

Pennyweight Gully, 2011
Source: Diane Chester



Local Flood Guide

*Golden Point, Canadian, Eureka
and Ballarat East*

Understand, prepare, and respond effectively to your flood risk.



FLOOD STORM
EMERGENCY **132 500**



If life threatening
call triple zero 000

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Victorian State Emergency Service acknowledges Aboriginal Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria and pays respect to their cultures and Elders past and present.

Disclaimer: Victoria State Emergency Service assumes no responsibility or liability for any errors or omissions for any of the content in this document.

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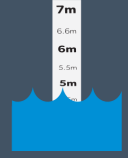

For more information visit: ses.vic.gov.au/plan-and-stay-safe



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Local flood information

	<p>There have been 4 significant flood events in the area between 1988 and 2011.</p>	 <p>The largest flood on record was in 1991 when 76mm of rainfall was recorded in less than 2 hours in Central Ballarat.</p>	 <p>Flooding can happen quickly after heavy rainfall, giving people little to no time to prepare and take action.</p>
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Why does Golden Point, Canadian, Eureka and Ballarat East flood?

Canadian Creek is the major waterway in the area. It flows from Mt Helen (in the south) to the Ballarat Central Business District (in the north) where it joins the Yarrowee River. Canadian Creek has four streams which feed into it. These start in the Canadian Forest and are called Specimen Vale Creek, Warrenheip Gully, Pennyweight Gully and the Lal Lal Drain.

- Heavy rainfall can cause **flash flooding**. This can happen quickly and you may not receive an official warning. Although these floods only last short time, they can cause severe damage.
- Flash flooding occurs when Canadian Creek and its streams become full and overflow into nearby land. Low-lying areas near the creeks are most at risk.
- Stormwater drainage may not be able to drain the amount of water, causing them to overflow, potentially causing or adding to flooding.
- Due to the fast nature of flooding in these areas, roads can be closed with little notice.



How do floods impact communities?

Even if your home or workplace stays dry, floods can impact you in many ways.



Buildings flooded



Road closures



Drinking water supply and quality affected



Power outages



Mobile and internet network outage



Sewage overflows inside building

Check your home, work, and travel routes for floodwater

If this map shows potential flood risk for you, ensure you take action to **plan and prepare for floods**. See [page 8](#) for more information.

- This map shows the area likely to flood in a significant flood event.
- This is referred to as a 1% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP), which means there is a 1% chance of this size flood (or greater) happening in any year.



What might happen in a flood in your area?

Although no two floods are the same and the environment is constantly changing, the below table provides an idea of what to expect at different flood heights.

- **Before a flood:** Use the rainfall details in the table to help you decide when you will need to act to protect yourself and your property in a flood event.
- **During a flood:** When a warning is issued by [VicEmergency](#), use the predicted rainfall and warning information to understand what the potential impacts may be for you and your community.

Rainfall* (millimetres)	Potential impacts
Rainfall level causes major impacts	
118mm in 12 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 54 buildings and 462 properties at risk of flooding. ■ Further properties may be affected in all previously mentioned areas. Minor flooding on Canadian Lakes Boulevard, Recreation Road and Bradby Avenue.
Rainfall level causes moderate impacts	
103mm in 12 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 52 buildings and 392 properties at risk of flooding. <p>Canadian Creek: Flooding across Elsworth Street. Properties on Eastwood Street and Steinfeld Street North impacted.</p> <p>Specimen Vale Creek: Additional properties on Balmoral Drive impacted. Water may overflow embankment along Charlesworth Street if the culvert becomes blocked by debris.</p> <p>Warrenheip Gully: Water on Callow Street up to half a metre deep.</p> <p>Pennyweight Gully: Overflow of creek near York Street, affecting roads and properties around York, Little Dodd and Larter Streets and Main Road.</p> <p>Lal Lal Drain: Water across the road in Butt Street.</p>
84mm in 12 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 33 buildings and 329 properties at risk of flooding. <p>Canadian Creek: Additional properties near Barkly Street between Main road and Steinfeld Street North flooded and minor flooding of Olympic Avenue.</p> <p>Specimen Vale Creek: Flooding of several properties on Balmoral Drive.</p> <p>Warrenheip Gully: Flooding of some properties on Carboni Court, Kline, Fussell and Little Dodd Streets.</p> <p>Pennyweight Gully: Flooding of properties on York Street and possible road closure of Otway Street.</p> <p>Lal Lal Drain: Additional properties on Butt, Larter and Linaker Streets flooded.</p>

Table continued on following page

What might happen in a flood in your area? - continued

Rainfall* (millimetres)	Potential impacts
	Rainfall level causes minor impacts
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ 20 buildings and 252 properties at risk of flooding.■ Increased likelihood of road closures across all tributaries.
	Specimen Vale Creek: Flooding of several properties on Gordon, King and Stawell Street South, possible road closures of Specimen Vale, Queen, Chamberlain and Charlesworth Streets.
70mm in 12 hours	Warrenheip Gully: Several properties on Rodier and Callow Streets, Henfield and Steffen Close and Catalina Court flooded.
	Pennyweight Gully: Flooding of properties in Canadian Springs Drive, Deep Lead Close, Kline, Richards and Spencer Streets, Clayton Park Drive and Jenola and Cherry Courts. Joseph and Fussell Streets flooded.
	Lal Lal Drain: Flooding of properties on Butt, Larter and Linaker Streets. Water across Lal Lal and Joseph Streets.

