

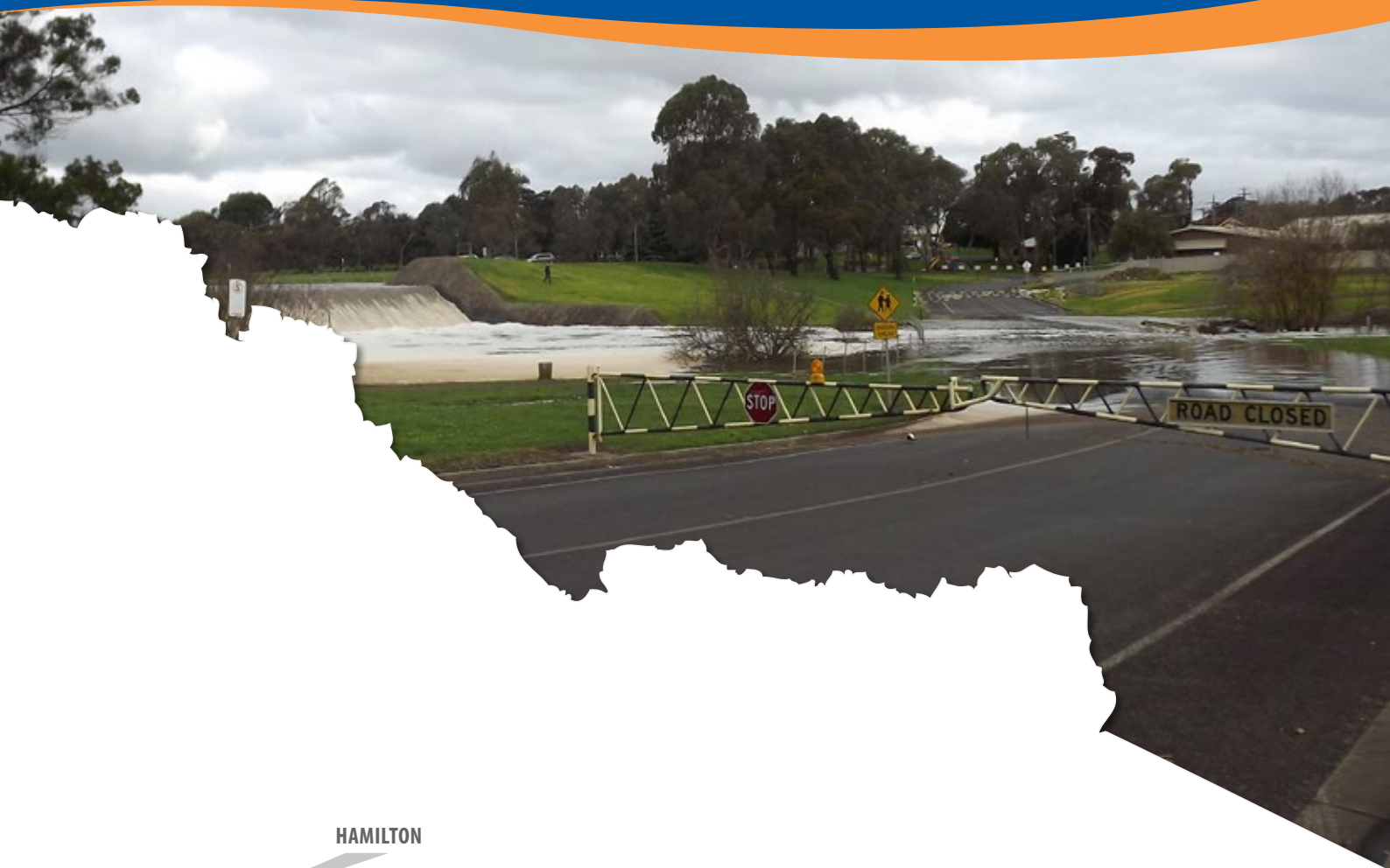


Local Flood Guide Hamilton



FloodSafe

Flood information for Hamilton



HAMILTON



Supported by:



FLOOD STORM
EMERGENCY **132 500**

For more information visit
www.ses.vic.gov.au

The Hamilton local area

Hamilton has four main waterways that can flood: one river, the Grange Burn, and three smaller tributaries: Kennys Road Tributary, Marshalls Road Tributary, and Petschels Lane Tributary. There are a number of low-lying areas in and around the Hamilton township, making Hamilton prone to both riverine flooding from the Grange Burn and flash flooding from heavy rainfall.

