



Maribyrnong

Local Flood Guide

Flood information for Maribyrnong Township at Maribyrnong River



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



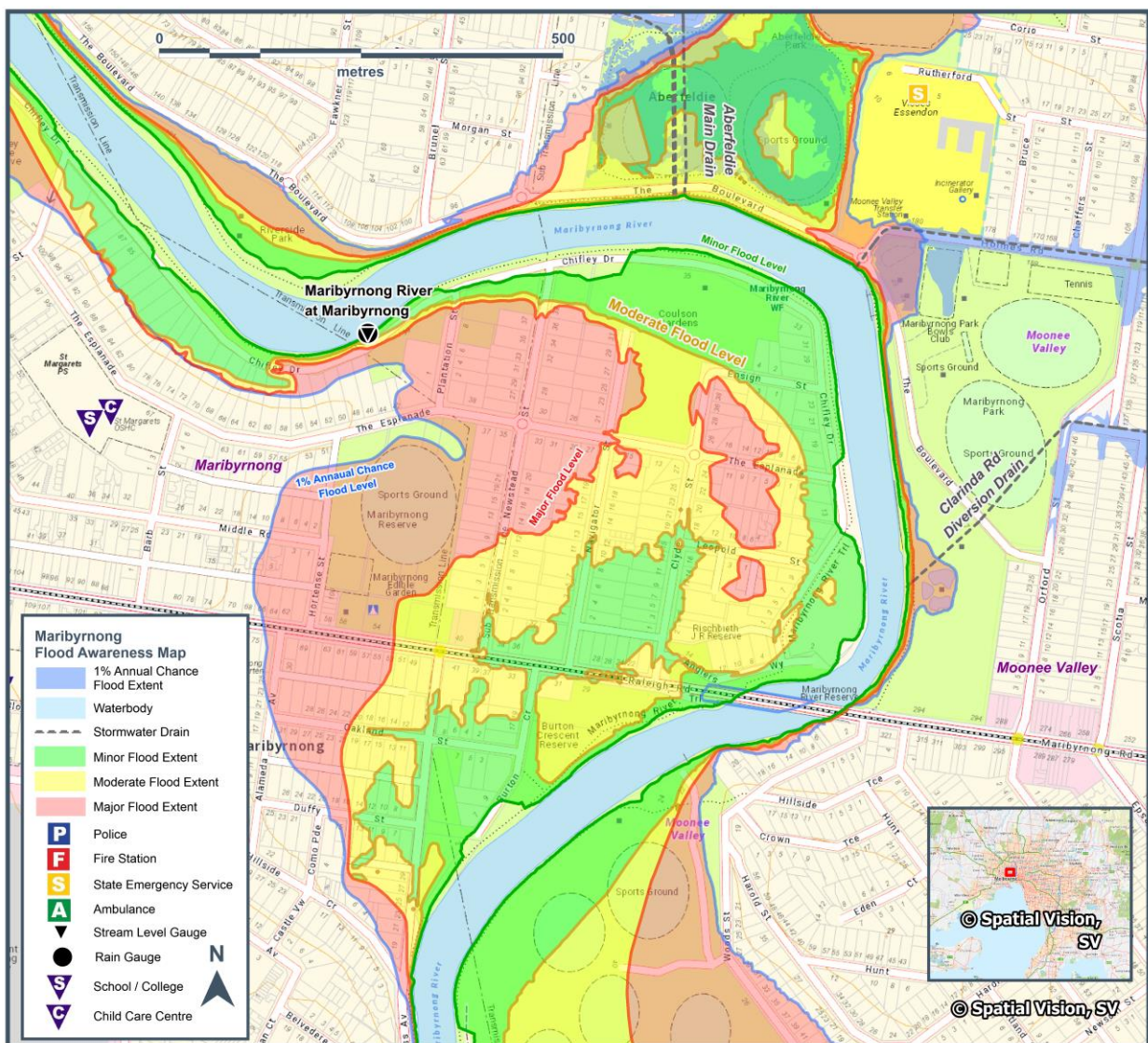


Maribyrnong River

The Maribyrnong Township is located approximately 8km north west of Melbourne’s central business district. It comprises a mix of residential, business, and public use areas. The Maribyrnong River is the main watercourse in the area formed by the junction of Jacksons Creek and Deep Creek and flows generally southward. The Maribyrnong River borders the Maribyrnong township to the north, east and south.

The Maribyrnong River has a large upstream catchment and flooding can occur along the developed floodplain edges. The Maribyrnong township can be severely impacted by riverine flooding and the increase in population density and intensification of land use will result in increased flood risks. Maribyrnong has a number of parks mostly near the Maribyrnong River. These reserves are typically unsuitable for development due to the risk of flooding and have been established as gardens and reserves.

