

Albert Street, Creswick 2022



Local Flood Guide

Creswick

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.

Content reviewed: August 2025



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

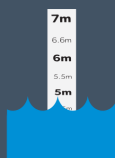


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Local flood information



Flash flooding in Creswick has occurred frequently. Flooding after a drought is typically more severe.



The largest floods on record were in 2010 and 2011, which were both classified as major flood events.



Flooding can happen quickly after heavy rainfall, giving people little to no time to prepare and take action.

Why does Creswick flood?

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.

- The ground may be unable to absorb the amount of rainfall naturally causing the water to pool.
- Stormwater drainage may not be able to drain the amount of rainfall, causing them to overflow.
- The main waterway through Creswick is Creswick Creek, which flows from Dean to the east of Creswick. Minor waterways flow into Creswick Creek and contribute to the rapid onset of flash flooding in Creswick.
- There are two water storages located upstream of Creswick; St Georges Lake and Cosgrave Reservoir. If these storages are full, they are unable to reduce the amount of flooding in town. Even if they are not full, they only have a limited ability to reduce the level of flooding.

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

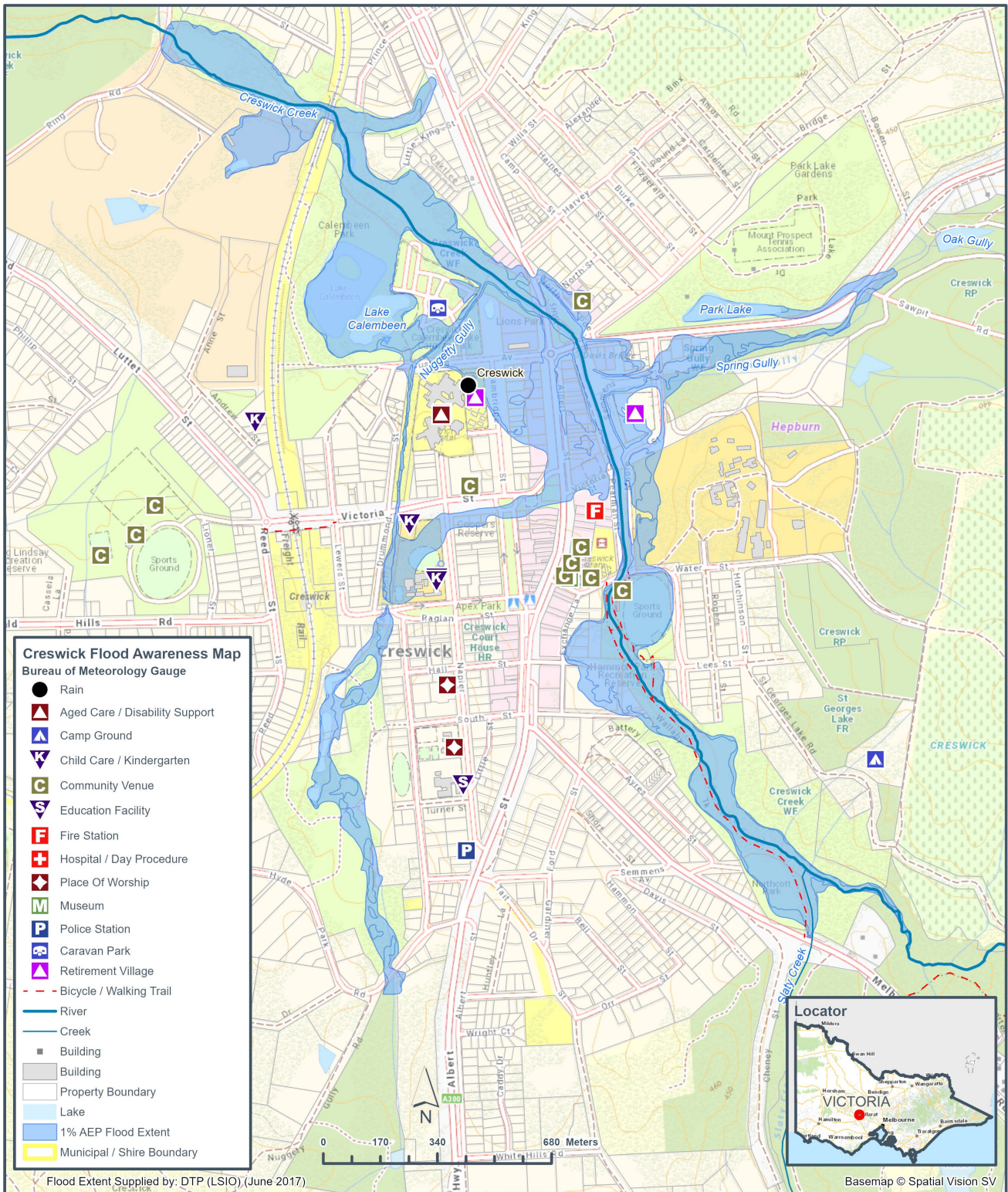
Check your home, work, and travel routes for floodwater

