

[REDACTED]
Mornington
VIC 3931

Ph; [REDACTED]

Email; [REDACTED]

28 October 2015

For the attention of Ms P Armytage

Ministerial Advisory Committee

SUBMISSION;

- 1; More communication between Councils;
- 2; Tell the Mounre Shire Council to find 30 Million Dollars to secure old tip at Port Fairy
- 3; The EPA should have more powers, the EPA are weak and don't act on serious offenses like the Multinational SITA Waste Company which allowed toxic waste to enter the Eummemering Creek including a chemical company who left toxic chemicals in a storehouse and killed native fish and animals;
- 4; More Solar Power for Public Housing including Solar Hot Water just like the flats in Gawala St, Taralgon for struggling Australians.
- 5; More litter traps in other creeks IE: Rubbish coming down the Mordialloc Creeek into Port Philip Bay and other creeks in Victoria.
- 6; Ban burning off on private properties in Victoria altogether;
- 7; Target the Worlds Leaders about Climate Change, and get them to do something about the kids scavenging on uncontrolled rubbish dumps in Bangladesh;
- 8; Close down Hazlewood, and stop selling coal to China;
- 9; Tell The Mayor of the Yarra Council (Jackie Friskawy and Cnr Jolly to find homes for the women and kids who sleep in a sleeping bag on the steps of The Richmond Town Hall and have more control of the rubbish down the Yarra River;
- 10; Look at underground incineration methods for old carpets, syringes and get rid of plastic in all shops; Just sell more environment bags

I look forward to your reply,

Frederick Crump
Australian Conservation Foundation
Te Ipukarea Society
Ratwise

[REDACTED]



Keep it cut: Fred Crump pushes for fire readiness. Picture: Gary Sissons

Long grass adds to fire risk

"DO we wait for a fire or cut the grass?" That's the pointed question from Mornington man Fred Crump, a former Cranbourne Council parks and gardens worker.

Mr Crump worries that neither Mornington Peninsula Shire or VICRoads are keeping checks on overgrown vegetation.

He says long grass along the peninsula's old railway lines and roadsides could catch fire and lead to a disaster.

"It's the height of the fire season and yet no one wants to take responsibility for long grass: they all say: 'It's nothing to do with us,'" he said.

"No one seems to care."

Mr Crump said long-grass in area surrounding Narambi Reserve, Robertsons Rd, Hardy St, Mornington-Tyabb Rd, Bungower Rd and the old railway line should be attended to quickly.

"The contractors don't use grass cutters and the grass is a metre high all along the railway line; it's a disaster waiting to happen," he said.

Mr Crump said he worried about losing properties and animals to fire. "Why allow the grass to get so high before something happens?" he asked.

Mornington Peninsula shire's municipal fire prevention officer Damien Taylor said land forming part of the tourist railway in Mornington was slashed recently by the land manager's contractor. Bungower Rd, between the school and Moorooduc Highway, will be

mown in the next two weeks, he said. It is mown four-times a year as part of the shire's maintenance program.

The mayor Cr Bev Colomb said the shire worked closely with all agencies involved in fire prevention on the peninsula and appreciated their collaboration, support and work within the community. She reminded all residents to be prepared this fire season.

Shire fire prevention officers inspected properties in the lead-up to summer and during the CFA's declared fire danger period to assess fire hazards on private land. Owners were notified.

Shire officers have inspected 5471 properties and issued 1801 fire prevention notices. Seventy-two infringements were issued for not complying with a fire prevention notice. The penalty is \$1476.

Landowners must ensure they maintain their property during the fire danger period to ensure it does not pose a risk. They should slash grass so it is no higher than 100mm and remove fallen and dead vegetation.

Fire prevention officers have continued to monitor areas at Hastings, Crib Point and Birren following the recent fires to ensure properties are 'fire ready'.

Shire staff have also inspected 300 bushland reserves and Cr Colomb said friends groups who worked with the shire and had undergone bushfire training.

Stephen Taylor