

The Drought Relief for Community Sport and Recreation Program 2009

Our local sports grounds and other sport and recreation facilities are a vital part of the social fabric, strength and wellbeing of Victorian communities. Managing the impact of the current drought on local community sport and recreation is a high priority for the Victorian Government.

The 2009 *Drought Relief for Community Sport and Recreation Program* will provide practical help, and long term sustainable solutions for community sporting facilities struggling to cope with the continuing dry conditions. The program builds on the success of the 2007 and 2008 *Drought Relief for Community Sport and Recreation Programs* and is part of the Victorian Government's work to strengthen communities throughout Victoria.

Managing the effects of the ongoing drought is a challenge for all Victorians. Local communities, sporting clubs and councils, as well as the Victorian Government, have all been working hard to keep local sport strong and healthy.

Since October 2006, the Victorian Government has provided \$19.5 million to help protect community sporting facilities from the effects of drought, but there is still a lot more to be done.

This year the Victorian Government will provide a further \$2.2 million through the *Drought Relief for Community Sport and Recreation Program 2009* and \$1.9 million through the *Synthetic Surfaces Program* to assist communities maintain local community sport, reduce the impact of drought, minimise water use and improve the condition of local sport and recreation facilities.

By helping communities invest in water-efficient assets for local sport facilities, we are making a difference now and in the future as we face together the challenge of climate change and keeping local community sport strong and healthy.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Merlino". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a period at the end.

James Merlino MP
Minister for Sport, Recreation
and Youth Affairs

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What is the Drought Relief for Community Sport and Recreation Program?

The *Drought Relief for Community Sport and Recreation Program* provides grants to help local communities maintain local community sport and develop sustainable approaches to water management of sports grounds and other sport and recreation facilities.

Councils on Stage 3 or higher restrictions will be eligible to apply for a grant of up to \$100,000 for a project to keep sport and recreation facilities open or provide long term, sustainable reductions in potable water use by community sporting facilities.

Additional priority projects, in any council area, will be considered where continued use of a facility is at risk because of lack of water or where the facility is important to the maintenance of local competition.

Victorian Government funding towards total project costs (excluding GST) will be based on the following ratios:

- SRV \$1: \$1 local for metropolitan councils
- SRV \$1.5: \$1 local for outer metropolitan councils and regional cities; and
- SRV \$2: \$1 local for rural councils.

The application must be submitted using the attached application form. Applicants must also include quotes detailing the cost of their proposed project as part of their application.

Applications must be submitted by Friday 27 February 2009. Applications for projects identified by councils as addressing an immediate need and received by Friday 5 December 2008 will receive immediate assessment.

Anticipated Timeline

Applications Open:
October 2008

Closing date for applications addressing an immediate need:
5 December 2008

Announce successful projects addressing an immediate need:
December 2008

Closing date for applications:
27 February 2009

Announce successful projects:
April 2009

Why is the Victorian Government funding these grants?

The Department of Planning and Community Development provides a focus for the Government's activities to strengthen communities and offer more ways for people to get involved in their local communities. Sport and recreation plays an important role in actively involving people in community life and building strong and healthy communities.

By helping to maintain local sporting facilities and reduce their water use, the Victorian Government is providing important recreation opportunities, improving sustainability, and supporting Victorian communities.

Who can apply?

Councils with areas on Stage 3 or higher water restrictions can apply. Applications for additional priority projects, in any council area, will also be considered where continued use of a facility is at risk because of lack of water or where the facility is important to the maintenance of local competition.

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What type of projects might be funded?

Preference will be given to projects which:

- are supported by a municipal Sustainable Water Use Plan;
- demonstrate benefits to the facility, its users and the broader community; or
- demonstrate benefits to a number of venues or sports.

Examples of sustainable reductions in the use of potable water may include:

- providing recycled water to sports fields;
- replacing turf or red porous surfaces with hard or synthetic surfaces;
- water run-off harvesting and storage initiatives;
- developing fields with drought resistant turf species;
- water efficient irrigation systems for sport facilities;
- upgrades to swimming pools which reduce water needed;
- purchasing pool blankets to reduce evaporation;
- recycling of water used at the sporting facility; and
- the development and exploitation of alternative water sources.

