

Albert Street, 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

# Contents



■ <b>Local flood information</b>	<b><u>Page 3</u></b>
Why does Creswick flood?	<u>Page 3</u>
How do floods impact communities?	<u>Page 3</u>
Check your home, work, and travel routes for floodwater	<u>Page 4</u>
What might happen in a flood in your area?	<u>Page 5</u>
Previous flood impacts	<u>Page 6</u>
Creswick flood mitigation	<u>Page 6</u>
River level gauge	<u>Page 6</u>
Download your free Property Flood Report	<u>Page 7</u>
Your local services	<u>Page 7</u>
■ <b>Plan and prepare for floods</b>	<b><u>Page 8</u></b>
■ <b>What to do in a flood emergency</b>	<b><u>Page 9</u></b>
■ <b>Sandbag Guide</b>	<b><u>Page 10</u></b>



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:** February 2026



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



This material/publication was produced with funding provided by the Australian Government in partnership with the States and Territories under the National Partnership Agreement for Disaster Risk Reduction.



## Local flood information

 <p>Flash flooding in Creswick has occurred frequently. Flooding after a drought is typically more severe.</p>	 <p>The largest floods on record were in 2010 and 2022, which were both classified as major flood events.</p>	 <p>Flooding can happen quickly after heavy rainfall, giving people little to no time to prepare and take action.</p>
---	--	--

## 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?

 <p>Buildings flooded</p>	 <p>Road closures</p>	 <p>Drinking water supply and quality affected</p>	 <p>Power outages</p>	 <p>Mobile and internet network outage</p>	 <p>Sewage overflows inside building</p>
--	--	---	--	---	---

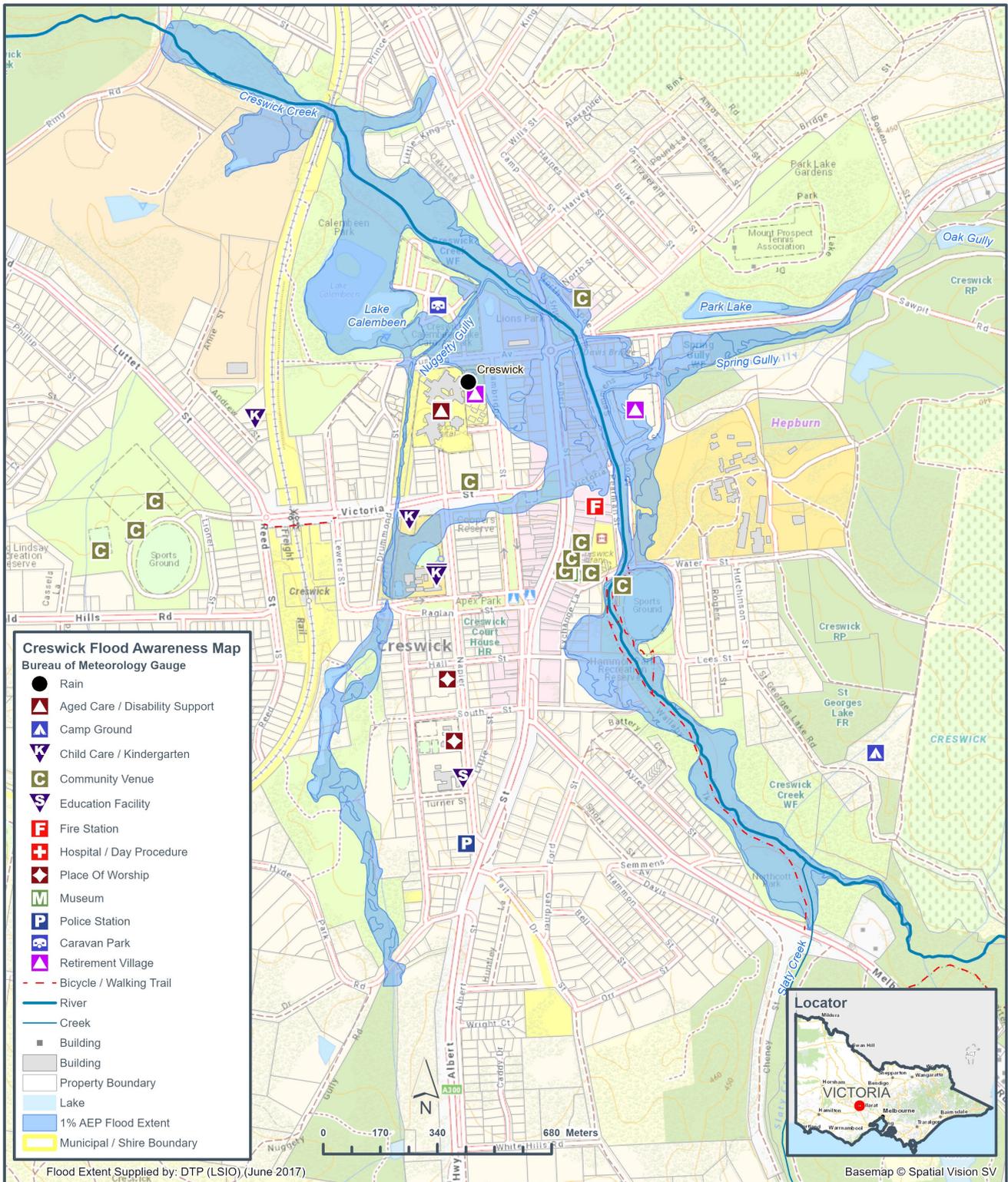
## Check your home, work, and travel routes for floodwater

