

Wednesday 14 December 2011

Work begins on trimming overhanging trees in fire-prone areas

Council contractor Smith's Tree Services has begun trimming potentially dangerous trees on roads in fire-prone areas as part of Indigo's \$100,000 fire protection clean up. Council received a grant of \$65,000 from the Office of Emergency Services Commissioner and added \$35,000 from this year's budget to pay for the work.

Indigo Mayor Cr Larry Goldsworthy said roads in Stanley, Allans Flat, Beechworth and Yackandandah are being targeted. "As part of the overall strategy Council is putting in place to prepare for the coming fire season, leaning and overhanging trees on some of our roads are being trimmed."

The roads where the tree pruning is happening are:

- Stanley - Pioneer Road, section of Stanley Road in the centre of Stanley starting at Mt Stanley Road, Myrtleford-Stanley Road.
- Allans Flat – Hodgson Lane, Lindsay Road, Allans Flat Road, Sanatorium Road, Osbornes Flat Road, Tomkins Lane, Meehan Lane.
- Beechworth – Malakoff Road, Woolshed Road, McFeeters Road, Old Chiltern Road.
- Yackandandah – Twist Creek Road, Bells Flat Road, Kirby Flat Road, Back Creek Road, Racecourse Road, Ben Valley Lane, Mongan Lane.

Indigo Shire Council worked closely with the CFA, the community and Department of Sustainability and Environment to determine what roads to target. The work will take up to six weeks and should be completed by the end of January 2012.

"I urge residents to take all precautions this summer by preparing your bushfire survival plan, listening to ABC Goulburn Murray and checking the CFA website for important information and times for FireReady meetings." Said Cr Goldsworthy. "Especially on high fire danger days."

Caption: Bryan Rheece from Indigo's contractor Smith's Tree Services, mulches an overhanging limb on Woolshed Road, Beechworth.

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