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 different flood events. It uses Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP), to indicate the percentage chance of a flood of this size (or greater) happening in any year.



View an interactive version of this map using North Central Catchment Management Authority's portal called [Flood Eye](#), see [page 7](#) for more details.



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 during different flood events.

- **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 on [VicEmergency](#), use the predicted floodwater height and warning information to understand what the potential impacts may be for you and your community.

Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP)	Potential impacts and previous flood events [^]
	Flood height shown on map, see page 4 .
1% AEP	51 buildings may experience above-floor flooding. Access to Creswick Primary School may be impacted, and Creswick Caravan Park could become isolated. Affected streets include Cushing Avenue, Moore Street and Albert Street.
2% AEP	January 2011 event Slightly deeper water than September 2010 flood event, same areas impacted as per September 2010 listed below; 90 homes and businesses flooded.
4% AEP	September 2010 event At this level, 90 homes and businesses are flooded including six units in Semmens Village, a motel, football oval and clubrooms, dental surgery, bowling club, part of a caravan park and primary school. Water overtops the Castlemaine Road Bridge, restricting access to and from town via Midland Highway.
5% AEP	Major flood level At major flood level (5% AEP), there are slightly less effects than the September 2010 flood. Floodwater overtops Albert Street inundating a significant number of properties including units on the south west corner of Semmens Village.
10% AEP	Moderate flood level At moderate flood level (10% AEP) Creswick Creek overtops its banks between Clunes Road and Castlemaine Road inundating North Parade. Floodwater begins to impact a few properties on the east side of Albert Street, while Creswick Creek backflows up Nuggetty Gully, flooding Cushing Avenue and a few properties south of Cushing Avenue.
20% AEP	Minor flood level At minor flood level (20% AEP) Creswick Creek floods Nuggetty Gully and water begins to pool in the open space north of Cushing Avenue, extending up to the Cushing Avenue – Cambridge Street intersection. Creswick Creek overflows, though floodwater is very shallow and no properties are affected.

[^]This table includes information from previous flood events and flood studies,

*The height measurement is at the Water Street Bridge gauge.

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.

The worst recorded floods in Creswick's recent history are the September 2010 and January 2011 flood events. These flood events occurred following heavy rainfall upstream of Creswick.

The **January 2011 flood event** caused:

- Flooding of 90 homes and businesses.
- Flooding of the Castlemaine Road Bridge, restricting access to and from town via the Midland Highway.
- Flooding of the football oval and clubrooms, dental surgery, bowling club, part of a caravan park and the primary school.

River level gauge

Creswick has a river level gauge along Creswick Creek. The gauge has been funded by the North Central Catchment Management Authority in partnership with the SES.

- The gauge is located at the Water Street Bridge.
- This gauge helps you to observe how quickly water is rising or falling in future floods.

