Local Flood Guide

Woodglen, Lindenow and Hillside

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

EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

EAST GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

SES **FLOOD STORM EMERGENCY** **132 500**

000 EMERGENCY
If life threatening call triple zero 000

Contents

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: Lindenow, *Victoria State Emergency Service .* 2007.
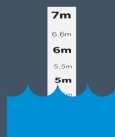
Content reviewed: September 2025

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

Woodglen, Lindenow and Hillside Local Flood Guide

Local flood information

The areas around Woodglen, Lindenow and Hillside have a history of flooding including in 1990, 1998, 2007 & 2016.

The largest flood on record was in 2007 when the floodwater reached 7.3 metres at the Glenaladale gauge.

Flooding can happen within hours, giving people little to no time to prepare and take action.

Why does Woodglen, Lindenow and Hillside flood?

Woodglen, Lindenow and Hillside are 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 Mitchell River, Skull Creek and other creeks rise and overflow their banks, and spill water onto land.

- Woodglen, Lindenow and Hillside are built around the Mitchell River and Skull Creek, and parts of the towns are on the Mitchell River floodplain, the naturally low-lying areas more likely to be impacted in a flood.

- Rainfall from as far away as Mount Hotham can end up flowing into the Mitchell River, potentially causing, or adding to flooding.

- When temperatures rise quickly, snow in the Alpine National Park can melt, increasing the water level in the Mitchell River potentially causing or adding to 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.

- Mitchell River or Skull Creek may quickly rise, causing water to rise and overflow its banks.

