



# Local Flood Guide

## *Eagle Point*

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



EAST GIPPSLAND  
CATCHMENT  
MANAGEMENT  
AUTHORITY



EAST GIPPSLAND  
SHIRE COUNCIL



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.

**Cover:** Eagle Point Jetty, *Victoria State Emergency Service*, 2007.

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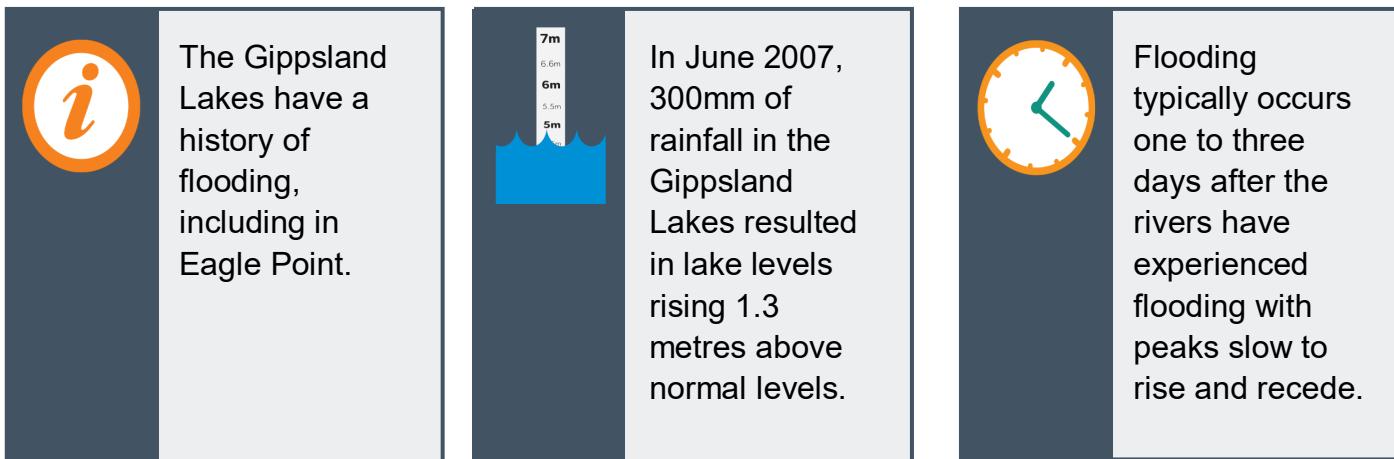


For more information visit: [ses.vic.gov.au/plan-and-stay-safe](http://ses.vic.gov.au/plan-and-stay-safe)



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## Local flood information



### Why does Eagle Point flood?

Eagle Point is at risk of both **riverine flooding** and **flash flooding**, which can happen separately or at the same time. Both are usually caused by heavy rainfall.

#### Riverine flooding

This happens when the Gippsland Lakes including Eagle Point Bay rises and spills water onto land. The most common cause is **prolonged** heavy rainfall.

- The Latrobe, Macalister, Avon, Mitchell, Nicholson and Tambo Rivers all flow into the Gippsland Lakes. Flooding of these rivers can in turn cause flooding of Gippsland Lakes.
- Low-lying coastal areas in Eagle Point may flood due to storm surges caused by strong winds and low pressure during storms, resulting in an abnormal rise in sea level.
- Abnormally high tides are a natural and predictable exceptionally high tide where the lake meets the land. They may cause or add to existing flooding.

#### Flash flooding

This type of flooding can happen quickly and you may not receive an official warning. Although these floods only last short time, they can cause severe damage.

- Stormwater drainage may not be able to drain the amount of rainfall, causing them to overflow.