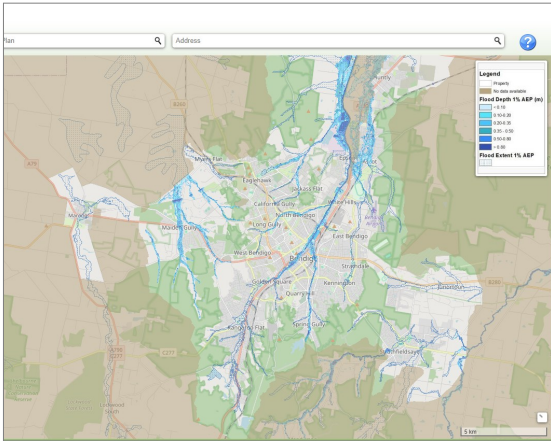


Stay safe by never driving through floodwater. It can take just 15cm of flowing water to float a car, that's the height of an average pen.



Victoria Street, Creswick 2010

Download your free Property Flood Report



[Flood Eye](#), developed by the North Central Catchment Management Authority, is a tool for residents and businesses to assess their flood risk.

- Use the portal to zoom in on your property and see if it's likely to be affected in a large flood event.
- Download a free property report for properties inside the mapped area.

Go to floodreports.nccma.vic.gov.au



In a flood emergency, stay informed through [VicEmergency](#), see [page 8](#) for more information.

Your local services

Catchment Management Authority

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

- **North Central Catchment Management Authority**
nccma.vic.gov.au | 03 5448 7124

Local Council

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

- **Hepburn Shire Council**
hepburn.vic.gov.au | 03 5348 2306



Floodwater can be very deep, rise quickly and move fast.

Stay safe by avoiding flooded areas.

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



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.

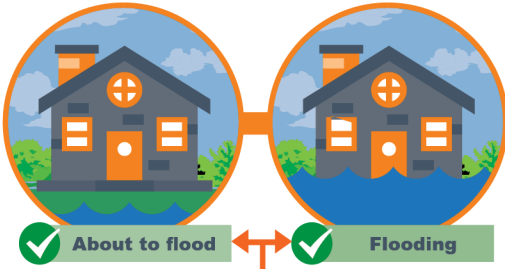


For more details and other tips, visit:
ses.vic.gov.au/flood



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.

bom.gov.au/vic/flood/north_central.shtml

Emergency broadcasters



Radio | ABC 774AM, 107.9FM, Voice FM 99.9FM

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.

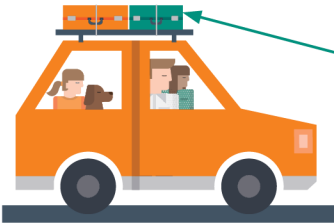
3



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:

