



Media Release

Victoria State Emergency Service

31,710 reasons to say thank you this WOW Day

23 May 2018

This 23 May is Wear Orange Wednesday (WOW) Day, a national day of thanks for the many Victoria State Emergency Services (VICSES) volunteers who support their local communities during flood, storm, landslide, road rescue, search and rescue, and more.

VICSES volunteers responded to more than 31,000 requests for assistance last year, equalling a total of 302,623 operational hours.

Held during National Volunteer Week, WOW Day encourages Australians to dress in orange as a show of thanks for this invaluable contribution.

VICSES CEO, Stephen Griffin, said the national campaign is an important day of appreciation for our volunteers who selflessly dedicate their time and skills to helping their communities during their times of greatest need.

“Every day our volunteers are prepared to drop everything and put on their orange overalls to respond to requests for assistance from their local communities,” Mr Griffin said.

“Wearing orange on 23 May at your workplace, school or wherever you may be, will show appreciation for our volunteers, along with the families and employers that make this support possible.”

Landmarks in Melbourne will be ‘flooded’ in orange in celebration of WOW Day, including AAMI Park, the MCG, Bolte Bridge and the Melbourne Star. Events and morning teas will also be held throughout the state.

To share a message of thanks to VICSES volunteers this WOW Day on facebook or twitter use the hashtag #thankyouSES and #WOWday.

For more information, contact:

State Media Duty Officer

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About Victoria State Emergency Service

Victoria State Emergency Service (VICSES) is a volunteer-based organisation, providing emergency assistance to minimise the impact of emergencies and strengthen the community’s capacity to plan, respond and recover, when emergencies occur. Operating since 1950, VICSES covers all of Victoria, via 149 Units across six Regions, in addition to a Head Office located at Southbank, Melbourne.

We are the control agency for flood, storm, tsunامي, earthquake and landslide throughout Victoria, and provide the largest road rescue network in Australia, with specialist teams in 102 of our 149 units across the state.

For VICSES assistance call 132 500. For life threatening emergencies call 000. To learn more about VICSES, go to: ses.vic.gov.au