

Loddon River, Baringhup

# Local Flood Guide

*Baringhup*

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



**FLOOD STORM  
EMERGENCY 132 500**



# Contents



■ <b>Local flood information</b>	<b><u>Page 3</u></b>
Why does Baringhup flood?	<u>Page 3</u>
How do floods impact communities?	<u>Page 3</u>
Check your home, work, and travel routes for floodwater	<u>Page 4</u>
What might happen in a flood in your area?	<u>Page 5</u>
What roads are likely to flood?	<u>Page 6</u>
Your local services	<u>Page 6</u>
■ <b>Plan and prepare for floods</b>	<b><u>Page 7</u></b>
■ <b>What to do in a flood emergency</b>	<b><u>Page 8</u></b>
■ <b>Sandbag Guide</b>	<b><u>Page 9</u></b>



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.

**Content reviewed:** November 2025



For more information visit: [ses.vic.gov.au/plan-and-stay-safe](https://ses.vic.gov.au/plan-and-stay-safe)

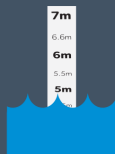


This material/publication was produced with funding provided by the Australian Government in partnership with the States and Territories under the National Partnership Agreement for Disaster Risk Reduction.

## Local flood information



There have been three significant flood events in Baringhup between 2011 and 2022.



The largest flood on record was in October 2022 when the floodwater reached 5.82m at the Cairn Curran downstream gauge.



Flooding can happen within hours, giving people little to no time to prepare and take action.

## Why does Baringhup flood?

When the Loddon River rises and overflows its banks, and spills water onto land, it causes **riverine flooding**. The most common cause of this is prolonged heavy rainfall.

- Baringhup is built along the Loddon River, immediately downstream of Cairn Curran Reservoir. and parts of the town are on the floodplain, the naturally low-lying areas more likely to be impacted in a flood.
- Cairn Curran Reservoir is a water storage dam located south of Baringhup. When the Reservoir becomes full and spills, steep rises in floodwater can occur in Baringhup within as little as 5 to 30 minutes of spilling. Flooding can last for up to four days.



## 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



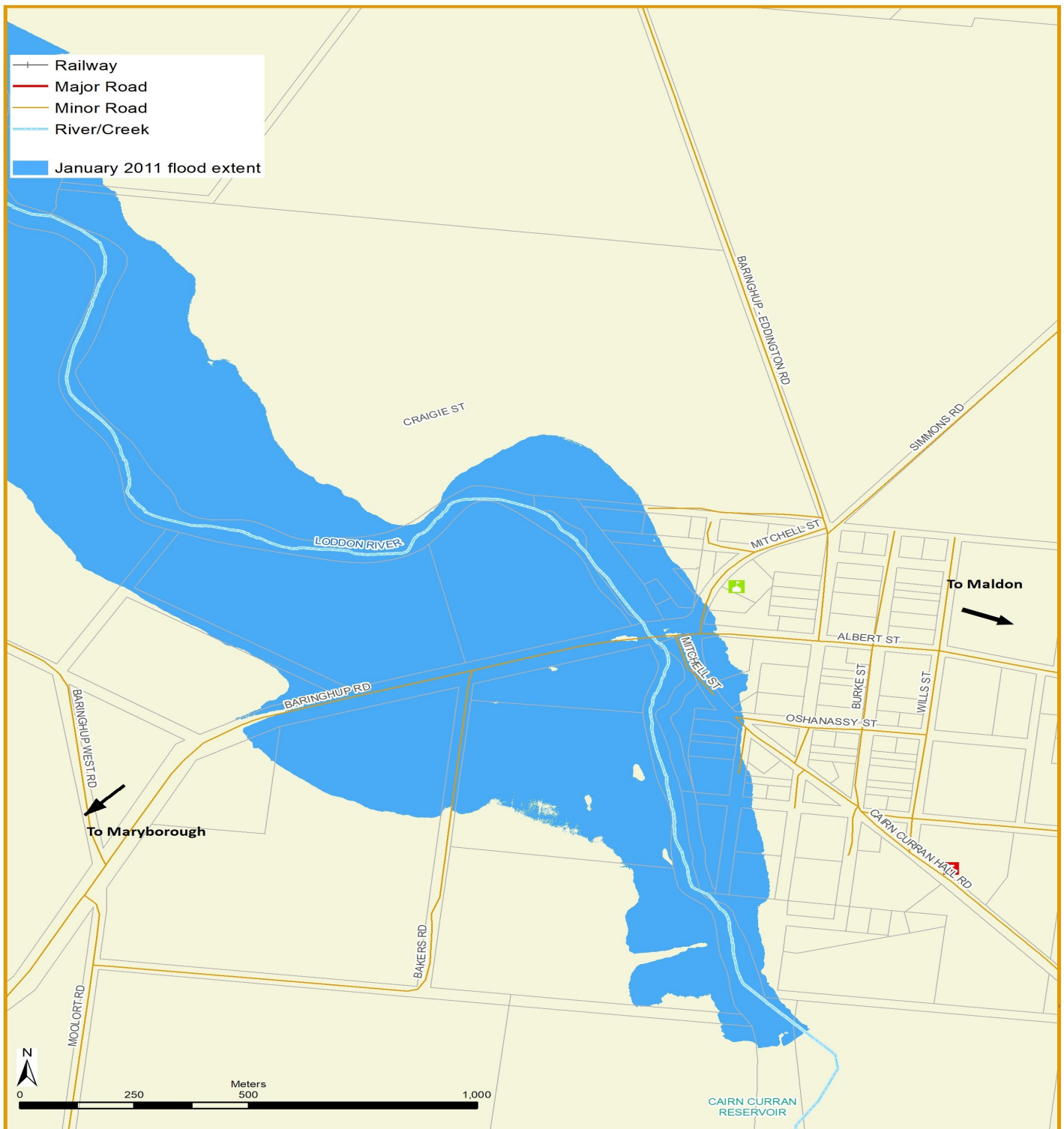
## Check your home, work, and travel routes for floodwater

If this map shows potential flood risk for you, ensure you take action to **plan and prepare for floods**. See [page 7](#) for more information.