### 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.

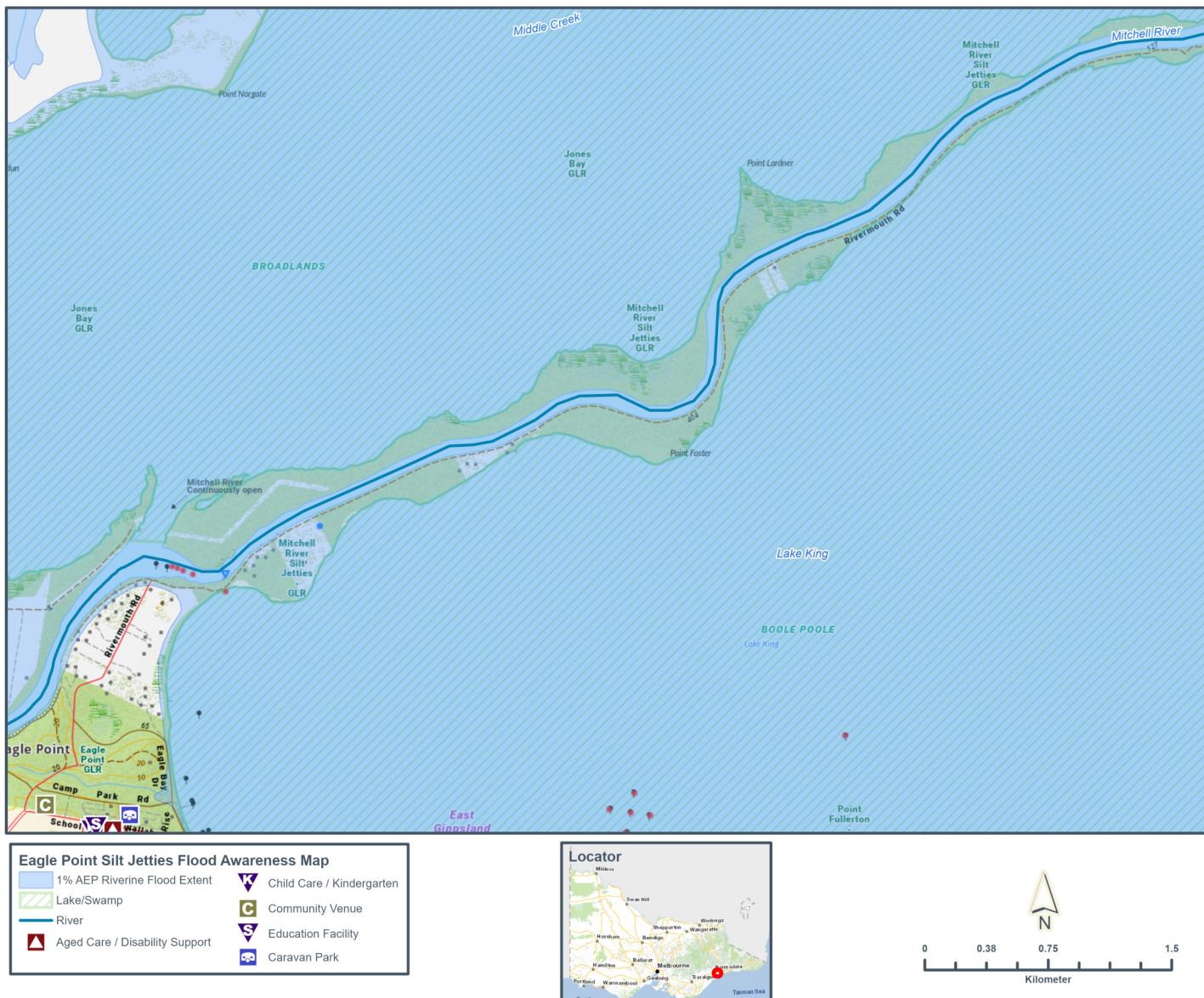
- This map shows the area of Eagle Point likely to flood at 2.0 metre height measured at the McMillans Strait at Paynesville gauge.
- This is referred to as a 1% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) which means there is a 1% chance of this size flood (or greater) happening in any year.



## 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 of Eagle Point Silt Jetties likely to flood at 2.0 metres height measured at the McMillans Strait at Paynesville gauge.
- 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.



**Stay safe by never driving through floodwater.**  
It can take just 15cm of flowing water to float a car,  
that's the height of an average pen.

**Image:** Paynesville Road, Eagle Point. Shirley Bott. 2007.



## 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 floodwater heights 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 floodwater height and warning information to understand what the potential impacts may be for you and your community.