*The rainfall measurement is at the Ballarat Airport gauge.

^This table includes information from flood studies, which are scientific models used to predict impacts at different flood heights and flows.

Previous flood impacts

While no two floods are the same, understanding the impacts of past floods can help you anticipate impacts of future flood events.

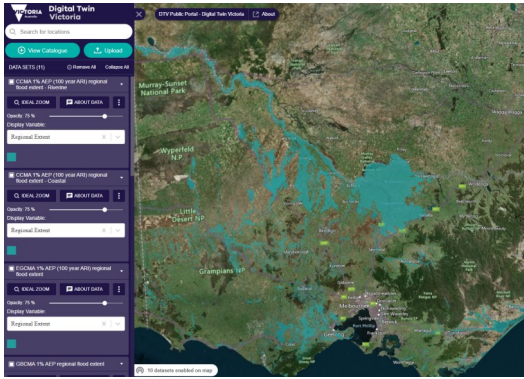
1991 Flood

- The December 1991 flood event has been reported as one of the most severe flood events in the area in living memory.
- This flood event occurred after a burst of intense rainfall hit Ballarat, with 76mm of rainfall recorded in less than two hours in Central Ballarat.
- Flooding impacted Callow Street, McDonald Street and Queen Street.
- A flood event similar to this event, could affect more than 400 properties in the area. 50 properties are likely to have floodwater above floor level in their homes.

2011 Flood

- During the January 2011 flood event, 200 millimetres of rain fell over five days.
- This included 80—100mm in 26 hours.
- Homes were affected in Main Road and Little Dodds Street.
- Significant flash flooding occurred including flooding over roads in Joseph, Fussell, Spencer and Callow Streets and Stawell Street South, with Main Road closed between Barkly and York Streets.

View the interactive flood map on Digital Twin Victoria (DTV)



The [Digital Twin Victoria Public Portal](#) brings together 2D, 3D and live data in a single online place for everyone to use. The portal hosts some flood mapping data.

- Use the map to zoom in on where you live, work and travel to see if it's likely to be affected in a flood event.



In a flood emergency, stay informed through [VicEmergency](#), see [page 9](#) for more information.

Your local services

Catchment Management Authority

For general advice about flooding and controls on planning scheme amendments.

- **Corangamite Catchment Management Authority**
ccma.vic.gov.au | 1800 002 262

Local Council

For relief support after a flood event and general land use planning.

- **City of Ballarat**
ballarat.vic.gov.au | 03 5320 5500



2022

Source: The Courier

Plan and prepare for floods

1 How to stay informed

VicEmergency is Victoria's source of emergency information and warnings.

- Set-up a watch zone for your area for alerts when warnings are issued.
- Learn about the three different warning levels.

 VicEmergency app
emergency.vic.gov.au
1800 226 226

 vicemergency

 @vicemergency



2 Make an Emergency Plan

Use information from your Local Flood Guide and your Catchment Management Authority, to help you decide;

- What you will do in a flood emergency
- When you will do it
- Who you will inform



Red Cross RediPlan is a free tool that helps you create a simple emergency plan that supports the flood actions you have chosen.

- Visit redcross.org.au/prepare
- Download the [Get Prepared](#) app

3 Prepare an emergency kit

 Power bank	 Radio	 Drinking water
 Spare batteries	 Documents & records	 First aid kit
 Long life food	 Torch	 Gloves

Emergency kit



You may need to stay safe for 72 hours in a disaster before help arrives. Make sure you have safe drinking water, food, and any special needs or medications for all family.



There will be extra items to be added to your emergency kit in an emergency like clothes, a phone and charger.



Watch a video on how to get your Emergency kit ready.
youtu.be/XgyLnKDMkNo

4 Reduce impacts to your property

- Keep gutters and drains clear of debris including leaves and any other items.
- Check your building and contents insurance, what kind of flooding does it cover?
- Move your valuable possessions up high.
- Back up important files and documents to a cloud storage or USB kept elsewhere.
- Identify higher ground on or around your property, away from the danger area.
- Consider buying sand and sandbags ahead of time, refer to our Sandbag Guide for more information.

