



Glen Iris

Local Flood Guide

Flood information for Glen Iris in the Cities of Boroondara and Stonnington



For flood emergency assistance call

**VICSES on 132
500**





Glen Iris

This area is prone to flooding during heavy rainfall events that can result in road closures and effect private properties. This guide provides an overview of the risk of flood and includes information that can help you to be more prepared in case of an emergency.

The guide focusses on the suburb of Glen Iris that is located on both sides of the Gardiner Creek in the local government areas of Boorondarra and Stonnington, approximately 10 kilometres south east of Melbourne’s Central Business District.

Glen Iris contains a number of parks, cafes, bars and restaurants as well as the heritage listed Harold Holt swim centre. It’s also home to one of Melbourne’s best known shopping streets, Toorak Road which it shares on its border with Camberwell. Glen Iris was originally farmland, with access to both Gardiner Creek and Back Creek providing fertile lands. However, over the past century the area has been developed for residential and commercial properties, which has increased the risk and severity of flooding.

The following maps shows the expected flooding during a 1% flood event in Glen Iris. A 1% flood means that there is a 1% chance of a flood of this size occurring in any one year.



Disclaimer

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Are you prepared for a flood?

This guide contains important information on the key agencies that can provide assistance, where to find flood warning and storm information, helpful websites, and practical information on how to can be better prepared.

Experience shows that those who plan and prepare for emergencies can reduce the impact of the emergency and can recover quicker afterwards.

Further information on '**Preparing for Flood Emergencies**' is also available at ses.vic.gov.au/plan-and-stay-safe

Are you at risk of flood?

Most areas of Melbourne experience some level of flooding during an extreme storm event, with those developed prior to the 1970's generally being more likely.

Waterways in Glen Iris include Gardiners Creek, Back Creek and storm water drains that discharge into Gardiners Creek, including the Ashburton Main Drain and the Burwood Main Drain. Within Glen Iris, flash flooding is the primary concern. This is due to the increased urbanisation of the area which means that there is less exposed soil to absorb excess water during heavy rain events. This water then runs off towards lower lying areas and can result in the main drains or creeks being overwhelmed. Flash flooding can occur with little warning, only lasts a short time but can leave severe localised damage.

Roads in Glen Iris, in the City of Stonnington that may be impacted by flooding include:

- Elm Road
- High Street
- Moira Street

Community Infrastructure in Glen Iris, in the City of Stonnington that may be impacted by flooding include:

- Glen Iris Park
- Sections of Gardiners Creek Trail

Road closures in the City of Stonnington that may impact traffic through the Glen Iris area include:

- Brixton Rise
- Elm Road
- Glenferrie Road at Gardiners Creek Crossing



Did you know?

Glen Iris has a history of flooding, including more recent flooding in 2003, 2004, 2006, 2011, 2016 and 2018.

- In February 2011, 146 millimetres of rain fell within 15 hours, leading to a flood that measured 5.6 metres on the Gardiners Creek Gauge. This resulted in the flooding of properties on Gardiner Parade, Glen Iris and the Solway Pedestrian Bridge being washed away.



No two floods are the same. Floods like this or worse could occur again.

If you live in a low-lying area you may be at risk of flooding or need to detour around flooded areas.

Knowing what to do can save your life and help protect your property

- In December 2016, Glen Iris was one of the worst hit suburbs after a severe storm that caused flash flooding, closing roads and causing delays in train services across the city. SES received over 1200 calls for assistance.



Gardiners Creek - Glen Iris, November 2018



Glen Iris flood levels at the Gardiner (Glen Iris) Gauge, Gardiners Creek

When the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) issues Flood Warnings they include a prediction of the flood height at the Gardiners Creek Gauge in Glen Iris. While no two floods are the same, the following table can give you an indication of what you could expect at certain flood heights, including when your access may be cut off and when your property may be affected.

Height (metres)	Impact/level
6.00m	Levee overtopped between Tooronga Road and Toorak Road
5.72m	Gardiners Creek Trail flooded at various locations
5.60m	February 2011 Properties affected by flooding on Gardiners Parade, Glen Iris. Solway Pedestrian Bridge was washed away
4.80m	Major flood level
4.77m	September 1984 Flood level peak
4.40m	Moderate flood level
4.14m	Bank full at gauging location
3.40m	Minor flood level



Flood Gauges at Gardiners Creek, Gardiner

Gardiner Historic Rainfall – Highest measurements per month since 2004		
Month	Year	mm
Jan	2004	186.6
Feb	2011	212.6
Mar	2008, 2010	77.6
Apr	2020	176.6
May	2019	84.8
Jun	2013	113.2
Jul	2007	101.8
Aug	2004	88.2
Sep	2016	102.6
Oct	2010	135.4
Nov	2004	145.8
Dec	2017	147.4



Rain Gauge at Gardiners Creek, Gardiner



Staying Informed and Further Information

■ Current warnings (VicEmergency)	emergency.vic.gov.au	1800 226 226
■ Bureau of Meteorology (BoM)	bom.gov.au/vic/warnings	1300 659 217
■ VicRoads Traffic	traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au	
■ Emergency Broadcasters	ABC 774AM SKY NEWS Television	
■ VICSES Social Media	facebook.com/vicses twitter.com/vicsesnews	
■ SES Malvern Unit	facebook.com/malvernres	
■ Preparing for Flood Emergencies	ses.vic.gov.au/get-ready	
■ Creating an Emergency Plan	redcross.org.au/prepare	
■ Melbourne Water	melbournewater.com.au	131 722
■ Stonnington City Council	stonnington.vic.gov.au	8290 1333

**Life-threatening
Emergency
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Flood warnings and emergency checklist

A **Flood Watch** means there is a developing weather pattern that might cause floods in one or two days. This service covers the whole state.