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

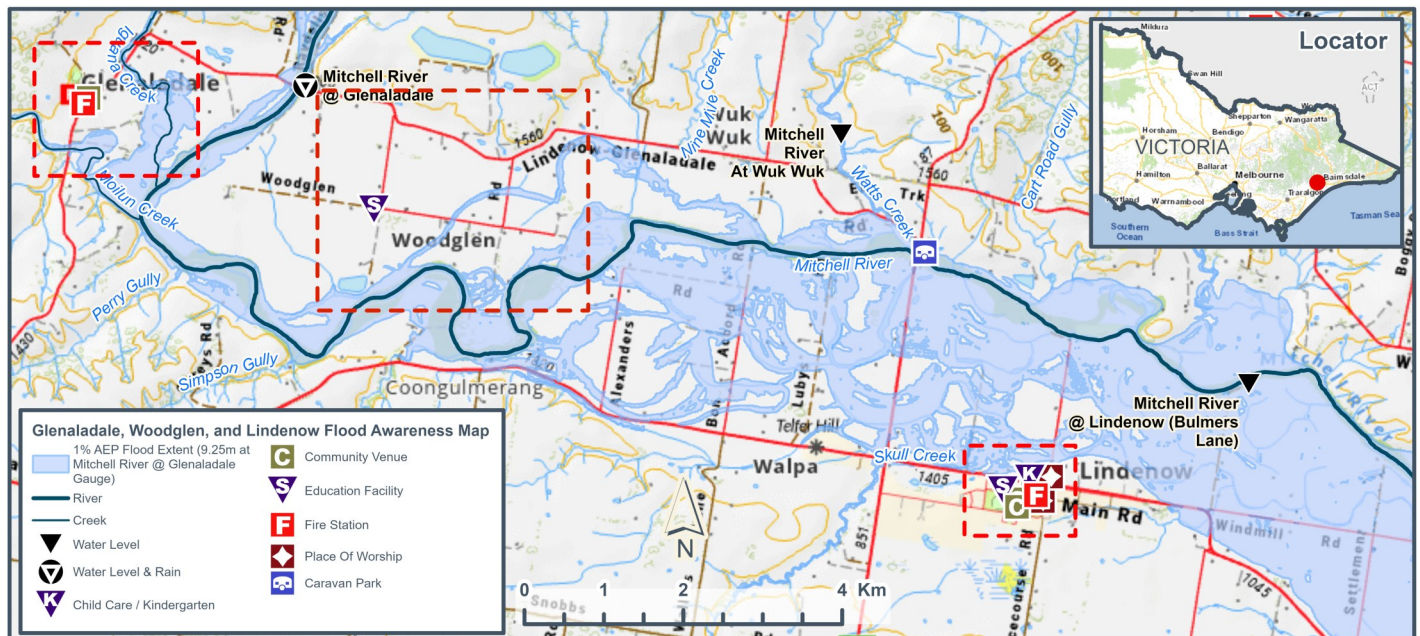**Mobile and internet network outage**

Sewage overflows inside building

Check your home, work, and travel routes for floodwater

If these maps shows potential flood risk for you, ensure you take action to **plan and prepare for floods**. See page 8 for more information.
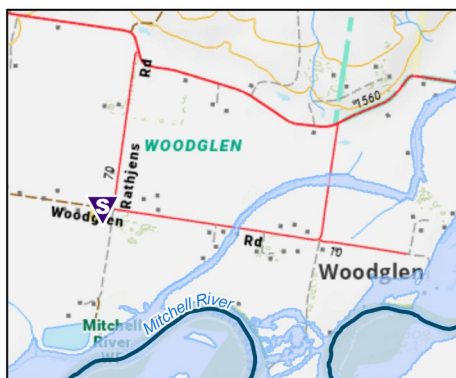
- The following maps show the areas likely to flood in a 1% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP), which means there is a 1% chance of this size flood (or greater) happening in any year.

- A 1% AEP is larger than the 2007 flood which measured 8.3m at the Mitchell River at Glenaladale gauge.

Map A: Glenaladale

Map B: Woodglen

Map C: Lindenow

Flood Extent Source: FloodZoom (Mitchell River Flood Study, Water Technology, 2019)

Basemap © Veris

Flood water conditions

It is important to understand that floodwater can contain additional hazards such as :

- Debris including trees, fencing and other objects in floodwater creating dangerous obstacles

- Wildlife such as insects, snakes, spiders and rodents can be transported by floodwater,

- Hazardous material such as chemicals can be present in floodwater, and

- Muddied water and sediment can affect the quality and visibility.

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^
3.0m	**Minor Flood Level**
	• Bairnsdale-Dargo Road at Bashfords Road and Lindenow-Glenaladale Road north of Bairnsdale-Dargo Road have water across the road
	• Water is confined to the river channel throughout the Mitchell River Flats.
4.5m	**Moderate Flood Level**
5.4m	• Lindenow-Glenaladale Road at Rodericks Road and the Calulu Bridge and Fernbank-Glenaladale Road at Moilun Creek are unpassable due to water across the road.
	• Low lying areas of Soldiers Road, Bulmers Road, Ross Street and Hansfords Lane have water over the road and flood water is affecting farmland in Hillside.
	• Water is breaking out of the river channels and expanding across the low lying areas of the Mitchell River Flats and wetlands.
5.5m	**Major Flood level**
6.4m	• Wy Yung-Calulu Road at Boggy Creek Bridge is unpassable due to water over the road, and Lindenow-Glenaladale Road has more areas affected by flood water.
	• Windmill Road, Settlement Road, Thatchers Lane, Bon Accord Road, Lubys Lane, Alexanders Road and Baudinetts Road between Scotts Road and Hillside Road have water over the road, possibly isolating properties.
	• Water covers a greater extent of the Mitchell River Flats with some areas having flowing water.
8.4m	• Bairnsdale-Dargo Road at Windmill Road is unpassable due to water across the road.
	• Fernbank-Glenaladale Road at the Iguana Creek has water across the road, potentially isolating the Glenaladale township.
	• The Mitchell River Flats are now completely flooded with some areas having fast flowing water.
9.3m	**1% Annual Exceedance Possibility, see page 4.**
	• Bairnsdale-Dargo Road is unpassable between Bon Accord Road and Cowells Lane.
	• Low lying areas of Marshalls Road, Woodglen Road and Perry Road have water across the road, potentially isolating businesses and properties.
	• The Mitchell River Flats are flooded with most areas having fast flowing water.

*The height measurement is at the Mitchell River at Glenaladale gauge.

