



Preston Main Drain

Local Flood Guide

Flash flood information for the Preston Main Drain in Preston



For flood emergency assistance call
VICSES on **132 500**





Preston

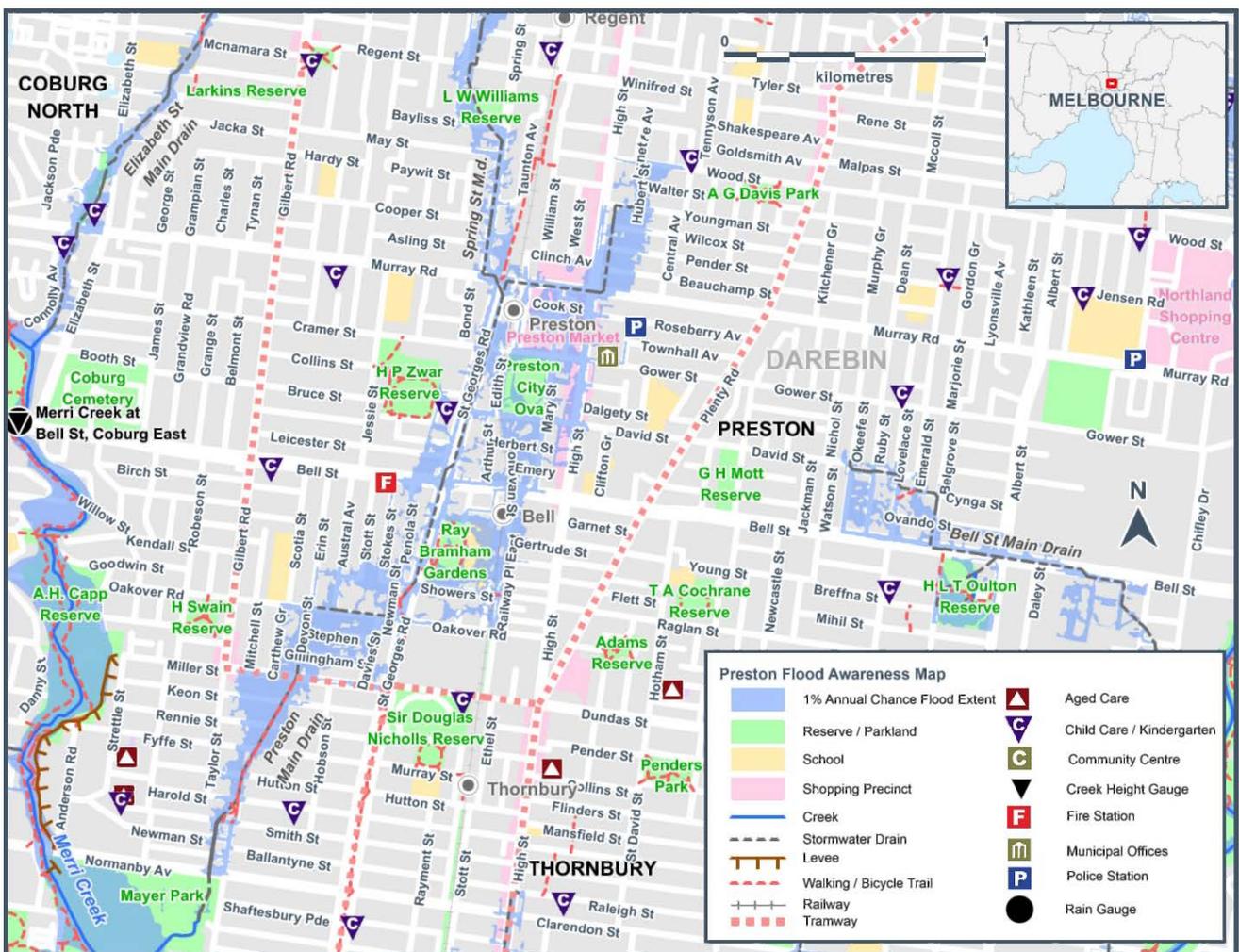
Preston is a suburb located in the City of Darebin, approximately nine kilometres north of Melbourne’s Central Business District. This multicultural suburb is bordered to the east by Darebin Creek and to the west by Merri Creek. With a number of parks, a range of shopping precincts, cafes, restaurants and the Preston Market, this suburb is seeing an increase in people moving to the area.

Preston is largely flat, having initially been used for farming but, in more recent years has been developed for industrial and residential uses with a combination of older houses and modern townhouses.

The Preston Main Drain starts near the corner of Lunette Avenue and Wood Street in Preston and discharges into Merri Creek through Northcote golf course beside Mayer Park in Thornbury. The City of Darebin is an older area of Melbourne. Due to being built under the previous standards, some of the older storm water drains in the municipality don’t have the same capacity as modern drains.

Combined with the flat terrain and the increase in run-off due to the residential developments replacing farmland, areas of Preston near the Preston Main Drain are at risk of flash flooding after heavy rainfall events. Flash flooding occurs with little warning, only lasts a short time but can cause severe localised damage.

The following map shows the expected flooding in a 1% flood in Preston. A 1% flood means there is a 1% chance of a flood this size occurring in any year.



Disclaimer: This map publication is presented by Victoria State Emergency Service for the purpose of disseminating emergency management information. The contents of the information have not been independently verified by 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 Melbourne Water



Are you at risk of flood?