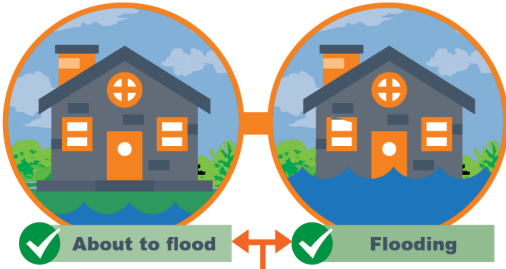



For more details and other tips, visit:
ses.vic.gov.au/flood



What to do in a flood emergency

When to call VICSES



 **Flood emergency assistance call VICSES 132 500**

 **If life threatening call triple zero 000**

Stay Informed

VicEmergency

Emergency warnings will provide information on what is happening and advice of what you should do.

You may not receive an official warning before a flood.



VicEmergency app
emergency.vic.gov.au

1800 226 226



vicemergency @vicemergency



- Set-up a watch zone for alerts for your area.

Bureau of Meteorology



Monitor rainfall, river levels, weather forecasts/warnings.

<https://www.bom.gov.au/vic/flood/corangamite.shtml>

Emergency broadcasters



Radio | ABC 107.9 FM , 584 AM and 774 AM, 102.3 FM, 103.1 FM

TV | Sky News

If you expect floodwater at your property

1



Bag it

Sandbag doorways and low-lying windows to slow floodwater entering your home.

2



Block it

Block toilets, bath and drains using a sandbag ideally placed inside a plastic rubbish bag.

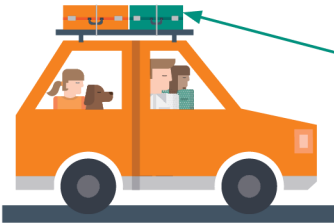
3



Lift it

Put your valuables and electrical items as high as possible. Turn off power, gas, and water at the mains.

4



Leave

- Leave **before** the flood arrives.
- Check warnings from VicEmergency for information like evacuation or relief centres, and road closures.
- Travel to the home of family or friends who are in a safe location, away from the flooded area.

Take your emergency kit and add the items below:



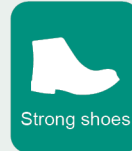
Phone & charger



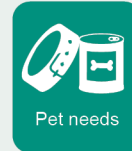
Prescriptions & medication



Clothes for your family



Strong shoes



Pet needs

Never drive through floodwater

Large



A Large 4WD can be moved by water only 45cm deep.

Small



A small car can be moved by water only 15cm deep.



For more details and other tips, visit:

ses.vic.gov.au/flood

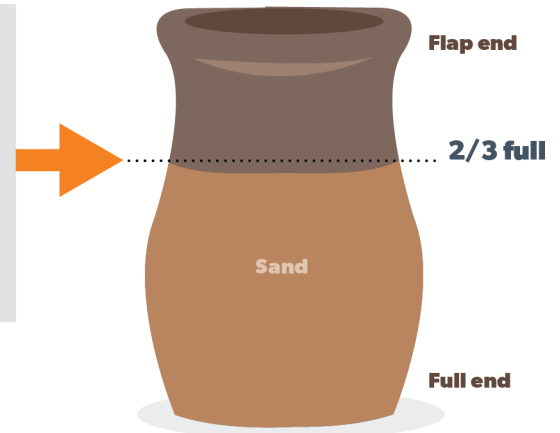


Sandbagging

Sandbags won't stop the water completely, but can reduce the amount of water entering your home.

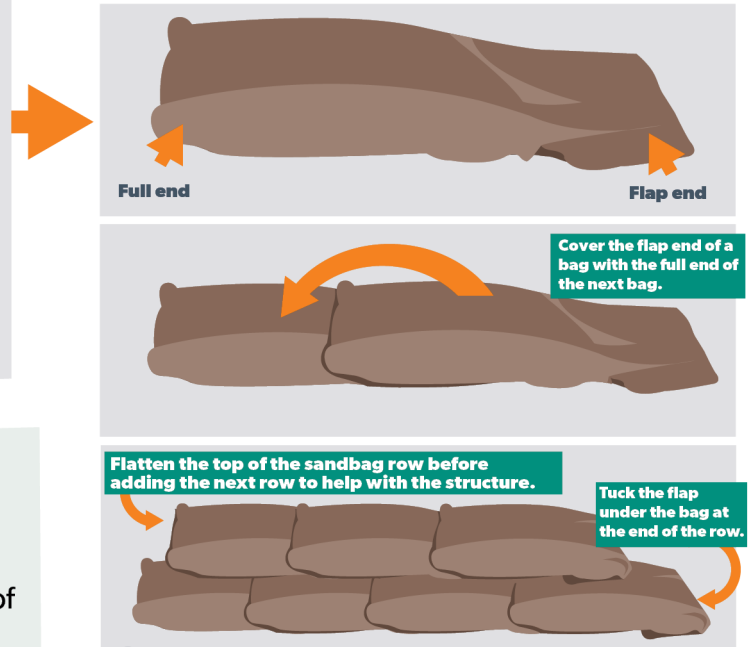
How do I fill a sandbag?

