



# Altona and Seaholme

## Local Flood Guide

Flood information for Altona and Seaholme in Hobsons Bay



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

**HOBSONS BAY LANGUAGE LINE**

**9932 1212**

INTERPRETER SERVICE FOR ALL LANGUAGES  
AND RECORDED COUNCIL INFORMATION IN:

English	العربية	Ελληνικά
Italiano	မြန်မာစာ	Tiếng Việt
粵語	Македонски	普通话

Your Council in your language





### Hobsons Bay

Altona and Seaholme are suburbs that are home to one of only two suburban swimming beaches west of the Melbourne Central Business District. As coastal suburbs, Altona and Seaholme whilst being predominantly residential, are also full of coastal walks, parks and reserves that are popular with locals and visitors alike. In addition to the ocean, other waterways in the area include Laverton Creek, Cherry Lake and Kororoit Creek.

Altona and Seaholme have relatively flat terrain. This, in combination with the waterways and ocean, put the areas at risk of storm surge, river and flash flooding.

The map below shows the impact of a 1% flood in the Altona/ Seaholme area. A 1% flood means there is a 1% chance a flood this size could happen in any given year. This map is provided as a guide to possible flooding in the area.



#### 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?

Altona and Seaholme are coastal suburbs on relatively flat terrain. This makes the stretch of land near the bay susceptible to flooding during high intensity rain or storm events. When a storm occurs during a very high tide and southerly winds, sea water can come over the flood wall next to the beach. This is called ‘storm surge’ flooding and results in Beach Street and The Esplanade flooding frequently; especially near Sargood and Bayview street. It can also lead to potential flooding of underground car parks.

Flash flooding can also be an issue for the Altona/ Seaholme area, where a high amount of rain occurs and can't drain away fast enough. This can especially occur during high tides where the drains can struggle with the push of water back from the ocean combining with the flat terrain of Altona and Seaholme. Areas that can be affected include:

- McIntyre Drive
- Civic Parade all the way to McIntyre Drive
- The area between Civic Parade and the railway line from Seves Street
- Areas south of Linnet Street, either side of Mulga/ Manning Street.



**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.**

Finally, the Altona and Seaholme area is also at risk from flooding during longer rain events where Laverton Creek, Cherry Lake and Kororoit Creek could flood. Green areas and levees in the area provide some protection for properties, but the Altona/ Racecourse road and sections of the Werribee railway line may be flooded if the Kororoit Creek overflows.

Areas at risk of flooding in Altona and Seaholme should be avoided if flooding occurs. These include:

ALTONA	McIntyre Drive	SEAHOLME
Civic Parade	Millers Road	Acacia Avenue
Grieve Parade	Robin Street	Central Avenue
Kororoit Creek Road	Seagull Avenue	Civic Parade
Dove Avenue	Seves Street	Waratah Street
The Esplanade	Stanley Street	Wattle Grove
Linnet Street	Taras Avenue (ALTONA NORTH)	



# Flood warnings and emergency checklist

## Did you know?

Altona and Seaholme have a history of flooding, including flooding in 1963, 1977, 1983 and 2005. More recently, flooding has occurred in the area with the following results:

- In January 2020, a man had to be rescued from his car by SES on Kororoit Creek Road after the road became flooded due to heavy rain.
- Other rescues of people from their cars trapped in flood water occurred in June 2019 on Merton Street and in December 2017 on Racecourse Drive.
- In 2010, all underground residential car parks near The Esplanade and Beach Street flooded due to heavy rain.



The Esplanade, Altona. 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2014

## Staying Informed and Further Information

- |                                   |  |              |
|-----------------------------------|--|--------------|
| ■ Current warnings (VicEmergency) | <a href="http://emergency.vic.gov.au">emergency.vic.gov.au</a>   | 1800 226 226 |
| ■ Bureau of Meteorology (BoM)     | <a href="http://bom.gov.au/vic/warnings">bom.gov.au/vic/warnings</a>   | 1300 659 217 |
| ■ VicRoads Traffic                | <a href="http://traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au">traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au</a>   |              |
| ■ Emergency Broadcasters          | ABC 774<br>SKY NEWS Television<br>STEREO 974 (97.4 FM)   |              |
| ■ VICSES Social Media             | <a href="https://facebook.com/vicses">facebook.com/vicses</a><br><a href="https://twitter.com/vicsesnews">twitter.com/vicsesnews</a> |              |
| ■ SES Hobsons Bay Unit            | <a href="https://facebook.com/hobsonsbayeses/">facebook.com/hobsonsbayeses/</a>  |              |
| ■ Preparing for Flood Emergencies | <a href="http://ses.vic.gov.au/get-ready">ses.vic.gov.au/get-ready</a>   |              |
| ■ Creating an Emergency Plan      | <a href="http://redcross.org.au/prepare">redcross.org.au/prepare</a>   |              |
| ■ Melbourne Water                 | <a href="http://melbournewater.com.au">melbournewater.com.au</a>   | 131 722      |
| ■ Hobsons Bay City Council        | <a href="http://hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au">hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au</a>   | 9932 1000    |

**Life-threatening  
Emergency  
000**



## Bureau of Meteorology Warnings

**Warnings** are issued by the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) to tell people about possible flooding.

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><b>EMERGENCY WARNING</b></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><b>WARNING (WATCH AND ACT)</b></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><b>ADVICE</b></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><b>PREPARE TO EVACUATE/ EVACUATE NOW</b></p> <p>An evacuation is recommended or procedures are in place to evacuate.</p>
	<p><b>COMMUNITY INFORMATION</b></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><b>EMERGENCY ALERT</b></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](http://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](http://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.