High intensity, short duration rainfall events can cause flash flooding in and around the Preston area while prolonged rainfall events may cause Merri Creek to flood. Preston is on fairly flat terrain, which means that water flowing overland may spread out over a wide area and may sit for a number of days before subsiding.



Streets at risk of flooding due to the Preston Main Drain include:

PRESTON	Edith Street	Penola Street
Beauchamp Street	Emery Street	St Georges Road
Bell Street	Garnet Street	Stokes Road
Bruce Street	Gertrude Street	Walter Street
Carthew Grove	Herbert Street	Wilcox Street
Cook Street	High Street	Pender Street
Davies Street	Hubert Street	THORNBURY
Devon Street	Mary Street	Keon Street
Donovan Street	Miller Street	Normanby Avenue
Bayliss Street	Newman Street	

Did you know?

- The weekend of December 1st 2017 saw significant flooding in the Preston area. Preston received 10 millimetres of rain by 5pm on the Friday night causing some flooding of footpaths and roads, with more rain expected over the weekend. Businesses were advised to sandbag in advance and Preston received more than 90 millimetres of rain over the next 48 hours causing disruptions to public transport and local businesses.
- In the last decade, VICSES have responded to requests for assistance due to flooding of the Preston Main Drain in April 2017, February 2017, December 2016, January 2016, December 2011 and October 2010.



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



Preston Main Drain, Preston

If you require assistance during a flood or storm, contact SES on 132 500. Your local SES Northcote Unit will be able to assist you



Preston Main Drain flood levels by rainfall

There are no gauges to assist with flood warnings for the Preston Main Drain. Instead, a rough guide can be utilised through the predicted rainfall to give some idea of when to act in extreme weather. 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. The table below uses the measurement ARI. ARI stands for **Average Recurrence Interval** and is related to the average or expected amount of rain in a given period of time. A smaller percentage means that the chance of that amount of rain falling in a period of time is less but the consequences are likely to be more severe.

Rainfall (in mm)	Impact/level
	Height shown map page 2.
	Major flood level
23mm in 10 mins; 38mm in 30 mins; 49mm in 1 hour; 61mm in 2 hours; 85mm in 6 hours; or 105mm in 12 hours	<p>The following community infrastructure may be impacted by a 1% ARI event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Johns Greek Orthodox College, Railway Place West, Preston, oval and concreted surface flooded • Bell Railway Station, Garnet Street Preston, carpark flooded • Preston Railway Station overflow carpark, St Georges Road Preston, carpark flooded • Preston City Oval (Cramer Park), Cramer Street Preston, oval flooded • Preston Market, Cramer St, Preston, carpark flooded • Northern Health, Bell Street Preston, rear access under 300mm floodwater <p>289 properties would be at risk of flooding in a 1% ARI (1 in 100-year event) including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 166 Businesses (including 115 businesses on High Street, Preston) • 103 Residences • 13 Multiple use • 7 Public Land <p>Water of 300mm or more may be present on the following roads in a 1% ARI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beauchamp Street, Preston • Bell Street, Preston • Bruce Street, Preston • Carthew Grove, Preston • Cook Street, Preston • Davies Street, Preston • Devon Street, Preston • Donovan Street, Preston • East Street, Preston • Edith Street, Preston • Emery Street, Preston • Garnet Street, Preston • Gertrude Street, Preston • Herbert Street, Preston • High Street, Preston • Hubert Street, Preston • Mary Street, Preston • Miller Street, Preston • Newman Street, Preston • Penola Street, Preston



Rainfall (in mm)	Impact/level
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Georges Road, Preston Stokes Road, Preston Walter Street, Preston Wilcox Street, Preston Keon Street, Thornbury Normanby Avenue, Thornbury
	Moderate flood level
16mm in 10 mins; 26mm in 30 mins; 35mm in 1 hour; 44mm in 2 hours; 62mm in 6 hours; or 77mm in 12 hours	<p>The following community infrastructure is at risk of flooding in a 5% ARI (1 in 20-year event)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preston City Oval (Cramer Park), Cramer Street Preston, oval flooded Preston Market, Cramer St, Preston, carpark flooded <p>153 properties are at risk of flooding in a 5% ARI event</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 110 Businesses (including 79 Businesses on High Street, Preston) 30 Residences 7 Public land 6 Multiple use <p>Water over the road (300mm or more) could occur on High Street, Hubert Street and Penola Street, Preston</p>
	Minor flood level
11mm in 10 mins; 19mm in 30 mins; 25mm in 1 hour; 32mm in 2 hours; 46mm in 6 hours; or 57mm in 12 hours	<p>No major community infrastructure is at risk of flooding in a 20% ARI (1 in 5 year event)</p> <p>40 properties are at risk of flooding in a 20% ARI event</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 23 Businesses 10 Residences 5 Public Use 2 Multiple Use <p>Water over the road (300mm or more) on High St and Hubert St.</p>

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 Melbourne 774 AM SKY NEWS Television 3AW 693 AM	
■ VICSES Social Media	facebook.com/vicses twitter.com/vicsesnews	
■ Preparing for Flood Emergencies	ses.vic.gov.au/get-ready	
■ SES Northcote Unit	facebook.com/SESNorthcote	
■ Creating an Emergency Plan	redcross.org.au/prepare	
■ Melbourne Water	melbournewater.com.au	131 722
■ City of Darebin	darebin.vic.gov.au	8470 8888

**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. Severe Thunderstorm Warnings are issued to the community by BoM.

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](http://www.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 powerlines 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.