The map below shows the extent of flooding in a 1% and a 20% flood. A 1% flood means that there is a 1% chance of a flood this size or larger happening in any given year. A 20% flood means there is a 20% chance of a flood this size or larger happening in any year. The map below shows what areas of Hamilton are likely to be impacted in a flood this size:

Your local emergency broadcasters are:

- ABC Radio 94.1 AM
- 3HA 981 AM
- Mixx 88.9 FM
- SKY NEWS Television

Southern Grampians Shire Council:

Phone: (03) 5573 0444 Business Hours
 Email: council@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au
 Web: www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au



Disclaimer

This map publication is presented by the Victoria State Emergency Service for the purpose of disseminating emergency management information. The contents of the information have not been independently verified by the Victoria State Emergency Service. No liability is accepted for any damage, loss or injury caused by errors or omissions in this information or for any action taken by any person in reliance upon it. Flood information is provided by Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority.

Are you at risk of flood?

Hamilton is a flood prone area at risk of both riverine (from the river) and flash flooding (from heavy rainfall). Riverine flooding can particularly affect areas around Apex Drive on the Grange Burn waterway and upstream of Coleraine Road-Henty Highway adjacent to King Street on the Marshalls Road Tributary. In March 1946, flooding severely affected Holden Street and Abbott Street in Hamilton.

Flash flooding also poses risks in many low-lying areas of Hamilton, especially properties close to the Marshalls Road Tributary. This area can flood quickly and has flooded in the past including in 2004 and again in 2012. Flash flooding is more likely with the three smaller tributaries:

- **Petschels Lane Tributary** - runs from near Kurtzes Road, crossing the Hamilton Highway near W Schultz Road and Fyfe Street. After the Hamilton Highway, Petschels Lane Tributary joins Muddy Creek south of Mount Napier Road (*see map page 2*).
- **Marshalls Road Tributary** - starts near the Bandicoot enclosure and runs over open paddocks to the east. The tributary then crosses Mount Baimbridge Road before crossing North Boundary Road, Kent Road and King Street then Coleraine Road before travelling over Lewis and Young Streets and joining the Grange Burn (*see map page 2*).
- **Kennys Road Tributary** - starts near the intersection of Beveridges Road and Mount Baimbridge Road then crosses Kennys Road, Sobey's Road and North Boundary Road east of the speedway before crossing Coleraine and West Boundary Roads (*see map page 2*).

Flash flooding can occur with little to no warning in many parts of Hamilton when heavy rainfall occurs in a short amount of time.

Average Exceedence Probability

Flood risk is often described as a percentage based on the Average Exceedence Probability (AEP). The AEP is a percentage chance of a flood occurring in any given year, for example, a 1% flood has a 1% chance of occurring in any given year.

This means that the higher the percentage, the more likely a flood of that size will occur in any given year. It also means that it has less impact than a lower percentage flood.

Smaller percentages mean bigger floods and greater potential for impacts on the community. For example, a 1% flood is less likely to occur but will be more damaging than a 10% flood which is more likely to occur but will be less damaging.

Did you know?

The March 1946 flood is the largest recorded in Hamilton. This flood was in the order of a 0.2% AEP flood. This means that there is a 0.2% of a chance that flood this size could occur per year. The March 1946 flood caused significant impacts in the area including:

- Stock losses.
- Multiple evacuations and rescues in Hamilton and across the south west of the State.
- Flooding of houses and properties around Holden Street and Abbott Street.

It is important to remember that no two floods are the same and floods like this will occur again in the future.

Hamilton flood levels

Currently flood levels are not recorded as no river gauges are located on the waterways. The following table indicates the likely impact of flooding in Hamilton according to flood size. Remember that small percentages mean the flood is larger in size and impact:

Most Common

20% AEP	Map page 2
10% AEP	<p>Grange Burn: Water starts to cover Holden Street.</p> <p>Petschels Road: Water over Hamilton Highway, W Schultz Road and Fyfe Street.</p> <p>Marshalls Road: Water over King Street and Young Street. Some properties experience over floor flooding near King Street and Coleraine Road intersection.</p> <p>Kennys Road: Water over North Boundary Road adjacent to Coleraine Road and Kennys Road.</p>
5% AEP	<p>Grange Burn: Floodwater breaks the banks of the Grange Burn significantly adjacent to Apex Park. Properties along Holden Street and Abbott Street are impacted. Water over Mt Napier Road in the area near Holden and Abbott Streets.</p> <p>Petschels Road: Water depth over roads increased.</p> <p>Marshalls Road: Water depth over roads increased. More properties in the area affected.</p> <p>Kennys Road: Water depth over roads increased. Water over Sobey's Road.</p>
2% AEP	<p>Grange Burn: Commercial sites north of Eddy Street are inundated. Mount Napier Road is now between 30-50 cm under water.</p> <p>Petschels Road: Depth of water over roads increased. Hamilton Highway increased to 10-30 cm under water.</p> <p>Marshalls Road: Water over Kent Road and Coleraine Road at King Street.</p> <p>Kennys Road: Water depth over roads increased.</p>
1% AEP	<p>Map page 2</p> <p>Grange Burn: Water over Portland Road. Commercial sites north of Ballarat Road flooded. Levee at Holden and Abbott Streets overtopped.</p> <p>Petschels Road: Water depth over roads increased.</p> <p>Marshalls Road: Water depth over roads increased. More properties affected.</p> <p>Kennys Road: Water depth over roads increased.</p>
0.5% AEP	<p>Grange Burn: Water over railway embankment to Flinders Street.</p> <p>Petschels Road: Water depth over roads increased.</p> <p>Marshalls Road: More properties affected. Water over Mount Baimbridge Road and North Boundary Road.</p> <p>Kennys Road: Water over Coleraine Road.</p>
0.2% AEP	March 1946 flood level

Least Common

About Flood Warnings

What warnings mean

Flood Watches and **Flood Warnings** are issued by the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) to tell people about possible flooding.

A **Flood Watch** means there is a developing weather pattern that might cause floods in one or two days. A Flood Watch will be cancelled if there is no longer a threat.

The Victoria State Emergency Service (SES) will give information about how the floodwater might affect people and properties. This includes safety messages to remind you what to do.

Severe Thunderstorm Warnings

Thunderstorms may be classified as severe due to their potential to cause significant localised damage through damaging wind gusts, large hail, tornadoes or flash flooding. Severe thunderstorm warnings are issued to the community by the Bureau of Meteorology.

Severe Weather Warnings

These warnings are issued to the community by the Bureau of Meteorology when severe weather is expected that is not directly related to severe thunderstorms or bushfires. Examples of severe weather include damaging winds and flash flooding.

Flash flooding happens quickly. There may be little or no warning. The arrival time or depth of a flash flood can usually not be predicted.

Listen to Severe Thunderstorm and Severe Weather warnings for your area, especially if they include flash flooding. If you hear a warning, check the Bureau of Meteorology and Victoria State Emergency Service for advice.

Flash flooding occurs because rain falls faster than the ground can absorb it, causing water run-off into low-lying areas and into local drainage systems unable to cope with the volume of water. This results in water rising rapidly and often flowing powerfully and quickly.

Remember that flash flooding:

- Occurs so fast that it is often difficult to provide a detailed warning. Often it arrives without warning.
- Usually results from heavy rainfall falling during severe thunderstorms over a short time.

Know your local environment

If you live in or visit Hamilton, keep an eye on the weather, especially heavy rainfall or sustained rainfall over a number of days. Knowing the local area and making your own observations are a great tool to help you prepare for a potential flood. Keep an eye on local river and creek heights.

Remember, you may not receive any official warning.

Emergency assistance may not be immediately available. Be aware of what is happening around you to stay safe.

Never wait for a warning to act.

Emergency Alert

The SES may provide alerts to the Hamilton community through the Emergency Alert telephone warning system. All Emergency Services can use Emergency Alert to warn communities about dangerous situations by voice message to landline telephones or text message to mobile phones.

If you receive a warning, make sure that all family members, people at work and your neighbours are aware of the situation.

If you receive an Emergency Alert you should pay attention and act. It could mean life or death.

If you need help to understand a warning, ask a friend, neighbour or family member.

Warnings for Hamilton

Severe storm warnings and flood watches are issued by the Bureau of Meteorology. Hamilton does not have an official flood warning system so you may receive a Generalised Flood Warning or advice from the SES. It is important to remember that you may not receive any warning.

Tune into Emergency Broadcasters and watch and listen for warnings relating to the:

- Grange Burn
- Glenelg Hopkins Catchment
- South West weather district.

Flash flooding often arrives without warning. It's vital that you know how to act if it occurs (*see page 7: During a flood*).

When flash flooding is likely, if you decide to leave, do so **well before** flooding occurs. Leaving early before flooding occurs is always the safest option.

