



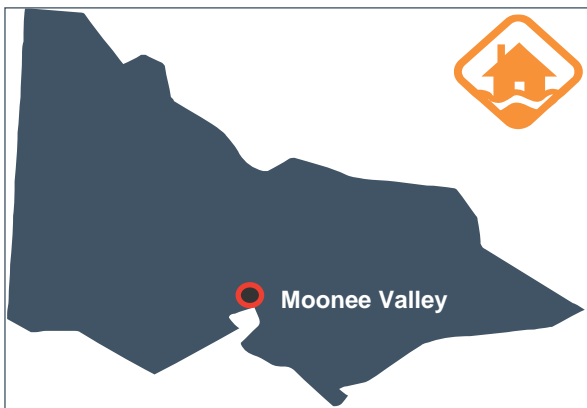
Moonee Valley

Local Flood Guide

Flood information for Maribyrnong River in the City of Moonee Valley



Image: Cliff Shipton Photography



For flood emergency assistance call
VICSES on 132 500





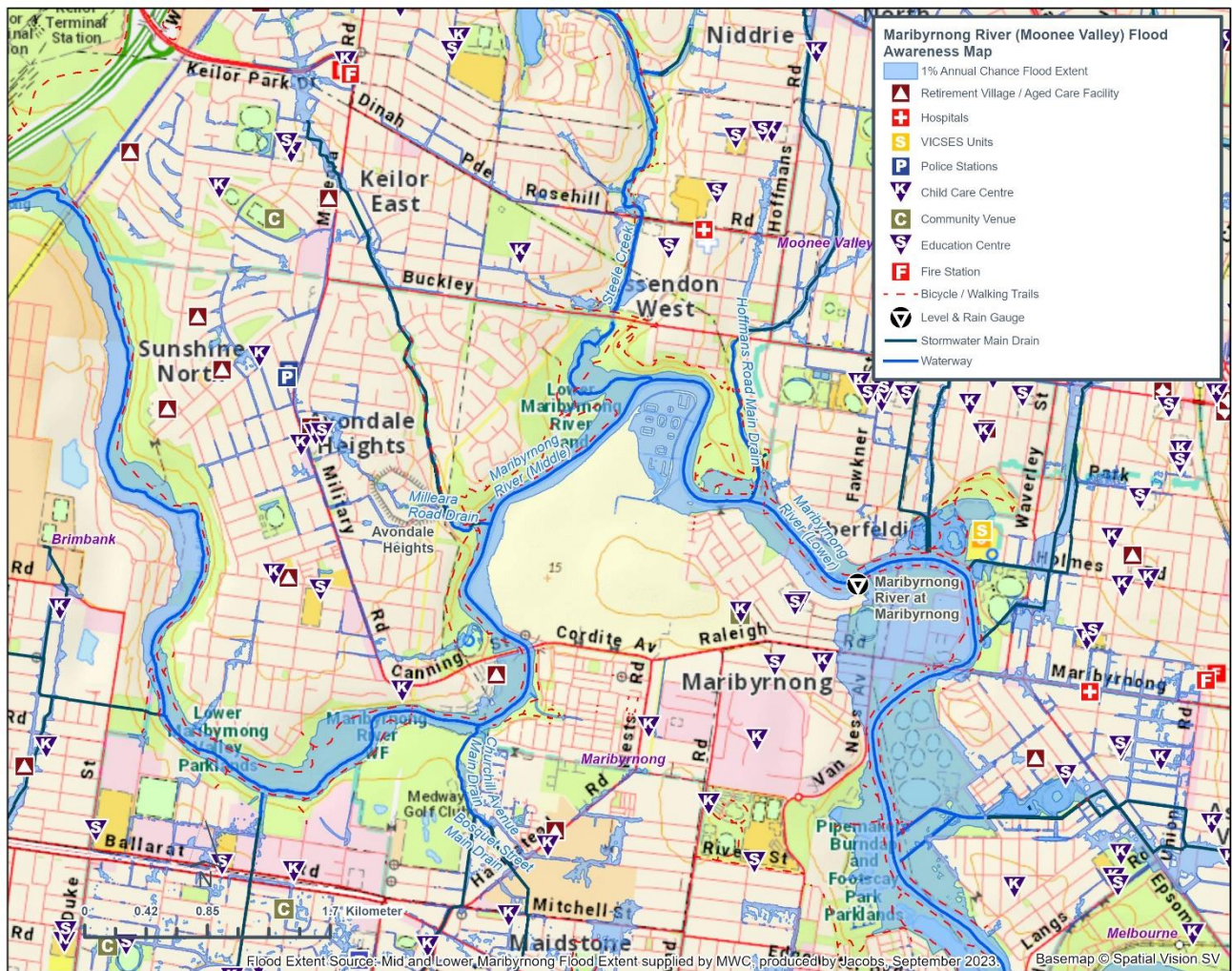
Moonee Valley

This guide provides an overview of the flood risk near the Maribyrnong River in the Moonee Valley area, north west of Melbourne’s Central Business District, and includes information that can help you to be more prepared in case of an emergency.

Moonee Valley falls within the Maribyrnong River catchment, with the main waterways that run through the area being the Maribyrnong River, Steele Creek, Five Mile Creek and Moonee Ponds Creek. Additional Local Flood Guides for Aberfeldie and Ascot Vale can be found on the [VICSES website](#).

The map below provides an indication of flooding that could occur during an extreme 1% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) 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. **For context, the October 2022 flood level peak was 4.21m, while the 1% AEP flood level is 4.40m.**

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?

- Homes, businesses and properties in the Maribyrnong floodplain are at risk from floods.
- Some older areas of Moonee Valley were established prior to regulations in flood-prone areas, meaning some buildings are located where it is likely to flood.
- Suburbs at the greatest risk of flooding in Moonee Valley are those along the southern boundary of the municipality, Aberfeldie, Ascot Vale, Avondale Heights and Essendon West.
- Another large flood could occur at any time: historically, a large flood occurs every 10 to 20 years with 27 recorded floods in the area since 1871.



Possible Road Closures

- The below roads may be closed in a 1% AEP Flood Event. While your home may not be affected by floodwater, you might be isolated in your home when roads are flooded.
- Remember that driving into floodwater is very dangerous. Your best chance is to leave early.

