

Pryors Road, Horsham 2011



Local Flood Guide

Horsham

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



FLOOD STORM
EMERGENCY **132 500**

000
EMERGENCY
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.

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

Local flood information

	<p>There have been 17 significant flood events in Horsham between 1909 and 2016.</p>		<p>The largest flood on record was in 2011 when the floodwater reached 4.27 metres at the Walmer Stream gauge.</p>		<p>Flooding can happen within hours, giving people little to no time to prepare and take action.</p>
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Why does Horsham flood?

Horsham 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 Wimmera River and Burnt Creek rises and overflows their banks, and spills water onto land.

- Horsham is built around the Wimmera River and Burnt Creek and parts of the town are on the floodplain, the naturally low-lying areas more likely to be impacted in a flood.
- Rainfall from as far away as Mt Cole can end up flowing into the Wimmera 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 a short time, they can cause severe damage.

- Stormwater drainage may not be able to drain the amount of rainfall, causing it 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

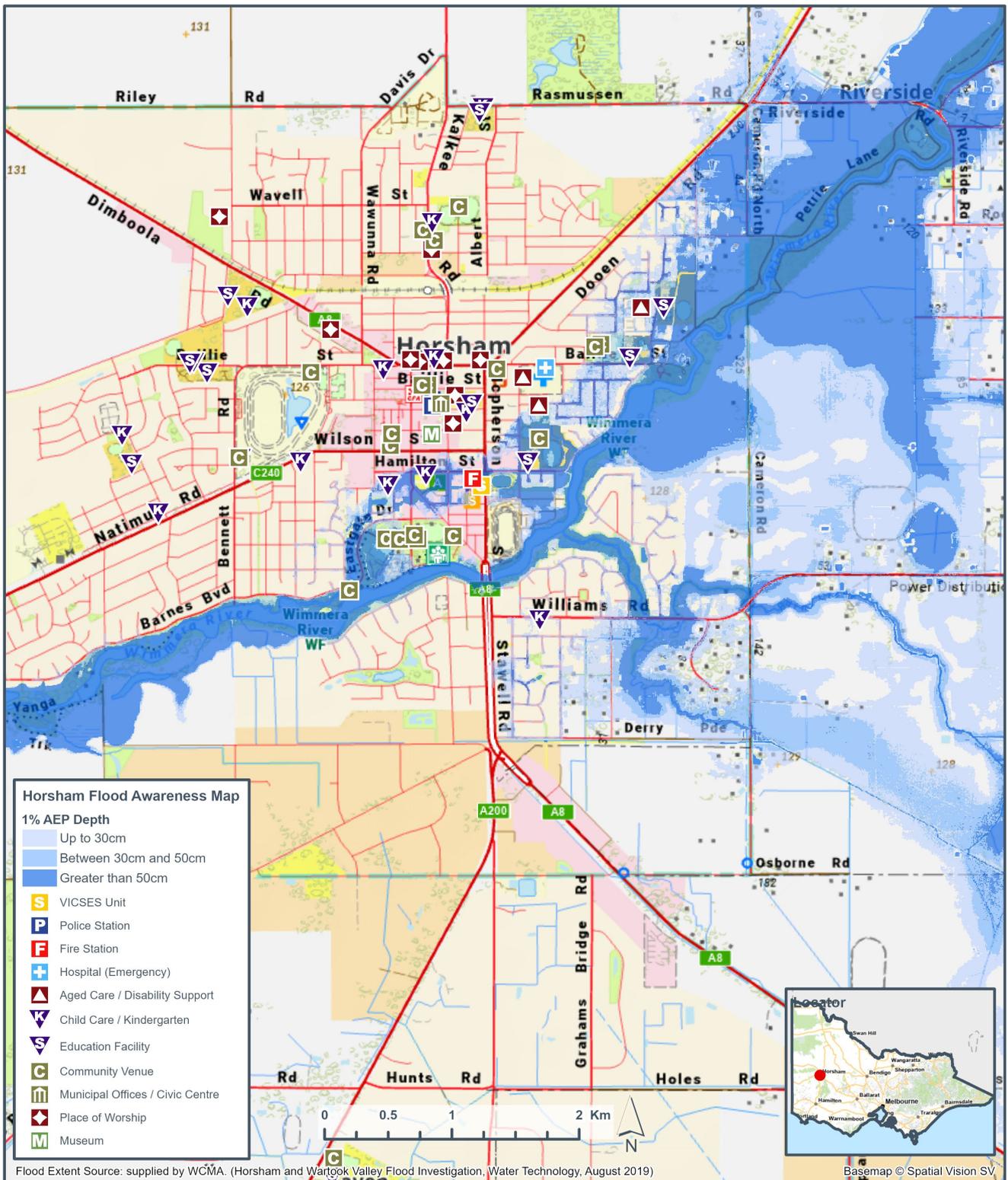
Check your home, work, and travel routes for floodwater