Do not evacuate through floodwater. Seek the highest point of your house e.g. a second storey or roof cavity and stay there. If your situation is life-threatening call **000 (Triple Zero)**.

Safety during floods

Driving through floodwater is the number one cause of adult deaths during floods. Never walk, ride, swim or drive through floodwater.

Playing in floodwater is the number one cause of death during floods for children and teenagers. Floodwater is filled with unseen dangers, harbouring hidden debris such as broken glass, shattered timbers and twisted metals as well as sewage, putrid food waste and toxic chemicals.

Floodwater is toxic never allow your children to play or swim in floodwater.

NOW - before a flood

- Check if your home or business is subject to flooding. For more information, contact Southern Grampians Shire Council.
- Develop an Emergency Plan.
- Check if you could be cut off by floodwater.
- Know the safest way to go if you decide to leave your property and plan an alternative route.
- Check your insurance policies to ensure your equipment, property and business are covered for flood damage.
- Keep a list of emergency numbers near the telephone.
- Put together an Emergency Kit.

When a flood is likely

- Take action. Follow your Emergency Plan.
- Listen to your radio for information and advice.
- Check your neighbours are safe and know about the flood.
- Stack possessions on benches and tables with electrical goods in the highest places.
- Anchor objects that are likely to float and cause damage.
- Move rubbish bins, chemicals and poisons to the highest place.
- Put important papers, valuables, photos and other special personal items into your Emergency Kit.
- Business owners should raise stock, business records and equipment onto benches and tables.
- Rural property owners should move livestock, pumps and machinery to higher ground.
- If you are likely to be isolated, have enough food, drinking water, medicine, fuel and other needs to last at least three days.
- Do not forget pet food and stock feed.
- If you think you might be at risk of flooding, leaving early is always the safest option.

Your Emergency Plan

Emergencies can happen at any time, with little warning. People who have planned and prepared for emergencies have reduced the impact and recovered faster.

Taking the time to think about emergencies and make your own plan helps you think clearly and have more control to make better decisions when an emergency occurs.

Your Emergency Plan should identify:

- The types of emergencies that might affect you.
- How those emergencies might affect you.
- What you will do before, during and after an emergency.
- Where to get more information.
- Where you will go if you evacuate and the best way to go in different circumstances.
- A list of phone numbers you will need, including emergency services, your insurance company, friends and family.



Visit www.ses.vic.gov.au to obtain a copy of your Home Emergency Plan workbook

Evacuation notices

Victoria Police is responsible for coordinating an evacuation in an emergency. During a flood, Police, SES and other emergency services may advise you to evacuate to keep you safe. It is important that you follow this advice.

