmerapcp.org.au">www.wimmerapcp.org.au</a> or yellow pages		
<b>Dunmunkle Health Services</b> – Murtoa, Minyip	5363 1200	<a href="http://www.dunmunkle.com.au">www.dunmunkle.com.au</a>
<b>Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Cooperative</b> – Koori Health	5381 6333	<a href="http://www.goolumgoolum.org.au">www.goolumgoolum.org.au</a>
<b>Grampians Community Health Centre</b> (Horsham Office) Alcohol and other drug services, gambling counselling, family violence support, youth. Generalist counsellor – stress, anger – no charge.	5362 1200	<a href="http://www.gchc.org.au">www.gchc.org.au</a>
<b>Ballarat Psychiatric Services</b> Mental Health Drought Recovery Clinician Primary Mental Health Team	5382 6744 1300 661 323 5320 4435 0439 387 181	Horsham Office Denise Taverner
<b>Rural North West Health</b> – Warracknabeal Social worker covering Warracknabeal, Hopetoun and Beulah. Free.	5396 1200	<a href="http://www.rnh.net.au">www.rnh.net.au</a>
<b>West Wimmera Health Service</b> – Nhill, Rainbow, Jeparit, Kaniva General counselling, domestic violence. Free.	5391 4263	<a href="http://www.wwhs.net.au">www.wwhs.net.au</a>
<b>Wimmera Health Care Group</b> – Horsham Counselling, emergency relief. Free.	5381 9242	<a href="http://www.wimmerahealth.com">www.wimmerahealth.com</a>
<b>Yarriambiack Shire Youth Services</b> General youth services 10-25 years. Will travel, no charge.	5398 0114	<a href="http://www.yarriambiack.vic.gov.au">www.yarriambiack.vic.gov.au</a>
<b>Wimmera Uniting Care – Family &amp; Generalist Counsellors – (FREE)</b>		
Wimmera Uniting Care Rural Community Counsellors – West Wimmera, Hindmarsh, Yarriambiack, Donald/St Arnaud	1800 112 177	<a href="http://www.wimmera.unitingcare.org.au">www.wimmera.unitingcare.org.au</a> .
<b>Other Assistance Services</b>		
<b>Beyond Blue</b> – depression initiative – information only	1300 224 636	<a href="http://www.beyondblue.org.au">www.beyondblue.org.au</a>
<b>Family Drug Support</b>	1300 368 186	<a href="http://www.fds.org.au">www.fds.org.au</a>
<b>Gambler’s Help</b>	1800 622 122	<a href="http://www.problemgambling.vic.gov.au">www.problemgambling.vic.gov.au</a>
<b>Kids Help Line</b>	1800 551 800	<a href="http://www.kidshelp.com.au">www.kidshelp.com.au</a>
<b>Life Line</b>	131 114	<a href="http://www.lifeline.org.au">www.lifeline.org.au</a>
<b>Mensline Australia</b>	1300 789 978	<a href="http://www.menslineaus.org.au">www.menslineaus.org.au</a>
<b>Men’s Referral Service</b> (family violence)	1800 065 973	<a href="http://www.ntv.net.au">www.ntv.net.au</a>
<b>Parentline</b>	132 289	<a href="http://www.parentline.vic.gov.au">www.parentline.vic.gov.au</a>
<b>Rural Law OnLine</b>		<a href="http://www.rurallaw.gov.au">www.rurallaw.gov.au</a>
<b>SANE</b> – Mental Health Information Line	1800 187 263	<a href="http://www.sane.org.au">www.sane.org.au</a>
<b>Suicide Helpline</b>	1300 651 251	<a href="http://www.suicidehelpline.org.au">www.suicidehelpline.org.au</a>
<b>Women’s Information Referral Exchange</b> (WIRE)	1300 134 130	<a href="http://www.wire.org.au">www.wire.org.au</a>
<b>Connectingcare</b> – Health and Community services Directory Provides links and a referral mechanism to health and community services		<a href="http://www.connectingcare.com.au">www.connectingcare.com.au</a>
<b>Wimmera Counsellors Directory</b> via the Wimmera Primary Care Partnership Website– <a href="http://www.wimmerapcp.org.au">www.wimmerapcp.org.au</a>		