If this map shows potential flood risk for you, ensure you take action to **plan and prepare for floods**. See page 9 for more information.

- This map shows the area likely to flood in a significant event that would measure at least 4.27 metres high at the Walmer stream gauge.
- This height is 0.67 metres above the major flood level, see page 5 for more information.



View an interactive version of this map through the [Wimmera Catchment Management Authority](#), see page 8 more for information.



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.



Height (metres)	How likely is this flood to happen^	Potential impacts and previous flood events
4.40m	.5% AEP (or greater) chance in any year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 302 buildings are flooded above floor level ■ 890 properties impacted by flooding. ■ Deep flooding may cut access to houses along Barnes Boulevard between Dixon Court and Wotonga Drive.
4.29m	1% AEP (or greater) chance in any year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 182 buildings are flooded above floor level ■ 773 properties impacted by flooding. ■ Deep flooding may cut access to Brigid Court and Coughlin Court.
4.27m	January 2011 flood event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ More than 182 buildings were flooded above floor including buildings at the Holy Trinity Lutheran College, St Brigids College and the 298 Campus of the Horsham Primary School. ■ Several buildings were impacted by stormwater flooding. ■ Access was cut to a significant number of roads, isolating more than 570 properties.
4.15m	2% AEP (or greater) chance in any year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 578 properties are impacted by flooding, 58 buildings flooded above floor level ■ There is extensive flooding through the centre of town, from the Botanic Gardens to St Brigids College. ■ Flooding may impact the 298 Campus of the Horsham Primary School, Holy Trinity Lutheran College, Kurrajong Lodge Retirement Village and the Sunnyside Lutheran Retirement Village. ■ Access may be cut to the CFA Station, SES Unit and Ambulance buildings. ■ Deep flooding may cut access to McPherson Street, Menadue Street, Ocallaghans Parade and Cameron Road.
3.92m	5% AEP (or greater) chance in any year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ One building is flooded above floor in Riverside East Road, and 172 properties are impacted by flooding. ■ Deep flooding may cut access to the Holy Trinity Lutheran College, the Sunnyside Lutheran Retirement Village and St Brigids College (0.5m depth). ■ Extensive flooding may impact the Coughlin Park Bowls Club and Tennis Courts. ■ Deep flooding may cut access to Hamilton Street, Macbain Street, Gillespie Street, Robinson Street, Trinity Drive and Baillie Street.

Height (metres)	How likely is this flood to happen^	Potential impacts and previous flood events
3.70m	10% AEP (or greater) chance in any year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 111 properties are impacted by flooding, including Barnes Boulevard, Peppertree Lane, Cameron Road. The Wotonga Basin Weir may be overtopped.
3.6m Major flood level		
3.44m	20% AEP (or greater) chance in any year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 74 properties are impacted by flooding, areas impacted include Weldon Power Court, Peppertree Lane, Barnes Boulevard, Pryors Road, Riverside Road and Williams Road. Access is cut to the Adventure Playground (Barnes Boulevard) and the walkway bridge. Flooding impacts low lying sections of the Holy Trinity Lutheran College Ovals, Horsham Show Grounds, Horsham Motorcross Complex and the Horsham Go Kart Club (650 Henty Highway, Dooen). Deep flooding may cut access to Pryors Road, Peppertree Lane, Barnes Boulevard and Eastgate Drive.
3.36m	September 2010 flood event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impacts similar to September 2016 flood event as below.
3.33m	September 2016 flood event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Properties in Horsham start to experience flooding particularly around the Horsham Pony Club and Riverside Recreation Reserve. Shallow flooding may impact Barnes Boulevard, Peppertree Lane and Pryors Road. Deep flooding cuts access to Riverside Road.
3.1m Moderate flood level		
2.8m Minor flood level		
2.47m	50% AEP (or greater) chance in any year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Horsham Weir will be opened by the Horsham Rural City Council. Flooding starts to impact low lying farmland and roads along the Wimmera River surrounding Horsham.

