

Thursday May 21, 2015

## VicForests' 2015 Community Support Program open for applications

VicForests encourages all eligible community groups and services to make an application to this year's Community Support Program, before its deadline at close of business Friday June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

The Community Support Program has been designed by VicForests to assist regional community groups and services who are working to positively contribute to their local area.

Liz Langford, Regional Engagement Manager with VicForests is encouraged by the success the program has experienced since its inception.

"Since we started the program in 2010, we've helped more than 150 community groups and services and have provided more than \$260,000 in grants and funding across the Central Highlands, Gippsland and East Gippsland regions," said Ms Langford.

One of the 2014 grants has assisted Healesville gymnastics team, Splits and Flips, to buy much needed training equipment for their competition preparation.

Another recipient of last year's Community Support Program was an indigenous group who used their grant to provide conservation and natural resource management training for its members.

"Our support program is very important to regional communities and to us. Our staff live and work in regional Victoria and contributing to local community groups and services is just part of what we do," said Ms Langford.

The Community Support Program assists organisations that contribute to the wellbeing of local communities by providing grants of up to \$2000 to organisations such as charity groups, sporting groups, educational and community groups located across the Central Highlands, Gippsland and East Gippsland regions.

The Victorian forestry industry plays a key role in building and supporting rural and regional communities through its business activities and by sponsoring local community events and activities.

VicForests Community Support Program applications can be submitted online at [www.vicforests.com.au/csp](http://www.vicforests.com.au/csp).

Alternatively you can download an application form and send to the email provided on form. The last date for applications is Friday June 12<sup>th</sup> at 5pm.

For more information please contact Liz Langford on 03 5969 9000 or [liz.langford@vicforests.com.au](mailto:liz.langford@vicforests.com.au).