A **Flood Warning** means flooding is about to happen or is already happening. There are minor, moderate and major flood warnings. This service is only available where flood warning systems are in place.

 A Minor Flood Warning means floodwater can:	 A Moderate Flood Warning means floodwater can:	 A Major Flood Warning means floodwater can:
Spill over river banks and cover nearby low lying areas.	Spill over river banks and cover larger areas of land.	Cause widespread flooding.
Come up through drains in nearby streets.	Reach above floor levels in some houses and buildings.	Many houses and businesses are inundated above floor level.
Require the removal of stock in some cases.	Require evacuation in some areas.	Cause properties and whole areas to be isolated by water.
Cover riverside camping areas and affect some low-lying caravan parks.	Affect traffic routes.	Closes major roads and rail routes.
Cover minor roads paths, tracks and low level bridges.	Require the removal of stock in rural areas.	Require many evacuations.
Affect backyards and buildings below floor level.		Affect utility services (power, water, sewage etc).

Severe Thunderstorm Warnings

Thunderstorms are classified as severe when there is potential to cause significant localised damage through wind gusts, large hail, tornadoes or flash flooding. VICSES is the control agency for severe weather and thunderstorms and issues emergency information to the community via the VicEmergency App in addition to Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) warnings.

Severe Weather Warnings

These warnings are issued to the community by BoM 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

- Flash Flooding can occur quickly due to heavy rainfall. You may not receive an official warning.
- Stay informed- monitor weather warnings, forecasts and river levels at the [BoM website](#) and warnings through [VicEmergency](#).



VICSES Warnings

VICSES utilises the VicEmergency app, website and hotline to distribute flood warnings and emergency information in Victoria. Communities can also access this information through VICSES social media channels and emergency broadcasters.

VICSES warnings aim to provide you with information to help you make good decisions to protect yourself and your family

The warning level is based on severity, conditions and the likelihood that the emergency could impact on the community.

WARNING LEVELS	
	<p>EMERGENCY WARNING</p> <p>You are in imminent danger and need to take action immediately. You will be impacted. A Major flood warning usually fits into this category</p>
	<p>WARNING (WATCH AND ACT)</p> <p>An emergency is developing nearby. You need to take action now to protect yourself and others. A Moderate flood warning usually fits into this category.</p>
	<p>ADVICE</p> <p>An incident is occurring or has occurred in the area. Access information and monitor conditions.</p> <p>Can also be used as a notification that activity in the area has subsided and is no longer a danger to you. A Minor flood warning or Flood Watch usually fits into this category.</p>

ADDITIONAL MESSAGES	
	<p>PREPARE TO EVACUATE/ EVACUATE NOW</p> <p>An evacuation is recommended or procedures are in place to evacuate.</p>
	<p>COMMUNITY INFORMATION</p> <p>A newsletter containing updates for communities affected by an emergency.</p> <p>Can also be used as a notification that an incident has occurred but there is no threat to community.</p>
	<p>EMERGENCY ALERT</p> <p>During some emergencies, we may alert communities by sounding a local siren, or by sending an SMS to mobile phones or a voice message to landlines.</p>

Your emergency plan

Emergencies can happen at any time and with little warning. People who plan and prepare for emergencies can reduce the impact and recover faster.

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

Visit redcross.org.au/prepare start creating your plan.



- 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 Kit

Visit [Emergency Toolkit](#) for more information



Every home and business should have a basic emergency kit with supplies for 3 days:



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 (eg, babies, elderly and people with a disability)	
Photos	
Family keepsakes	
Valuables	
Other	



Emergency Checklist

- Check if your insurance policy covers flooding.
- Keep this list of emergency numbers in your mobile phone.
- Download the Vic Emergency app on your mobile phone.
- Put together an emergency kit and prepare a home or business.
- Emergency plan, see <https://www.redcross.org.au/prepare>



Before Flooding

- Leaving early before flooding occurs is always the safest option. Evacuating through floodwater is very dangerous and you may be swept away.
- Stay informed- monitor weather warnings, forecasts and river levels at the <http://www.bom.gov.au> and warnings through www.emergency.vic.gov.au
- Secure objects likely to float and cause damage.
- Listen to the radio and check the VICSES website for 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.

During Flooding

- 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.
- Put household valuables and electrical items as high as possible.
- Turn off water, gas and electricity at the mains.
- If you are staying in a caravan, move to higher ground before flooding begins.
- Seek shelter indoors, away from floodwater.
- If floodwater comes inside, move to a higher point such as a kitchen bench or second storey.
- Stay away from trees, drains, low-lying areas, creeks, canals, culverts and floodwater.

Evacuating in Flooding

- Flood water is dangerous. Never enter floodwater. It can take just 15cm of water to float a car.
- Find alternative travel routes if roads or underpasses are flooded.
- Be aware of driving hazards, such as mud, debris, damaged roads and fallen trees. If driving conditions are dangerous, safely pull over away from trees, drains and floodwater.

After Flooding

- For recovery information, contact your local council, go to the VicEmergency Relief and Recovery-emergency.vic.gov.au/Relief page or call the VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226).
- Have all electrical and gas equipment professionally tested before use.
- Stay away from damaged and flooded buildings, fallen trees and power lines and damaged roads until authorities advise it is safe to do so.
- Drive slowly, obey all road signs and never drive through floodwater.
- When cleaning, protect your health and safety. Wear strong boots, gloves and protective clothing and wash your hands and clothes regularly.

For VICSES emergency assistance,
call **132 500**, or **Triple Zero (000)**
in life threatening emergencies.