Road Closures possible in Moonee Valley City Council area (In a 1% AEP Flood Event)		
Aberfeldie	Ascot Vale	Avondale Heights
Afton Street	Angler Parade	Blueridge Close
Holmes Road	Aspect Avenue	Evergreen Avenue
The Boulevard	Bettina Court	Watergum Terrace
	Doncaster Street	
	Newsom Street	
	Stanford Street	
	Woods Street	

Streets with properties at risk of flood

Note: This Property Flood Risk Table is presented by the Victoria State Emergency Service for the purpose of disseminating emergency management information. The contents of the information have not been independently verified by the 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.

Streets with properties at risk of flood along the Maribyrnong River (In a 1% AEP)			
Aberfeldie	Ascot Vale	Avondale Heights (Rivervue Retirement Village)	Essendon West
Park Crescent	Enclave Avenue	Bellavista Drive	Afton Street
The Boulevard	Newsom Street	Blueridge Close	
	Walter Street	Evergreen Avenue	
	Woods Street	Watergum Terrace	

Community Infrastructure at risk of flood


There are also multiple public buildings and reserves at risk of flooding from the Maribyrnong River in a 1% AEP flood event. Community members that use these spaces should:

- Make sure that any of their facilities are prepared before a flood (e.g. club valuables and furniture inside is removed or raised off the ground).
- Never swim, walk, drive, ride or play in floodwater.



Community Infrastructure at risk of flood along the Maribyrnong River (In a 1% AEP)

Aberfeldie	Ascot Vale	Moonee Ponds	Essendon West
Aberfeldie Park, The Boulevard	Riverside Golf and Tennis Centre, Newsom Street)	Essendon Rowing Club, Essendon Anglers Club, Boat Ramp, Function room, The Boulevard	Afton Reserve, The Boulevard/Afton Street
Riverside Park, The Boulevard	Walter Reserve, Walter Street		
Aberfeldie Park Athletics Track, Corio Street	Fairbairn Park, Woods Street		
	15 th Essendon Sea Scouts, Woods 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

Did you know?