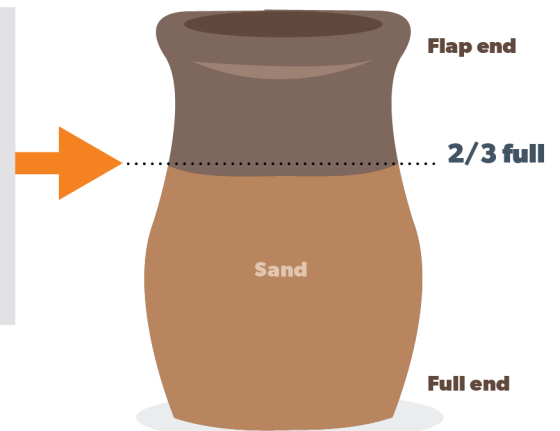
ses.vic.gov.au/flood

Sandbagging

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

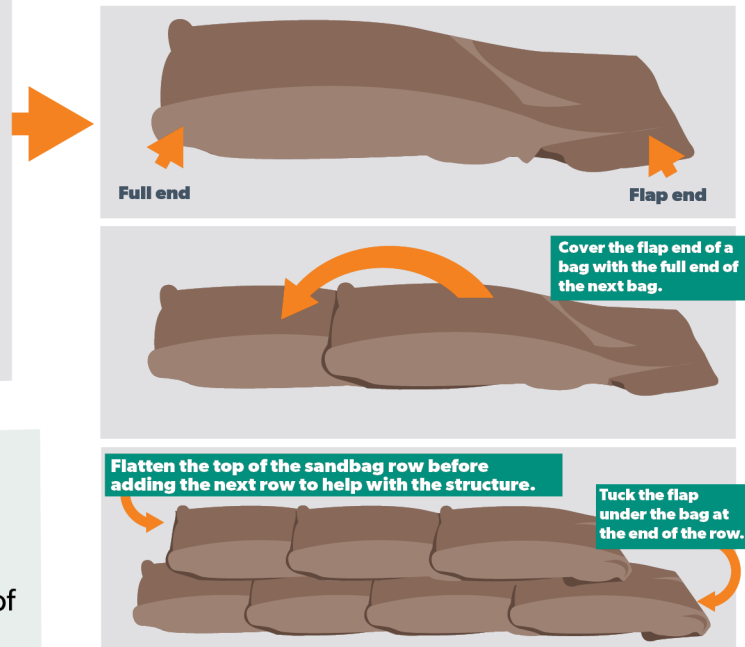
How do I fill a sandbag?

- 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.

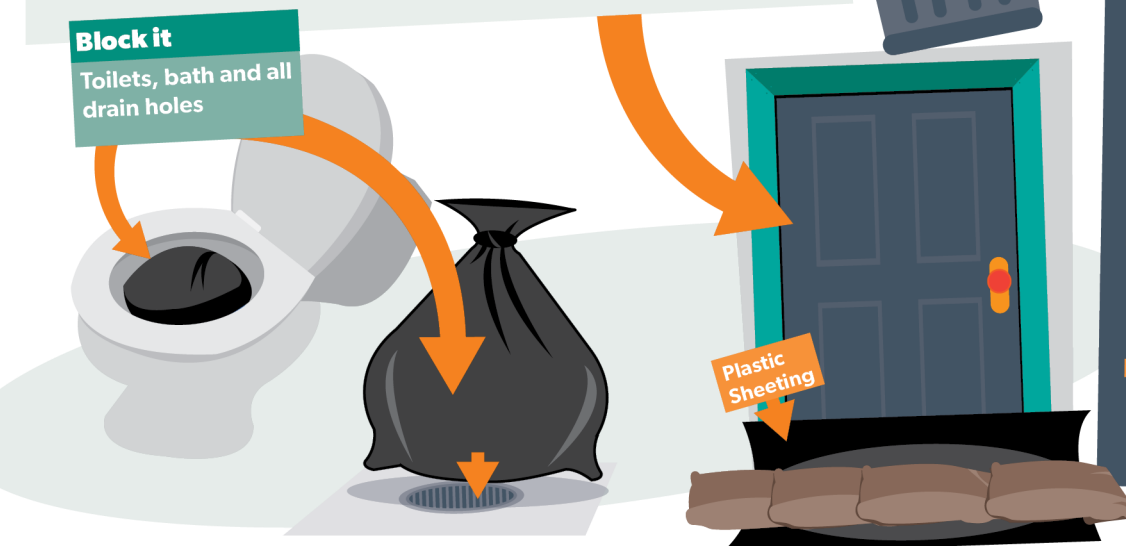


Where do I place the sandbags?

- 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.

Preparing your home

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

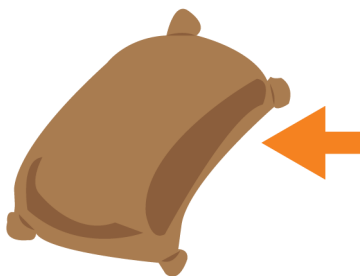


What supplies do I need to sandbag my home?

- 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.

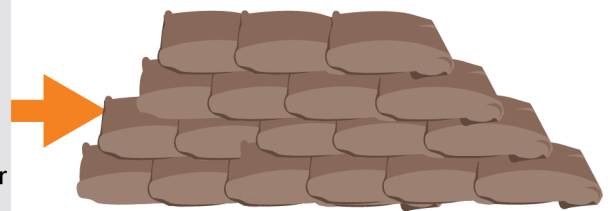


How many sandbags will I need and how much sand?

- 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.