

7 September 2011

Collecting firewood on public land

Indigo Shire Council has received a number of calls about State Government changes to permits for firewood collection.

Last week the Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Mr Ryan Smith, announced that permits for collecting firewood on public land would be abolished immediately.

Cr Pockley said the changes did not affect collecting firewood on public roads.

Indigo Mayor Cr Ali Pockley said it was important that people understood what the changes meant as there had been some confusion in the Indigo community.

“The changes mean that you no longer have to get a permit from the Department of Sustainability and Environment to collect firewood for personal use in State forests within the designated fire collection areas,” Cr Pockley said. “This also applies to state parks but only where firewood collection is already allowed.”

“You still need permission to collect firewood from Indigo Council roadsides so please call Council if you want to gather firewood,” she said. “Roadsides are still the responsibility of Council and VicRoads and are not covered by last week’s State Government changes.”

Cr Pockley advised people to check with VicRoads about whether they can collect firewood on their roads.

Cr Pockley said there were full details of the permit changes on the DSE website and urged people to visit the site at www.dse.vic.gov.au/forests/firewood

For more:

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1300 365 003 or 02 6028 1100.