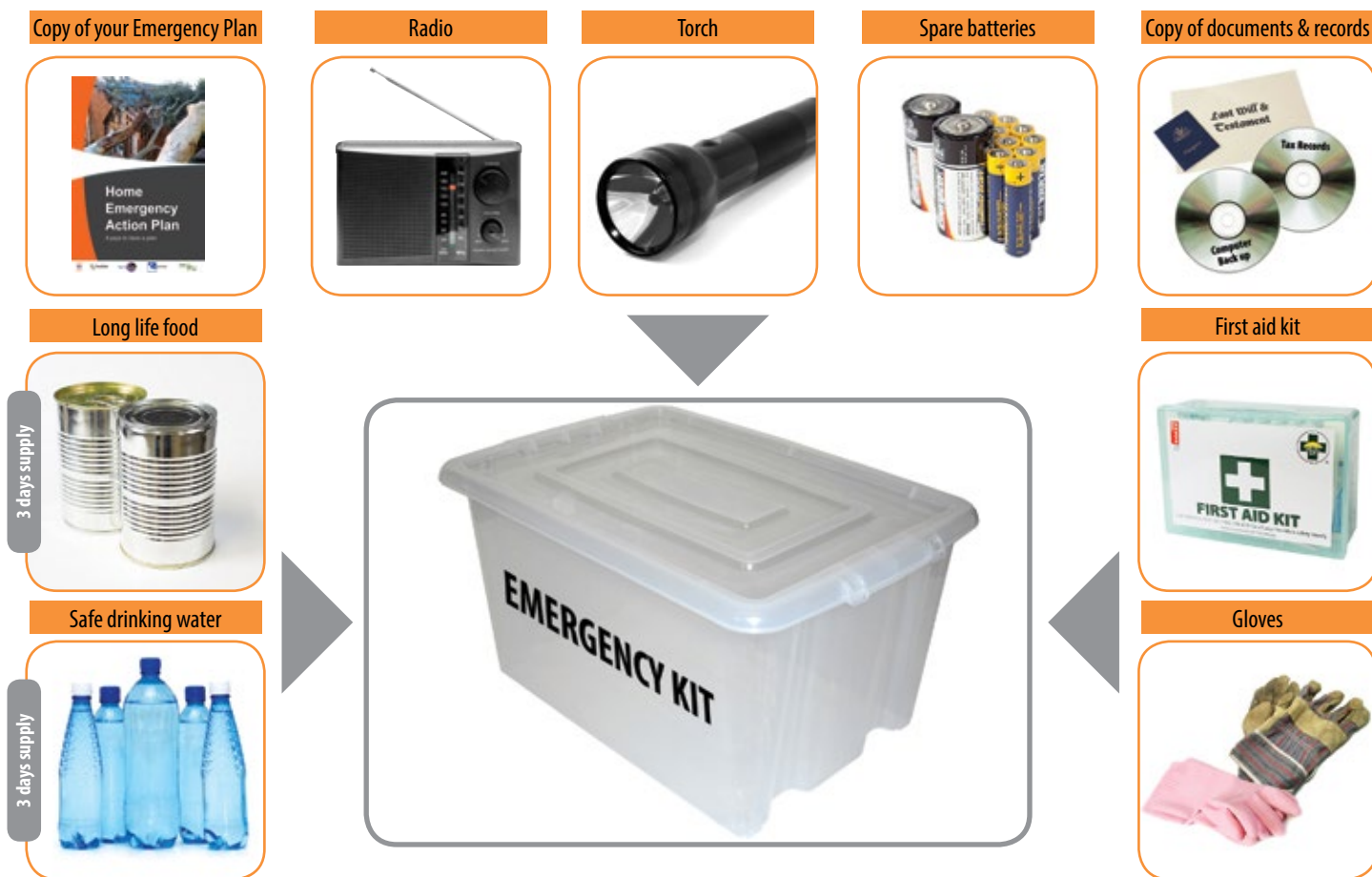
There are two types of evacuation notices that may be issued via your emergency broadcaster during a flood:

- **Prepare to evacuate** - means you should act quickly and take immediate action to protect your life and property. You should get ready to leave your property.
- **Evacuate immediately** - you must leave immediately as there is a risk to lives. You may only have minutes to evacuate in a flash flooding situation.

Remember you can leave at any time if you feel unsafe. You do not need to wait to be told to evacuate. Leaving early is always the safest option.

Emergency Kit

Every home and business should have a basic emergency kit:



Check your kit often. Make sure things work. Replace out of date items.

When a warning is issued, have ready for use or pack into your kit:



I need to add:

Write your list here. Tick items as you pack them into your kit.

- Special needs _____
- Photos _____
- Family Keepsakes _____
- Valuables _____
- Documents _____
- Other _____

During and After a Flood

Never
Drive, Ride or Walk
Through Floodwater

During a flood

When flooding has begun:

- **Never drive, ride, swim or walk through floodwater.**
- **Floodwater can be deep and damage roads and bridges.**
- **Do not let your children play or swim in floodwater.**
It is dirty, dangerous and deadly.
- Tune in to your emergency broadcasters: ABC Local Radio, Commercial Radio, designated Community Radio Stations and SKY NEWS Television.
- In life-threatening emergencies, call 000 (triple zero).
- **For emergency help from the SES in floods and storms call 132 500.**
- Stay away from all waterways including drains and culverts.
- Stay away from fallen power lines – electricity travels easily through water.
- Be aware that animals, snakes, rats, spiders and other pests may be on the move during a flood - they can come into houses and other buildings or hide around sandbags.
- Keep in contact with neighbours.
- Be prepared to leave early. Leaving early is always the safest option, leave well before roads are closed by floodwater.

When you leave early or evacuate:

- Take your emergency kit and three days supply of clothing with you.
- Turn off the electricity, gas and water as you leave.
- Take your pets with you. Do not leave them behind. Dogs should be muzzled and cats in cages.
- Go to a relief centre (if activated) or to stay with friends or family in higher areas.

If activated, Relief Centres may be able to help you with:

- Temporary accommodation
- Financial help
- Personal support
- Drinks and meals
- Basic clothing and personal needs
- Help to contact family and friends.

If you choose to shelter with a friend or relative, tell authorities where you are staying.

After a flood

Flood dangers do not end when the water begins to fall.