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

- In October 2022, the Maribyrnong River peaked at 4.21m (close to the 1% level of 4.40m). Flooding impacted roads and properties including parts of the Rivervue Retirement Village and parts of Aberfeldie and Ascot Vale adjacent to the river.
- During the December 1st - 4th 2017 weather event, SES Essendon Unit responded to 57 calls from within the Moonee Valley City Council area. 18 were for flooding and included SES volunteers saving a wedding reception from flooding at The Boathouse, Moonee Ponds by sandbagging and providing planks for guests to enter the venue safely.
- In 2011 on the 15th of January, the Maribyrnong River reached a height of 2.21 meters at the Maribyrnong gauge on Chifley Drive, Maribyrnong after receiving 44 millilitres of rain in 28 hours. The usual height of the river at that gauge point is 0.5 meters.
- The highest flood recording at the Maribyrnong gauge is 4.5 meters on the 8th September 1906.
- Other significant historical floods include February 2005, September 1993, July 1987, October 1983, August 1978 and May 1974.






Preparing for a flood: Your Emergency Plan

- Emergencies can happen at any time and with little warning.
- People who plan and prepare for emergencies can reduce the impact of emergencies 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.



Create your own Emergency Plan for your home or family below:

 <p>Red Cross RediPlan</p> <p>Visit redcross.org.au/prepare to start creating your plan.</p>	 <p>VICSES: Prepare for Flood</p> <p>Visit ses.vic.gov.au/plan-and-stay-safe/emergencies/flood for more tips.</p>	 <p>Melbourne Water Flood Info</p> <p>Visit the Melbourne Water site for more preparedness information.</p>
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- Remember, you may not receive any official warning of an emergency in your area.
- 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.

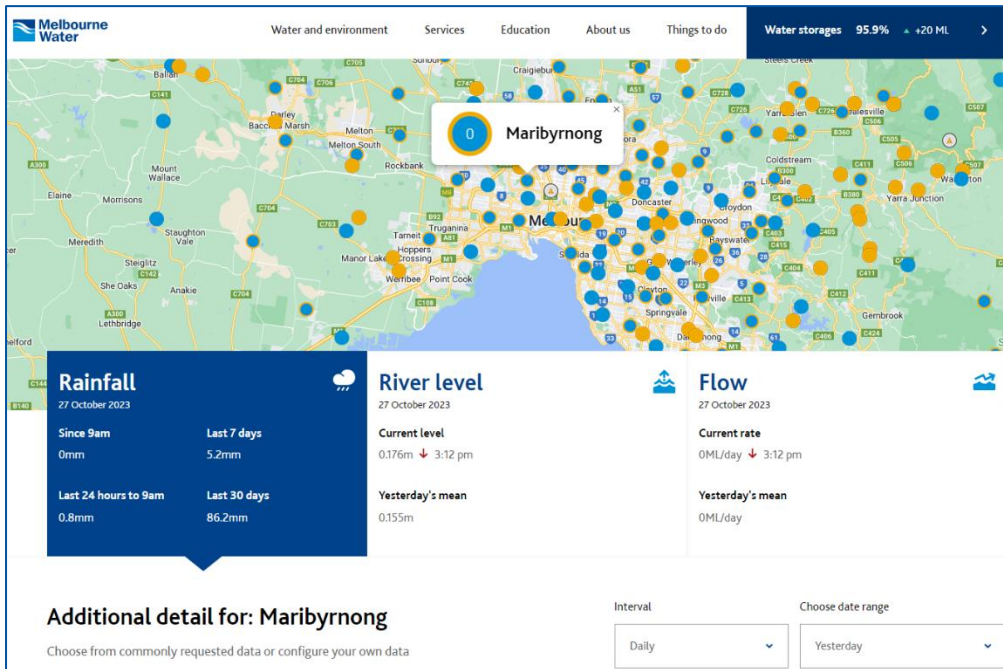
Ways to Stay Informed & Important Information for your plan