- Only use sand to fill hessian bags. Do not use dirt.
- Only fill sandbag two-thirds full.
- Do not over fill the sandbag as it will be too heavy to carry.
- Do not tie the top of the sandbag.
- Take care when filling and lifting the sandbag, to avoid injury.



How do I lay sandbags?

- Lay sandbags like brickwork. Stagger rows so that the joins do not line up.
- Start at one end and work to the other end.
- Ensure the unfilled part of the bag is covered by the next bag.
- Tuck flap under the bag at the end of the row.
- If the sandbag wall is going to be more than five (5) bags high, you will need to lay two (2) rows wide.

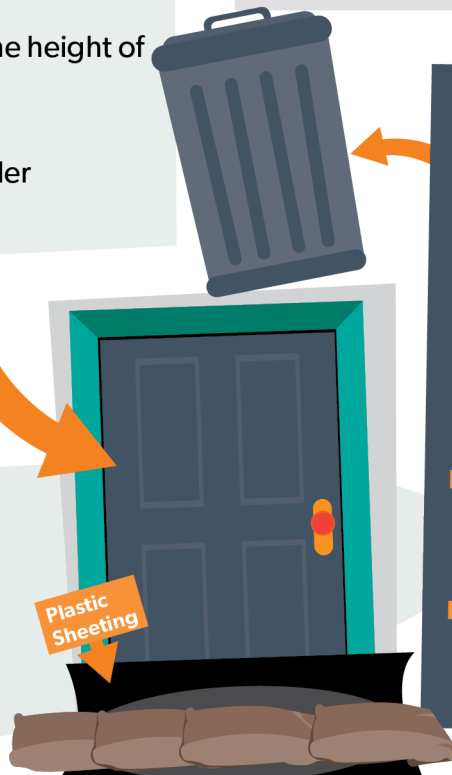


Where do I place the sandbags?

- Place sandbags in plastic bags to cover drainage holes in home (e.g. showers, toilets, sinks) to stop back flow of water.
- Place a small wall across doorways, at least the height of the expected water level. Be careful not to trap yourself inside.
- If available, plastic sheeting may be used under sandbags to reduce the seepage.

Block it

Toilets, bath and all drain holes



What do I do once I have finished with the sandbags?

- Sturdy gloves should be worn when handling wet sandbags as they can contain chemicals, waste and diseases.
- Sandbags that have been in contact with floodwater need to be thrown away.
- Contact your local council to find out how to dispose of your sandbags safely.





Sandbags and sand

Preparing your home

Having sandbag supplies ready can assist you before a flooding emergency occurs.

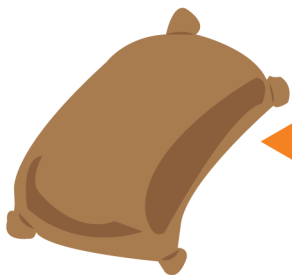


What supplies do I need to sandbag my home?

- Sandbags
- Sand
- Plastic sheeting
- Gloves and safety goggles
- Shovel and hand scoop

Where can I purchase these supplies?

- Many sandbag supplies can be purchased from hardware stores or garden centres.
- VICSES do not routinely supply sandbags to households.
- During floods, sandbag distribution points may be established in flood-affected areas.

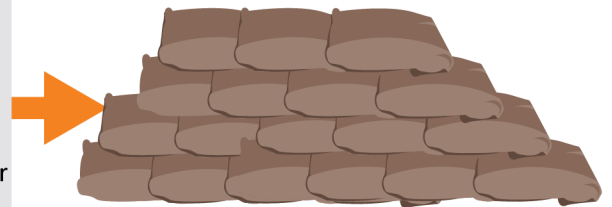


How many sandbags will I need and how much sand?

- Most homes can be protected by less than 25 sandbags.
- The number of sandbags will depend on your local flood risk and availability.
- Sandbags are filled 2/3 full which requires around 15-20kgs of sand per bag.

How do I store my sand and sandbags?

- Filled sandbags only have a short shelf life.
- It is recommended to store sandbags empty.
- Sandbags should be stored in a cool dry area away from UV light.
- Sand should be kept dry and can be stored in water resistant containers or under a tarp.
- Sand is heavy - ensure it is stored so it can be moved safely.



When should I sandbag my home?

- **You** are best placed to decide if there is a need to sandbag your home, based on local knowledge and past flood events.
- Monitor your local conditions. Stay up-to-date with weather forecasts and warnings by downloading the **BOM Weather** and **VicEmergency** apps, or call the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226.
- If you think you are at risk, do not wait for an official warning to act.