



Aspendale to Bonbeach

Local Flood Guide



For flood emergency assistance call
VICSES on 132 500



The Victoria State Emergency Service respectfully acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the Traditional owners of the land throughout Victoria and acknowledges their ancestors and elders, past, present and emerging.

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Your Local Area

This area is prone to flash flooding during heavy rainfall events that can result in road closures and effect private properties. This guide provides an overview of the risk of flood and includes information that can help you to be more prepared in case of an emergency.

This guide focusses on the coastal suburbs of Aspendale, Edithvale, Chelsea and Bonbeach that are located within the City of Kingston, approximately 30 kilometres south-east from Melbourne's Central Business District.

It is predominantly a residential area, which also includes several schools, shops and recreational facilities. East of the Frankston railway line, these suburbs drain inland towards Melbourne Water's drainage system known as the 'Centre Swamp Drainage Reserve' where the Longbeach Trail is located. Stormwater from the areas north of Thames Promenade, flow towards Mordialloc Creek, whilst the southern area flows towards Patterson River.

The map below provides an indication of flooding that could occur during an extreme 1% flood event, formerly referred to as a 1 in 100 year rainfall event. A 1% flood means there is a 1% chance a flood this size happening in any given year. This map is provided as a guide to possible flooding in the area.



This map is consistent with the extents of flooding documented within the current planning scheme and is subject to change should new information become available.

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 prepared for a flood?

This guide contains important information on the key agencies that can provide assistance, where to find flood warning and storm information, helpful websites and practical information on how you can be better prepared.

Experience shows that those who plan and prepare for emergencies can reduce the impact of the emergency and can recover quicker afterwards.

Further information on 'Preparing for Flood Emergencies' is also available at ses.vic.gov.au/get-ready

Are you at risk of flood?

Most areas of Melbourne experience some level of flooding during an extreme storm event, with those developed prior to the 1970's generally being more likely.



Within the City of Kingston, around 20% of all properties within the municipality have some level of flood risk during heavy rainfall.

Whilst all Aspendale to Bonbeach residents can expect to experience some localised flooding, the lower lying areas that are located further away from the coast are more likely to experience more significant levels of flooding. Properties that are more likely to have a lower risk of flood include those that are closer to the railway line and the newer suburbs including Aspendale Gardens and Patterson Lakes,

The most recent extreme storm event, causing havoc across most Melbourne suburbs, occurred in February 2011. Within your suburb, most local roads were flooded at the low points to a depth of between 100 millimetres to 500 millimetres. Edithvale Road was severely impacted and was closed for a period of 8 days.

Road closures present a risk for emergency services and evacuations for people living in locations that have limited access, routes that include Nepean Highway to the north and south, and Edithvale Road and Thames Promenade to the east.

Whilst authorities will continue to invest in drainage maintenance and improvements, these works are focussed on reducing the impacts of small to medium intensity rainfall events. Due to the way that the subdivisions were developed in this area prior to the 1970's, it is simply not possible to fully address the extent of flooding during extreme rainfall events.

Did you know?

Edithvale Road passes through a world registered wetland that was once part of a much larger wetland and swamp system that extended from Mordialloc to Frankston!

Historically, several major floods have affected people living in this area, such as:

- In December 1934, Chelsea and surrounding areas were severely flooded, and some 1500 people were evacuated from their homes.
- In July 1952, some 1200 people were evacuated from their homes in the bayside suburbs of Chelsea, Bonbeach, Seaford and Carrum because of severe flooding. During the 1950s and 1960s, the installation of floodgates and pumps on the Patterson River, and the raising of the height of levee banks, increased protection of Chelsea and surrounding areas from severe flooding. However, flooding still occurs in Kingston's suburbs.
- In November 2003, thunderstorms resulted in localised flash flooding across the Melbourne metropolitan area including at Chelsea.



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



- In February 2011, there was an extreme flood event. The worst affected area was a 10 kilometre wide band through Beaconsfield and Dandenong South that received 180mm of rain in one hour, equivalent to a 1 in 500 year event. The central part of the City of Kingston experienced up to 150mm/hr or equivalent to a 1 in 100 year storm event.
- In March 2020, an intersection in Chelsea was underwater and a driver had to be rescued by the Chelsea SES Unit.

If you require assistance during a flood or storm, contact SES on 132 500. Your local SES Chelsea Unit will be able to assist you.

Staying Informed and Further Information




■ Current warnings (VicEmergency)	emergency.vic.gov.au	1800 226 226
■ Bureau of Meteorology (BoM)	bom.gov.au/vic/warnings	1300 659 217
■ VicRoads Traffic	traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au	
■ Emergency Broadcasters	ABC 774 AM SKY NEWS Television 3AW 693 AM	Life-threatening Emergency 000
■ VICSES Social Media	facebook.com/vicses twitter.com/vicsesnews https://www.facebook.com/ChelseaSES	
■ Preparing for Flood Emergencies	ses.vic.gov.au/get-ready	
■ Creating an Emergency Plan	redcross.org.au/prepare	
■ Melbourne Water	melbournewater.com	131 772
■ City of Kingston	kingston.vic.gov.au	1300 653 356
■ National Relay Service (NRS)	relayservice.gov.au	



Flood warnings and emergency checklist

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