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

What roads are likely to flood?

During a flood low-lying roads may flood and could be closed, impacting access in the Woodglen, Lindenow and Hillside area.

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

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.

2007 Flood Event - $116 million in damages

Wuk Wuk Bridge, 2007. *Victoria State Emergency Service*

7.3 Metres^

1000 Homes

200 Businesses affected

700 Primary Producers impacted

1998 Flood - 7.9 metres^	1990 Flood - 7.6 metres^	2016 Flood - 6.3 metres^
Region wide damages -$78M	Region wide damages -$20M	Region wide damages -$4.8M
■ One loss of life.	■ 7 homes flooded in Lindenow ■ One loss of life.	■ 150 farms affected. ■ 100 stock losses.

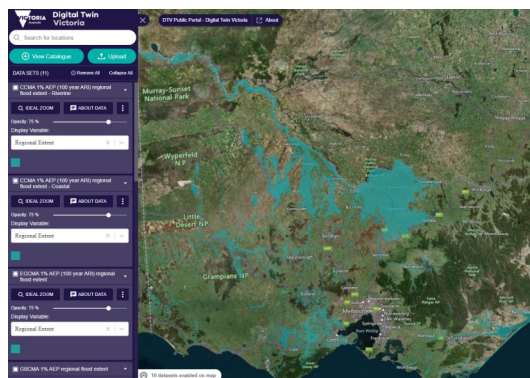^ measurement taken at Mitchell river at Glenaladale gauge.

Floodwater can be very deep, rise quickly and move fast.
Stay safe by avoiding flooded areas.

Bairnsdale - Dargo Road, Walpa. *SES Bairnsdale Unit*. December 2021.

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.

Go to digitaltwin.vic.gov.au

In a flood emergency, stay informed through VicEmergency, see page 8 for more information.

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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 | 03 5152 1184

Local Council
For relief and recovery support after a flood event.

- **East Gippsland Shire Council**
  eastgippsland.vic.gov.au
  03 5153 9500

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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

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.

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

f vicemergency

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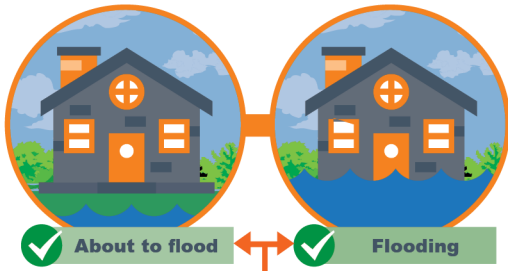
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For more details and other tips, visit:
ses.vic.gov.au/flood

What to do in a flood emergency

When to call VICSES

About to flood ✓   ↔   ✓ Flooding

SES   **Flood emergency assistance call VICSES 132 500**

000 EMERGENCY   **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

f vicemergency   **X** @vicemergency

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

Bureau of Meteorology

BOM Monitor rainfall, river levels, weather forecasts/warnings.
bom.gov.au/vic/flood/east_gippsland.shtml

Emergency broadcasters

Radio | ABC Gippsland 828AM

TV | Sky News

If you expect floodwater at your property

1   Plastic Sheeting

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.
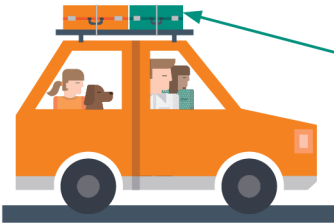
3

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 (3 day supply) | Clothes for your family (3 day supply) | 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.

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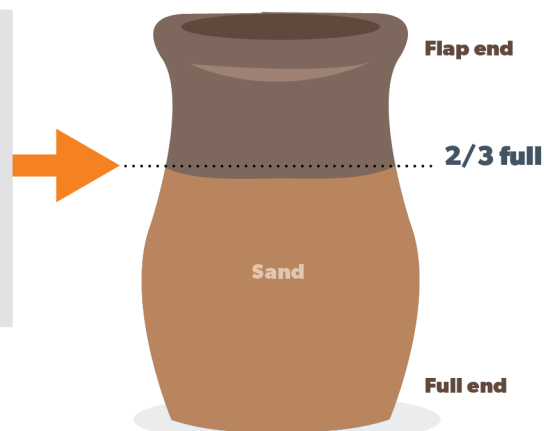ses.vic.gov.au/flood