What will not be funded?

The Drought Relief for Community Sport and Recreation Program will not fund:

- projects that request funding to replace existing council expenditure;
- requests for retrospective funding, where projects have started or are completed prior to receiving funding approval;
- the purchase of land;
- requests for ongoing operational costs such as electricity, utilities, salary subsidies, or the purchase of vehicles;

- projects needing ongoing funding or support other than the initial grant;
- facilities where little or no public access is available; or
- repair of facilities damaged by vandalism, fire or other natural disasters where the damage should be covered by insurance.

How will applications be assessed?

Applications will be assessed using the questions Why? (10%), How? (20%), Who? (20%), and What will it achieve? (50%) from the attached form.

Why?

What is the demonstrated need for this project? What is the severity and duration of dry conditions and water availability in this area? Why do you want to do this project?

How?

What is your project plan and the methods you will use to complete your project? Why is this plan the best way to do the project? Why do you think it will work? To what extent is this project related to your council's Sustainable Water Use Plan? Has a project plan been agreed? What are the project stages and key dates?

Who?

Who will manage the project? Who else is involved in and who else has endorsed the project (ie. peak sporting body, clubs or local water authority)? Has the application included consultation with other facility users?

What will it achieve?

What specific outcomes will be achieved? What impact will the project have on the use of the facility? How will participation be affected? What are the expected water savings both in the short and long term? What degree of commitment does the project show towards long term water management measures?

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What are the funding conditions?

The following conditions will apply to projects receiving a grant:

- The grant recipient must enter into a funding agreement with the Department of Planning and Community Development which sets out the conditions and reporting requirements.
- The project must be completed by 31 March 2010.
- Any unspent funds must be returned to the Department of Planning and Community Development.
- Funds must be spent on the project as described in the application. Any changes must be submitted to the Department of Planning and Community Development for approval before implementation.
- The completed work must be available for inspection by Victorian Government officers as requested.
- Funding may be provided towards in-kind costs such as labour and materials, provided such costs are not more than 25 per cent of the total project costs. A voluntary labour and in-kind support information sheet must be completed and returned with the application form. This sheet is available from www.grants.dpcd.vic.gov.au

What is the application process?

Applications must be submitted by **Friday 27 February 2009**. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. Applications for projects identified by councils as addressing an immediate need and received by Friday 5 December 2008 will receive immediate assessment. Receipt of applications will be acknowledged in writing.

Applications may be submitted in a number of ways:

- **Preferred method:** Online at www.grants.dpcd.vic.gov.au (including any attachments)
- by email to grantapplications@dpcd.vic.gov.au
- by fax to 03 9208 3680
- by mail to:
Grants Unit
Department of Planning and Community Development
GPO Box 2392
Melbourne VIC 3001

More information

If you wish to discuss your application with a Department of Planning and Community Development Officer, please call our Grants Information Line on 1300 366 356 (cost of a local call) on any weekday between 8.30am and 10.00pm (except public holidays).

Application form: Drought Relief for Community Sport and Recreation Program 2009

Section 1 – Contact Information

Fields marked (*) are mandatory

Part A: Council Details

*Name of Council: _____

*Main Street Address: _____

*Town/Suburb: _____ *Postcode: _____ *State: _____

Postal Address (if different from above): _____

Town/Suburb: _____ Postcode: _____ State: _____

Authorised person (This is the person who is authorised by the Council to make the application on their behalf.)

*Title: _____ *First name: _____ *Last name: _____

Position: _____

Telephone: _____ Mobile: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Australian Business Number (ABN):

Part B: Contact Details for Project Manager

Title: _____ First name: _____ Last name: _____

Postal Address: _____

Town/Suburb: _____ Postcode: _____ State: _____

Position: _____

Telephone: _____ Mobile: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Section 2 – Project Overview

*Project Name We will use this name on all correspondence. Please use 10 words or less. .