The following map shows the expected flooding during minor, moderate and major flood events, in addition to a 1% flood event in the Maribyrnong Township. A 1% flood means that there is a 1% chance of a flood of this size occurring in any one year.



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?

The Maribyrnong Township is located on the Lower **Maribyrnong River**. The township is built on a floodplain where once the river bursts its banks, slow moving flood waters spread across the relatively flat developed land. The **Anglers Tavern** starts during a Minor Flood. In a Major flood, 232 mostly older-style residential properties are at risk of flooding, many over-floor. And at the 1% Annual Chance (1 in 100 year) flood level, **456 properties** are identified as being at flood risk.

High intensity, short duration rainfall events can cause flash flooding in and around Maribyrnong, while prolonged rainfall may see the Maribyrnong River flood. The area sees moderate to slow water movement as the terrain is relatively flat and the Maribyrnong River adjacent to the Maribyrnong Township is at its lower reaches with the river mouth only approximately 8km downstream. As a result, flooding is more likely to last for 24-48 hours, but historical events have spanned a week.



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.

Did you know?

- On 15 January 2011, the Maribyrnong River reached a height of 2.21 metres at the Maribyrnong gauge on Chifley Drive, following 44 millimetres of rain in 28 hours, causing flash flooding including the area’s iconic Anglers Tavern.
- During the 1 December 2017 – 4 December 2017 weather event, VICSES Essendon and Footscray Units responded to 57 calls from within the Moonee Valley City Council area. 18 were for flooding and included VICSES volunteers saving a wedding reception from flooding at The Boathouse, sandbagging and providing planks for guests to enter the venue safely.
- Since 1871, there have been 25 recorded occasions of the Maribyrnong River overflowing its banks. The highest recorded occasion affecting the Maribyrnong Flood Plain was 8 September – 9 September 1906, and the next known highest flood was 22 September 1916.



Road Closures

Alameda Avenue	Anglers Way	Burton Crescent
Chifley Drive	Clyde Street	Duffy Street
Ensign Street	Hillside Crescent	Hortense Street
Leopold Street	Middle Road	Navigator Street
Newstead Street	Oakland Street	Raleigh Road
The Esplanade	Van Ness Avenue	



Maribyrnong River flood levels at the Maribyrnong Gauge

When the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) issues Flood Warnings, they include a prediction of the flood height at the Chifley Drive gauge. While no two floods are the same, the following table can give you an indication of what you could expect at certain flood heights, including when your access may be cut off and when your property may be affected.

Height (metres)	Impact/level
4.50m	8 September 1906 Highest recorded flooding affecting the Maribyrnong Flood Plain.
4.26m	22 September 1916 Second highest recorded flooding
4.20m	14 May 1974 Although the third highest flood level in recorded history, it caused the greatest degree of damage to residential, industrial and public utilities.
3.83m	15 September 1993 Anglers Tavern lounge and bistro areas under nearly two metres of water, and a further 50 residences flooded over floor level.
2.9m	Major flood level Tram services along routes 57 & 82 and bus services 468 & 952 along Raleigh Road likely to be impacted.
2.83m	10 November 1954 Maribyrnong River breaks its banks causing 200 families to be temporarily homeless. More than 60 rescued by Army boats.
2.3m	Moderate flood level Maribyrnong River Trail flooded at various locations. Burton Crescent Reserve impacted.
2.21m	14 January 2011 Flooding of the lower floor at the Anglers Tavern commenced. Closure of Chifley Drive, Plantation Street and nearby adjoining roads. Infrastructure improvements then implemented and have reduced the risk of similar floods having the same impact.
1.7m	Minor flood level

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 774AM SKY NEWS Television	
■ VICSES Social Media	facebook.com/vices twitter.com/vicesnews	
■ Preparing for Flood Emergencies	ses.vic.gov.au/plan-and-stay-safe	
■ Creating an Emergency Plan	redcross.org.au/prepare	
■ Melbourne Water	melbournewater.com.au	131 722
■ Maribyrnong City Council	Maribyrnong.vic.gov.au	9688 0200




**Life-threatening
Emergency
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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 now. You will be impacted. A Major flood warning usually fits into this category.</p>
	<p>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. A Minor flood warning or Flood Watch usually fits into this category.</p>

EVACUATION	
If an evacuation is recommended, you will be guided to do so in the action statement in the warning.	
	<p>PREPARE TO EVACUATE/ EVACUATE IMMEDIATELY</p> <p>An evacuation is recommended or procedures are in place to evacuate.</p>

ADDITIONAL MESSAGES	
	<p>COMMUNITY INFORMATION</p> <p>Can be used as a notification that an incident has occurred but there is no threat to community; or to issue a newsletter containing updates for communities affected by an emergency.</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 (e.g. 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 power lines 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.