*The height measurement is at the Walmer Stream gauge.

^This table includes information from previous flood events.



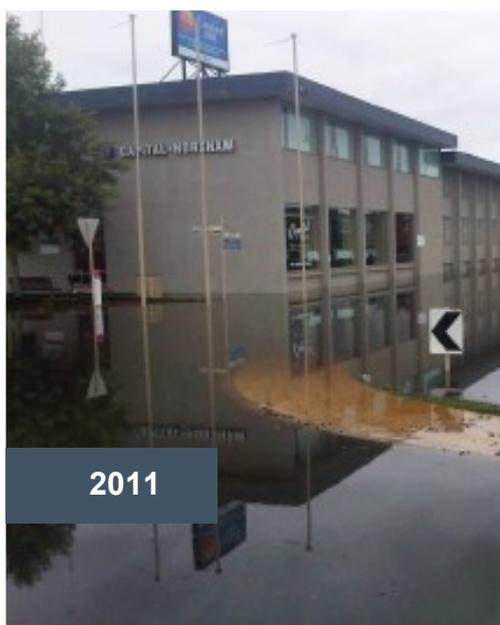
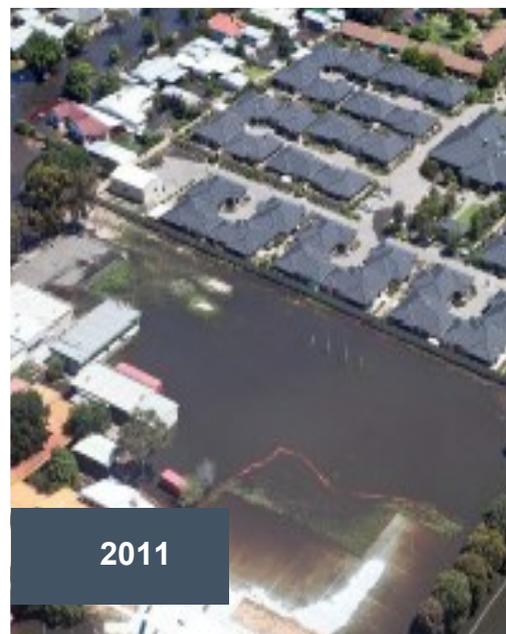
In a flood emergency, stay informed through [VicEmergency](#), see page [10](#) for more information.

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.

2011 January Flood—Riverine Flooding

- Access was cut to a significant number of rural roads, isolating more than 500 properties
- More than 260 properties experienced power outages
- 570 properties and 31 businesses were impacted by flooding with more than 60 buildings experiencing above floor flooding
- 2 aged care facilities, Sunnyside Lutheran Retirement Village (Trinity Drive) and Kurrajong Lodge Retirement Village (Arnott Street) were evacuated
- Several buildings at the Holy Trinity Lutheran College, 298 Campus of the Horsham Primary School and the Horsham Riverside Caravan Park were flooded above floor
- Floodwater was up to one metre deep in Hamilton Street

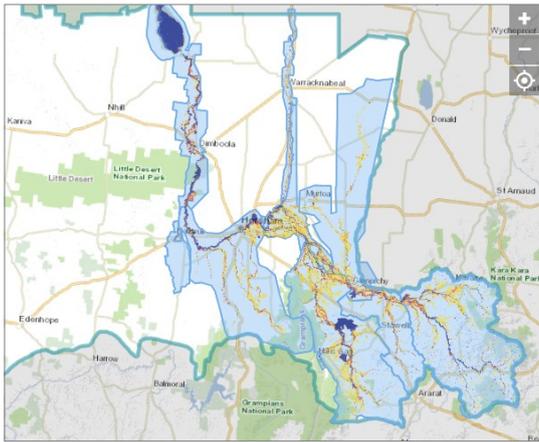


2011 January Flood—Flash Flooding

Areas impacted by stormwater flooding during the January 2011 event include:

- Horsham Racecourse on Natimuk Road
- Colonial Drive and MacKenzie Court adjacent to the Horsham Golf Course
- O'Callaghans Parade
- Horsham Police Paddock area in Rasmussen Road
- Along Dimboola Road and Oconnor Street

Download your free Property Flood Report



Wimmera Catchment Management Authority offers tools for residents and businesses to assess their flood risk.