To make sure you stay safe:

- Keep listening to local emergency broadcasters.
- Do not return home until advised that it is safe.

Once you return to your home:

- Drink bottled water or boil all drinking water until advised that the water supply is safe.
- Throw away any food or medicines that may have been in contact with floodwater or affected by power outages.
- When entering the building, use a torch to light your way - never use matches, cigarette lighters or any other flame as there may be gas inside.
- Keep the electricity and gas off until checked and tested by a professional.
- Take photographs of all damage for insurance.
- Clean your home straight away to stay healthy.

How SES helps the community

The Victoria State Emergency Service (SES) is a volunteer based emergency service. Although our SES volunteers attempt to reach everyone prior to or during an emergency, at times this is not possible, especially during flash flooding. Therefore it is advisable for you to be prepared for emergencies so that you can share responsibility for your own wellbeing during those times. In a flood, SES assistance may include:

- Giving flood advice
- Protecting essential services
- Helping to protect infrastructure
- Rescuing people from floodwater
- Advising of an evacuation.

To assist your preparation, it is recommended that you obtain a copy of a SES Home Emergency Plan by visiting www.ses.vic.gov.au.



Emergency Checklist

NOW: Flood preparation

- Check if your insurance policies cover flooding.
- Keep this list of emergency numbers near the telephone.
- Put together an Emergency Kit and prepare a home or business Emergency Plan, see www.ses.vic.gov.au.

When you hear a Flood Watch or weather warning

- Listen to severe weather warnings for flash flood.
- Listen to radio and check the SES website for more information and advice.
- Go over your Emergency Plan. Pack clothing and other extra items into your Emergency Kit and take this with you if you evacuate.
- Leave early if you intend to evacuate.

When flooding may happen (heavy rainfall or a warning)

- Make sure your family members and neighbours are aware of what is happening.
- Conditions change rapidly, roads and escape routes can be covered or blocked. Don't forget to take pets and your medicine with you.
- Put household valuables and electrical items as high as possible.
- Turn off water, gas and electricity at the mains.
- Secure objects likely to float and cause damage.
- Move pumps, machinery and livestock to higher ground.
- If you are staying in a caravan or temporary dwelling, relocate to higher ground BEFORE flooding begins.

During the flood

- For emergency assistance, call 132 500 for SES.
- DO NOT drive, ride, swim or walk through floodwater. This is the main cause of death during floods.
- NEVER allow children to play in floodwater. This is the main cause of death during floods for children and young people.
- Stay away from drains, culverts and waterways, water can flow quickly and have strong currents.
- Stay well clear of fallen trees, power lines and damaged buildings.
- If you are trapped inside a building, stay inside and shelter in the highest place. Call 000 in a life-threatening emergency.

After the flood: recovery

- If your property has been flooded, check with Southern Grampians Shire Council for information and advice.
- Have all electrical and gas equipment professionally tested before use.

For more information visit:

- www.ses.vic.gov.au
- www.facebook.com/vicses
- www.twitter.com/vicseswarnings

Emergency Contacts

Life threatening Emergency **000** Triple Zero
Police fire ambulance TTY106

Victoria State Emergency Service (SES) **132 500**
For flood / storm emergency calls

SES Information Line **1300 842 737**
Operates during major floods or storms **1300 VIC SES**
www.ses.vic.gov.au

Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) **1300 659 217**
Weather Information, forecasts, warnings www.bom.gov.au

National Relay Service (NRS) www.relayservice.com.au

The deaf, hearing or speech impaired can call SES or 000 using NRS:

	DIAL	THEN ASK FOR
■ Speak and Listen (SSR) users phone	1300 555 727	132 500
■ TTY / Voice users phone	13 36 77	132 500

Internet Relay users log into www.iprelay.com.au/call/
then enter: **132 500 or 000**

VicRoads **13 11 70**
Road closures and hazard reporting service www.vicroads.vic.gov.au

Southern Grampians Shire Council

Phone: (03) 5573 0444
Email: council@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au
Web: www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au

Weather District: South West District

Catchment: Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management

Emergency Broadcasters

Emergency broadcasters include ABC Local Radio, designated commercial radio stations across Victoria and SKY NEWS Television.

- ABC Radio 94.1 AM
- 3HA 98.1 AM
- Mixx 88.9 FM
- SKY NEWS Television

Complete the following and keep this information handy close to the phone:

Your electricity supplier: _____

Your gas supplier: _____

Doctor: _____

Vet: _____

Insurance

Policy Number: _____

Phone Number: _____