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.



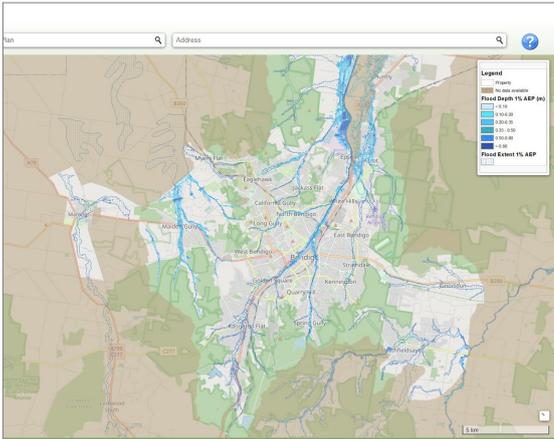
## What might happen in a flood in your area?

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.

Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP)	Potential impacts and previous flood events <sup>^</sup>
1% AEP	<p>Flood height shown on map, see <a href="#">page 4</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 99 residential buildings flooded above floor level.</li> <li>■ 26 commercial buildings flooded above floor level including Farmers Arms Bottle Shop and Creswick Primary School on Raglan Street.</li> <li>■ 586 properties flooded below floor level.</li> <li>■ Creswick Caravan Park becomes isolated.</li> </ul>
2% AEP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 91 residential buildings and 24 commercial buildings flooded above floor level.</li> <li>■ 517 properties flooded below flood level.</li> <li>■ IGA Supermarket flooded above floor level.</li> <li>■ Creswick Caravan Park is isolated.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>January 2011 Event</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 90 buildings flooded above floor level.</li> <li>■ Hammon Park Oval is flooded.</li> <li>■ Water Street Bridge is flooded.</li> <li>■ Creswick Caravan park is flooded.</li> </ul>
5% AEP	<p><b>Major flood level</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Nuggetty Gully may overtop the bluestone wall at the Primary school, but impact is minimal.</li> <li>■ 69 residential and 19 commercial buildings flooded above floor level.</li> <li>■ 496 properties flooded below floor level.</li> </ul> <p><b>September 2010 Event</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Approximately 90 buildings were flooded above floor.</li> <li>■ Hammon Park oval and former football club rooms flooded (no relocated)</li> <li>■ Culverts were blocked with accumulated debris washed down from upstream waterway</li> </ul>
10% AEP	<p><b>Moderate flood level</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The Creswick Community Health Centre and Creswick Police Station are impacted by flooding.</li> <li>■ 51 residential and 12 commercial buildings flooded above floor level.</li> <li>■ 383 properties flooded below floor level.</li> </ul>
20% AEP	<p><b>Minor flood level</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Creswick Creek overlaps into low-lying areas such as Calemben Park and Hammon Park Oval.</li> <li>■ Essential infrastructure including Creswick CFA, Creswick Primary School, Scout Hall, and John Curtain Aged Care may also be affected.</li> <li>■ 8 residential and 4 commercial buildings flooded floor level.</li> <li>■ 287 properties flooded below floor level.</li> </ul>



## 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](https://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](https://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](https://hepburn.vic.gov.au) | 03 5348 2306



# 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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://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.