*What are you going to do? Describe the project in 50 words or less. We will use this in reports and other publications.

*Which communities will benefit from your project? Describe the place or places that will benefit. Please provide local government area(s) if you know them. If not, provide the suburb or postcode for each place that will benefit. If your project has a wider benefit (eg. Statewide) please provide detail here. Your response is limited to 1000 characters.

Describe any groups or communities your project is directed at or relevant to. For example, people with disabilities, women, Indigenous people, youth, culturally and linguistically diverse communities, older adults. If this is not relevant for your project you can leave this question blank. Your response is limited to 1000 characters.

Where will your project happen? Please provide the address of where most of your planned activity will take place including town/suburb and postcode. Your response is limited to 1000 characters.

Address: _____

Local Government Area: _____

***When will your project take place?** (Projects must be completed by 31 March 2010.)

*Anticipated project start date _____ / _____ / _____ *Anticipated project completion date _____ / _____ / _____

Section 3 – Project Details that address the Assessment Criteria

Please indicate how your project addresses the following assessment criteria: **Why?** (10%), **How?** (20%), **Who?** (20%) and **What will the project achieve?** (50%). Refer to the program guidelines to help you answer the questions. Responses to each question should be no more than 500 words. **Attach additional pages if required.**

***Why?**

What is the demonstrated need for this project? What is the severity and duration of dry conditions and water availability in this area? Why do you want to do this project?

***How?**

What is your project plan and the methods you will use to complete your project? Why is this plan the best way to do the project? Why do you think it will work? To what extent is this project related to your council's Sustainable Water Use Plan? Has a project plan been agreed? What are the project stages and key dates?

***Who?**

Who will manage the project? Who else is involved in and who else has endorsed the project (ie. peak sporting body, clubs or local water authority)? Has the application included consultation with other facility users?

***What will the project achieve?**

What specific outcomes will be achieved? What impact will the project have on the use of the facility? How will participation be affected? What are the expected water savings both in the short and long term? What degree of commitment does the project show towards long term water management measures?

Section 4 – Project Budget

Please provide details of the income and expenditure budget for your project, excluding GST. Note that the total income must equal total expenditure.

You are required to submit your budget using the categories provided. If you cannot provide enough details in this section please provide a summary here and the details on a separate sheet(s) using the same categories.

Income		Expenditure	
*Amount requested from this program	\$	Architect Design Fees	\$
Other State Government funding	\$	Contingencies Escalations and Allowances	\$
Local Government funding	\$	Professional Planning/Advice	\$
Federal Government funding	\$	Project Construction	\$
Funds from other Community organisations	\$	Project Coordination	\$
Funds from Business contributions	\$	Site Preparation	\$
Funds from Philanthropic contributions	\$	Construction materials	\$
In-kind support from your organisation	\$	In-kind labour	\$
In-kind from other sources	\$	In-kind – other support	\$
		Equipment and materials infrastructure	\$
Other (please specify)	\$	Other (please specify)	\$
*Total Income	\$	*Total Expenditure	\$

Declaration

I state that the information in this application and attachments is to the best of my knowledge true and correct. I will notify DPCD of any changes to this information and any circumstances that may affect this application. I acknowledge that DPCD may refer this application to external experts or other Government Departments for assessment, reporting, advice, comment or for discussions regarding alternative or collaborative grant funding opportunities. I understand that DPCD is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 1982 and that if a Freedom of Information request is made, DPCD will consult with the applicant before any decision is made to release the application or supporting documentation. I understand that this is an application only and may not necessarily result in funding approval.

*Signature: _____ *Date: _____

*Print name: _____ *Position: _____

(To be signed by a person with delegated authority to apply, ie. Chief Executive Officer, Director.)

Supporting documents

Please submit the following documents with your application:

- Quotes for costs associated with the project
- A Project Management Framework
- A completed voluntary labour and in-kind support information sheet (if applicable)
- Any letters of support