Floodwater Height (metres)*	Potential impacts and previous flood events <sup>^</sup>
2.0m	1% AEP height, see <a href="#">page 4</a> and <a href="#">page 5</a>
1.50m	2007 flood level <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 110 properties in Eagle Point on Bay Road, Rogerson Court, Green Street, Rivermouth Road, Yalca Court and Eagle Bay Drive will be impacted by floodwater.</li><li>• Lakeside roads, parks and car parks will have water up to 1 metre deep in some areas.</li></ul>
1.35m	1998 flood level
<b>1.30m</b>	<b>Major flood level</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Up to 100 properties in Eagle Point will be flooded, some above their floor level.</li><li>• Rivermouth Road will be impassable at the boat ramp with dangerous flows from the Mitchell River at this point likely.</li><li>• Lake King Waterfront Caravan park and up to 76 properties in Eagle Point will start to flood.</li></ul>
1.00m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rivermouth Road at the boat ramp may be closed due to the Mitchell River breaking out, isolating homes on the silt jetties.</li><li>• Areas of Paynesville Road near Macleod Morass will start to be impacted by water.</li></ul>
<b>0.70m</b>	<b>Minor flood level</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rivermouth Road and Taka Court in Eagle Point will start to flood.</li><li>• Properties adjacent to the lake on Bay Road, Rogerson Court, Green Street and Rivermouth Road start to be impacted by floodwater.</li><li>• Boat ramps, jetties and lakeside car parks will start to flood.</li></ul>
0.20m	Average tidal range
0.00m	

The height measurement is at the McMillan Straits at Paynesville Gauge,

<sup>^</sup>This table includes information from previous flood events.

## What areas are likely to flood?

During a flood, roads may flood and could be closed.

For current road closures, check [VicTraffic](#). [VicEmergency](#) may include road closures in its warnings, see [page 8](#) for more information.

## East Gippsland Emergency Dashboard

East Gippsland Shire Council's Emergency Dashboard provides community with centralised real-time access to emergency information including weather, emergency warnings, road closures, river heights and power outages.

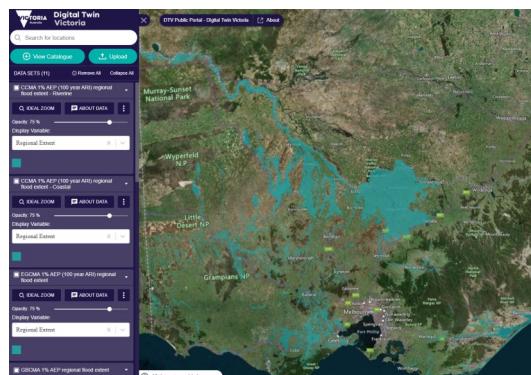
To support community preparedness the East Gippsland Emergency Dashboard provides access to:

- Local Flood Guides, via the Victoria State Emergency Service website, and
- Community Emergency Management Plans and Local Incident Management Plans on the 'Your Community' page.

Go to [emergencydashboard.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au](http://emergencydashboard.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au)



## 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.

Go to [digitaltwin.vic.gov.au](http://digitaltwin.vic.gov.au)

- 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 8](#) for more information.

## Your local services

### Catchment Management Authority

For flood advice and information on flood levels or depths when developing your property.

- **East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority**  
[egcma.com.au](http://egcma.com.au) | 03 5152 1184

### Local Council

For relief and recovery support after a flood event.

- **East Gippsland Shire Council**  
[eastgippsland.vic.gov.au](http://eastgippsland.vic.gov.au)  
03 5153 9500

# 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](http://emergency.vic.gov.au)  
1800 226 226

 vicemergency

 @vicemergency



## 3 Prepare an emergency kit



## 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](http://ses.vic.gov.au/flood)

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



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.

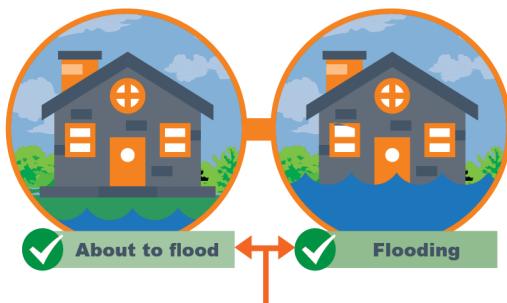


Watch a video on how to get your Emergency kit ready.  
[youtu.be/XgyLnKDMkNo](https://youtu.be/XgyLnKDMkNo)



# 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](http://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.  
[bom.gov.au/vic/flood/east\\_gippsland.shtml](http://bom.gov.au/vic/flood/east_gippsland.shtml)

### Emergency broadcasters



Radio | ABC 100.7FM or 828AM, TR FM 99.5FM, 3GV 1242AM  
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



3 day supply  
Prescriptions & medication



3 day supply  
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](http://ses.vic.gov.au/flood)