Sandbagging

Sandbags won't stop the water completely, but can reduce the amount of water entering your home.
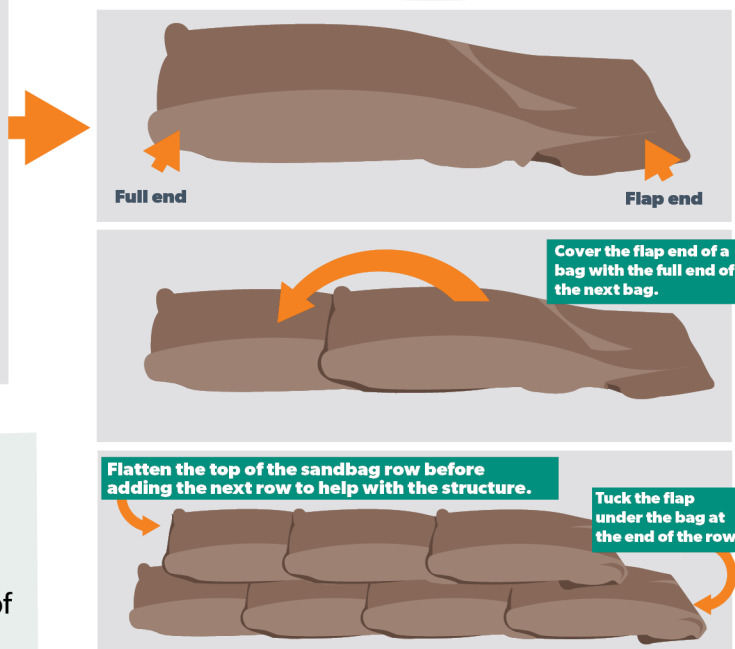
How do I fill a sandbag?

- 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.

Flap end

2/3 full

Sand

Full end

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.

Full end

Flap end

Cover the flap end of a bag with the full end of the next bag.

Flatten the top of the sandbag row before adding the next row to help with the structure.

Tuck the flap under the bag at the end of the row.
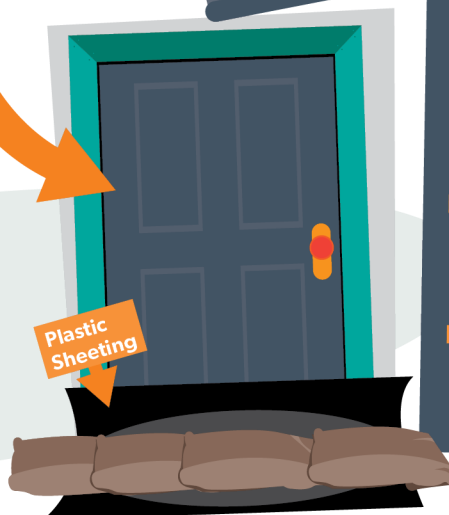
Where do I place the sandbags?

- 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

Plastic Sheeting

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

SES

Preparing your home
Having sandbag supplies ready can assist you before a flooding emergency occurs.
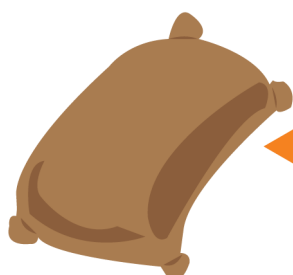
What supplies do I need to sandbag my home?

- 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.
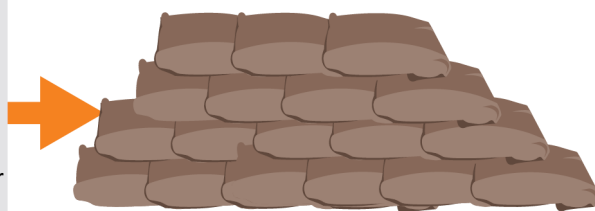
PADDY'S HARDWARE

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.