- Use the map to zoom in on your property and see if it's likely to be affected in a large flood event.
- Download a free Planning Property Report which will tell you if your property has a flooding overlay.



Go to wcma.vic.gov.au/advice-and-services/flood-advice.



In a flood emergency, stay informed through [VicEmergency](#), see page [10](#) for more information.

Your local services

Catchment Management Authority

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

- **Wimmera Catchment Management Authority**
wcma.vic.gov.au | 03 5382 1544

Local Council

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

- **Horsham Rural City Council**
hrcc.vic.gov.au | 03 5382 9777



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/wimmera_mallee.shtml

Emergency broadcasters



Radio | ABC 594M, 3WM 1089AM, Mixx 101.3FM

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

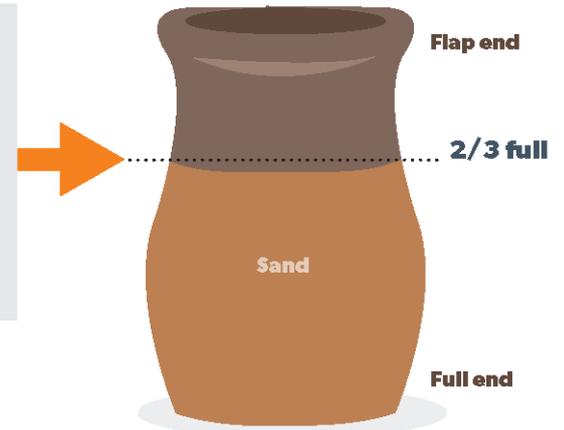
Sandbagging

Protecting your home

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

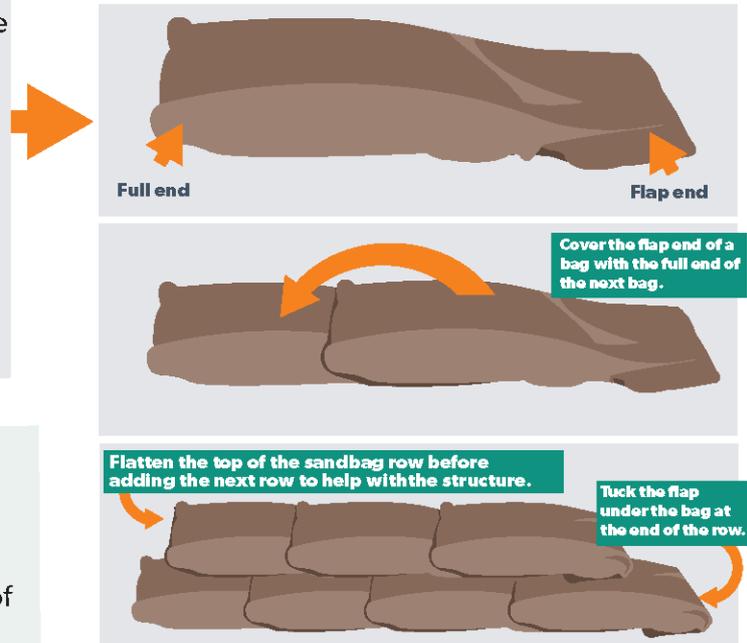
How do I fill a sandbag?

- 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 or hand scoop

Where can I purchase these supplies?

- Many sandbag supplies can be purchased from hardware stores or garden centers.
- VICSES do not routinely supply sandbags to households.
- During floods, sandbag distribution points may be established in flood-affected areas.

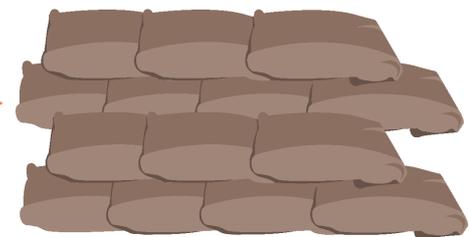


How many sandbags will I need and how much sand?

- 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.