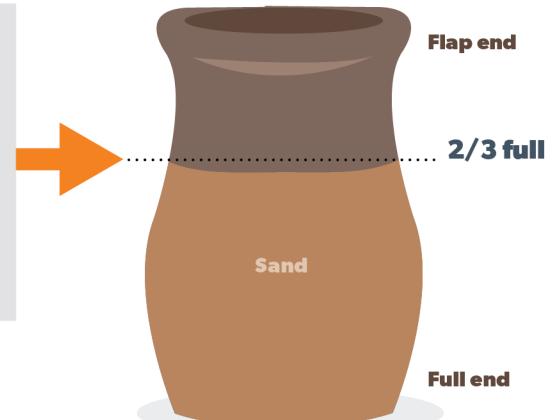


# Sandbagging

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

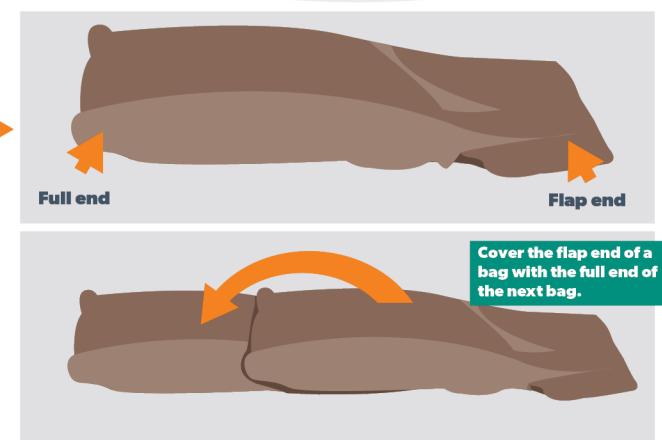
## How do I fill a sandbag?

- 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?

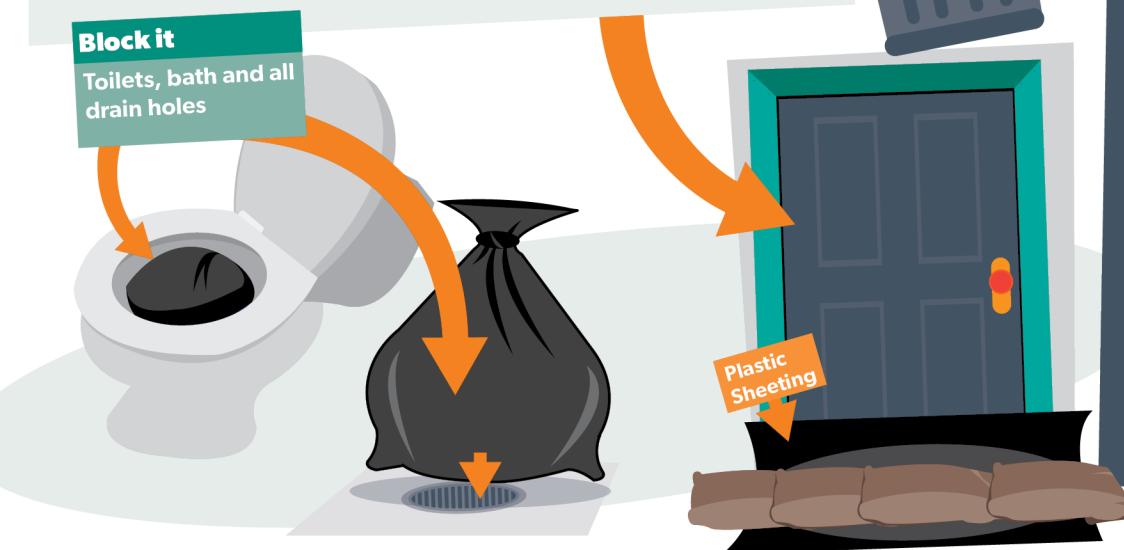
- Lay sandbags like brickwork. Stagger rows so that the joins do not line up.
- Start at one end and work to the other end.
- Ensure the unfilled part of the bag is covered by the next bag.
- Tuck flap under the bag at the end of the row.
- If the sandbag wall is going to be more than five (5) bags high,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

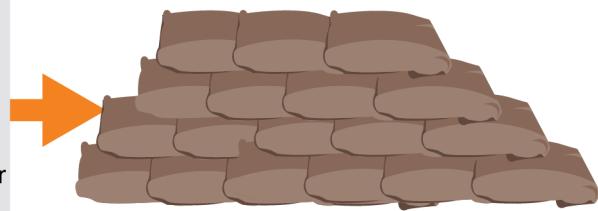


### How many sandbags will I need and how much sand?

- 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.