Key numbers	In a life-threatening emergency – call 000	For VICSES flood & storm response, call 132 500
Stay Informed	Current Warnings (VicEmergency)	emergency.vic.gov.au 1800 226 226
	Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) Warnings	bom.gov.au/vic/warnings 1300 659 217
	VicRoads Traffic	traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au
	Emergency Broadcasters	ABC 774 AM SKY NEWS Television
	VICSES Social Media	facebook.com/vices twitter.com/vicesnews
Local Services Information	VICSES Essendon Unit	facebook.com/SES-Essendon-Unit/
	Melbourne Water	melbournewater.com.au 131 722
	Moonee Valley City Council	mvcc.vic.gov.au 9243 8888



Stay Informed – River Heights

Did you know you can view the heights of the Maribyrnong River on the Melbourne Water website? This information can help you to plan ahead when flooding is possible.



Access the river gauges on the Melbourne Water website: [Rainfall and River Levels](#)



melbournewater.com.au/water-and-environment/water-management/rainfall-and-river-levels/

Flood class levels and gauge heights

Flood class levels are the heights and (sometimes flow rates) of when a river has reached “minor”, “moderate” or “major” flood levels. These water levels can be viewed in real-time through electronic gauges on the river.

Monitoring Gauge	River / Creek Flood Class Level			1% Flood AEP Height
	Minor	Moderate	Major	
Maribyrnong River @ Keilor (Brimbank Park)	3.5m	5.4m	6.1m	
Maribyrnong River @ Maribyrnong (Chifley Dr)	1.7m	2.3m	2.9m	4.40m
<i>Flood Gauges with established Flood Class Levels in the Maribyrnong River catchment, Municipal Storm & Flood Emergency Plan 2023</i>				

How to use this information:

- When creating your emergency plan, research what impacts to your area look like in different flood class levels and situations. Determine when you might make a decision to leave early.
 - Residents should monitor the [Bureau of Meteorology’s website Warnings page](#) and the [VicEmergency website](#) or app for any thunderstorm, flood or severe weather warnings for their area. **Remember that you may not receive an official warning of an emergency in your area.**
- You can check the gauge height information on the above Melbourne Water website as a guide for when you need to take action. Ensure you are monitoring warnings on multiple sources.






Flood warnings and emergency checklist

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 (via VicEmergency)

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.

STAY INFORMED	
	<p>VicEmergency</p> <p>The VicEmergency app aligns with the VicEmergency website (and hotline) to provide a centralised location for Victorians to access timely emergency information and warnings. Download the VicEmergency app and set up your watch zones to receive location specific app alerts.</p>
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>



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 the above emergency numbers listed in your mobile phone.
- Download the Vic Emergency app on your mobile phone and set a watch zone.
- Put together an emergency kit.
- Prepare a home or business Emergency Plan, including when you would decide leave and what safe places you can travel to (redcross.org.au/prepare).



Before Flooding / When flooding is likely to occur

- Review your emergency plan. Pack clothing and other items into your emergency kit and take this with you if you evacuate. Check the VicTraffic and the MVCC websites to stay up to date with road closures, if you decide to leave.
- Stay informed- monitor weather warnings, forecasts and river levels at bom.gov.au and warnings through emergency.vic.gov.au. Listen to your radio emergency broadcaster and check the VICSES website for information and advice.
- Bag it:** Use sandbags and plastic sheets or tarps to create floodwater barriers outside your home (e.g. around doors).
- Block It:** Fill sandbags, put them in a plastic bag, and use them to cover all drain holes including toilets and bath holes to prevent water entering your home through the drains.
- Lift it:** Put household valuables and electrical items as high as possible. Secure objects likely to float and cause damage.
- Leave:** Make the decision to leave early - leaving before flooding occurs is always the safest option. Evacuating through floodwater is very dangerous and you may be swept away.
- Leave:** Turn off water, gas and electricity at the mains if you have chosen to leave.
- If you are staying in a caravan, move to higher ground before flooding begins.

For VICSES emergency assistance, call **132 500**, or **Triple Zero (000)** in life threatening emergencies.

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.
- If you have decided not to leave, 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.