

# FLOODS - October 2016

## Community Information

### Newsletter

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 9, 2016**

#### STAY INFORMED

Please regularly review the Vic Emergency official Facebook and website for updates.

[www.emergency.vic.gov.au](http://www.emergency.vic.gov.au)

For road updates visit the VicRoads website

[www.vicroads.vic.gov.au](http://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au) or call **13 11 70**

For weather conditions visit the Bureau of Meteorology website, i.e. [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au) or call **1300 659 217**

For Life threatening emergencies, call **000**

**SES - Flood and storm emergency 132 500 (24 hrs).** Information Line **1300 842 737 (8.00am to 6.00pm)**

Stay tuned to emergency broadcasters,  
**106.5 FM ABC Wodonga** or **97.7 FM ABC Shepparton**

TIS (National) – Telephone Interpreter Service  
call **131 450**

#### FLOOD ADVICE

Enjoy your stay but be aware of the dangers.

- DO NOT drive through flood waters
- Never walk, swim, or play in flood water – you can't see what is under the water, how deep it is, how fast it is moving and there may be unseen debris.
- Never ingest flood water. It may contain sewerage and other impurities.
- If you are camping, fishing or undertaking any activity in or near flood water, monitor water levels as conditions can change quickly and without warning.
- Boating is dangerous in flood waters. Consider your options. Ramp access and egress may be restricted, boggy and hazardous.

- Saturated (water logged) ground creates other dangers, such as erosion, unstable trees and other risks.

#### ROAD SAFETY

Victoria Police are asking all travellers (locals and visitors) to be patient, take your time, slow down and drive sensibly.

Pay attention to all roadside message boards for current restrictions and detours.

Agencies have crews working daily on local roads to keep them open and safe for locals and visitor alike.

Some roads that are currently open may become hazardous or impassable due to water over the road, tree falls and other debris, road surface deteriorating, damage to bridges etc.

#### TRAVEL PLANNING

Plan your travel wisely and consider using the recommended sealed road network rather than the unsealed narrow back roads.

If you choose to use back roads, consider advising friends or family members when you leave, where you are going, and when you arrive. Watch for other road users and work crews, and turn your headlights on.

Trees and tree limbs can become unstable, even with no wind, so be aware of falling trees and branches when driving and walking through the area. Do not park or shelter under trees.

**Traders in the  
Northern Country  
continue to be open  
for business and  
appreciate your  
custom!!**

# Localised Information for the Murray River – Yarrawonga to Goulburn River Junction

## as at 9.00am Sunday 9th October 2016.

(For information upstream of Yarrawonga, please refer to the Upper Murray, Mitta, Kiewa Ovens and Broken River Catchments Newsletter)

*All situations are being closely monitored and revisions to predictions will be issued when and if necessary. Please stay informed.*

Major - Moderate flooding is current along the Murray River from Albury to Barmah. This flood event is similar to the 1993 floods.

### **YARRAWONGA:**

Murray River peaked at 7.81 metres at 3.00pm Friday 7th October. It is currently at 7.48 metres. Flood waters have started to recede but will fall very slowly. Flooding is expected to be contained within the river valley. Yarrawonga Weir Bridge is closed heading north bound due to traffic management during the flood. It is expected to reopen Monday morning.

### **COBRAM:**

Murray River has peaked. Flooding is expected to be contained within the river valley. There is some water on the Cobram - Barooga causeway. Police will be patrolling the area. Road users are advised to take care and continually monitor the situation.

### **TOCUMWAL:**

Murray River peaked at midnight Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October and is currently at 7.33 metres. Flood waters are expected to stay high until Monday. The Goulburn Valley Highway between Koonoomoo and Tocumwal is closed. The road will be assessed Sunday morning. Road users to seek an alternative route, possibly via Cobram/Barooga.

### **STRATHMERTON / ULUPNA ISLAND:**

Murray River is expected to peak Sunday morning. Flood waters are now spilling over the levee in the Ulupna Island area. Residents have been advised to evacuate as the Island will be inaccessible for a number of days. Low lying areas south of Ulupna could also be impacted. The Relief Centre at Numurkah is now closed. There are contact details on site for assistance.

### **BARMAH:**

Murray River is expected to peak Thursday or Friday. It is currently at 6.33 metres.

### **SANDBAGGING:**

Sandbags are available for collection at:

Waaia - Bearii Road / Murray Valley Highway intersection  
(Lee Waser's property)  
BEARII

### **HAZARDS**

- For urgent animal welfare issues, contact Agriculture Victoria on 136 186 or your local veterinarian. Farmers should move machinery and livestock to higher ground if it is still safe to do so. Land owners should make their own arrangements for stock management.
- Avoid any recreational use in the river areas.
- Be aware of wildlife, including snakes.
- A number of National Parks will be closed in the area. Please do not enter the Parks that are closed.
- Take extreme caution around trees. Many trees in water logged areas have started to fall.
- High winds are expected Sunday as a cold front passes through the area. It is possible trees may fall in flooded and water logged areas. Take extreme caution.
- Road users need to take extreme caution when driving around the area. Police will be monitoring roads and driver behaviour. Road conditions can change dramatically in a short period of time and Police ask all road users to take due care and attention.

### **COMMUNITY MEETINGS**

Due to the rising flood water in the Murray there will be a Community Meeting at:

**BARMAH:** Monday 10th October at 12 noon, Barmah Hall, Schier Street, BARMAH