[https://www.bom.gov.au/vic/flood/north\\_central.shtml](https://www.bom.gov.au/vic/flood/north_central.shtml)

### Emergency broadcasters



Radio | ABC 774AM or 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](https://ses.vic.gov.au/flood)

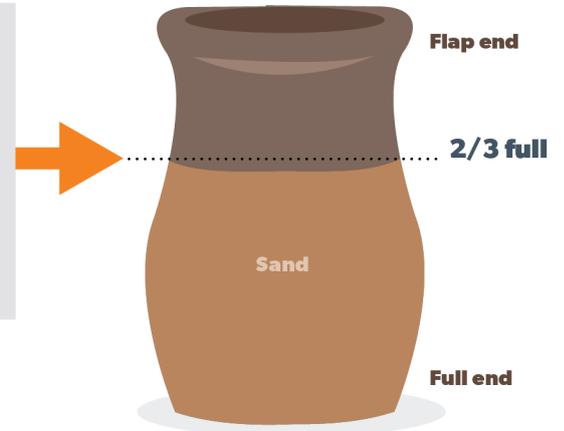


# Sandbagging

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

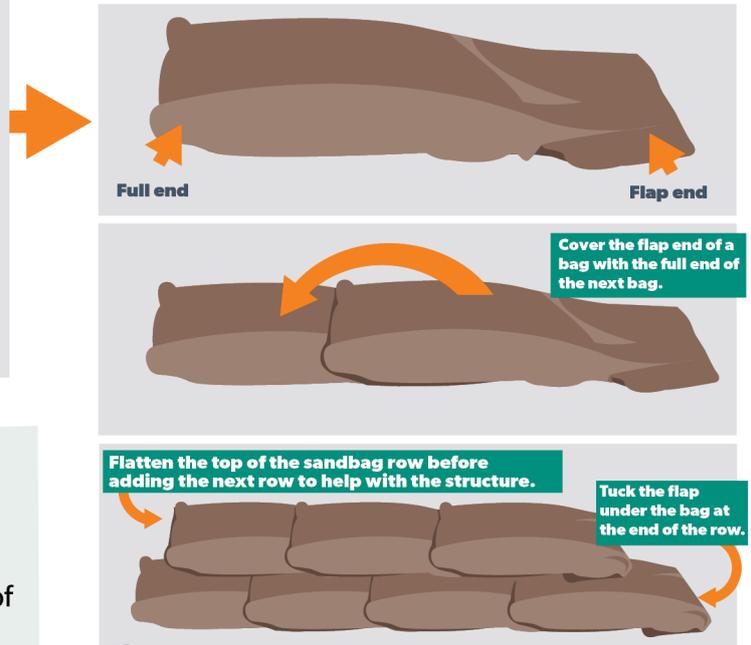
## How do I fill a sandbag?

- 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



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

## Preparing your home

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

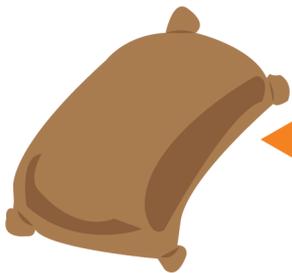


### What supplies do I need to sandbag my home?

- 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.

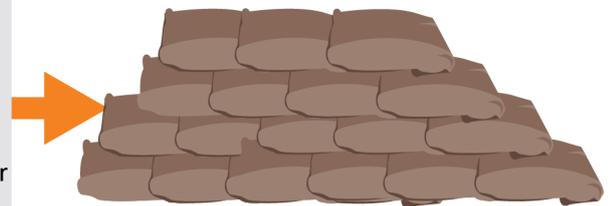


### How many sandbags will I need and how much sand?

- 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.