- This map shows the area flooded in the January 2011 flood event which measured 5.40 metres high at the Loddon River at Cairn Curran downstream gauge.
- This floodwater height is 1.40 metres above the major flood level (4.00m). See [page 5](#) for more information.



View an interactive version of this map using North Central Catchment Management Authority's portal called [Flood Eye](#), see [page 6](#) for more details.



## What might happen in a flood in your area?

This table gives an idea of what to expect at different flood heights. Remember, no two floods are the same, and the environment is always changing.

- **Before a flood:** Use the heights in the table to help you decide when you need to act to protect yourself and your property in a flood event. Check Cairn Curran Reservoir storage levels at [www.g-mwater.com.au](http://www.g-mwater.com.au) or by calling **1800 013 357**.
- **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*	Potential impacts and previous flood events^
5.82m	<p><b>October 2022</b> - Cabins and caravans at the Loddon House Caravan Park were swept away. Electricity and water supply was cut off to the park and to the shop.</p> <p>2022 was only the third time since records began in 1900 that a La Niña weather pattern had occurred in three consecutive years.</p>
5.33m	<p><b>January 2011</b> - Cairn Curran Reservoir was close to full at the start of the flood event, so it only took four hours for water to travel from Newstead (upstream) through the Reservoir. More than eight caravans sustained damage and residents were evacuated from the Loddon House Holiday Park. <i>Flood height shown on map, see <a href="#">page 3</a>.</i></p>
4.77m	<p><b>October 2016</b> - Significant inflows into Cairn Curran over 25 days caused the reservoir to spill. Nine homes impacted, eight caravans at the Loddon House Holiday Park in Baringhup were damaged, and residents were evacuated.</p>
<b>4.00</b>	<b>Major flood level</b>
<b>3.50</b>	<p><b>Moderate flood level</b></p> <p>Traffic routes affected. The Loddon River will spill over river banks and cover large areas of land. Water may reach above floor levels in some houses and buildings.</p>
<b>2.00</b>	<p><b>Minor flood level</b></p> <p>The Loddon River may spill over river banks and into nearby low-lying areas. The relocation of stock may be required in some cases.</p>

\*The height measurement is at the Loddon River at Cairn Curran downstream gauge.

^This table includes information from previous flood events.

## What roads are likely to flood?

During a flood, the roads listed below may flood and could be closed.

For current road closures, check [VicTraffic](#). [VicEmergency](#) may include road closures in its warnings, see [page 8](#) for more information.

- Baringhup Road
- Barkers Road
- Haines Street
- Mitchell Street
- Hamiltons Crossing



**Stay safe by never driving through floodwater.** It can take just 15cm of flowing water to float a car, that's the height of an average pen.

## Your local services

### Catchment Management Authority

For property specific flood and development advice before a flood event.

### North Central Catchment Management Authority

[nccma.vic.gov.au](http://nccma.vic.gov.au) | 03 5448 7124

### Local Council

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

- **Mount Alexander Shire Council**  
[mountalexander.vic.gov.au](http://mountalexander.vic.gov.au)  
03 5471 1700



Baringhup  
November 2010

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](https://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](https://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](https://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.



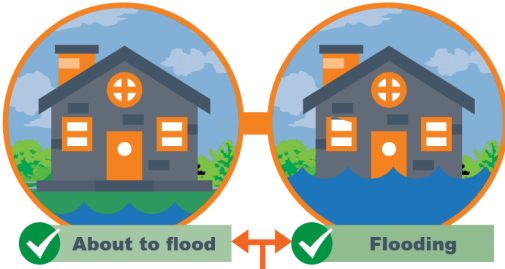
For more details and other tips, visit:  
[ses.vic.gov.au/flood](https://ses.vic.gov.au/flood)





# 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](https://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/north\\_central.shtml](https://bom.gov.au/vic/flood/north_central.shtml)

### Emergency broadcasters



**Radio** | 1071AM, 91.9FM, 93.5FM 96.5FM, 98.3FM, 106.3FM

**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.

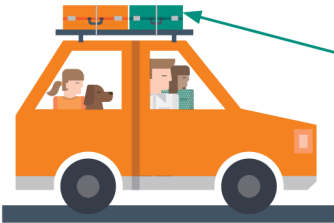
3



### 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](https://ses.vic.gov.au/flood)



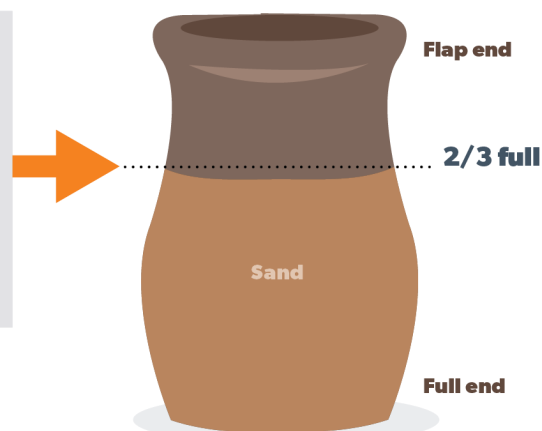


# Sandbagging

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

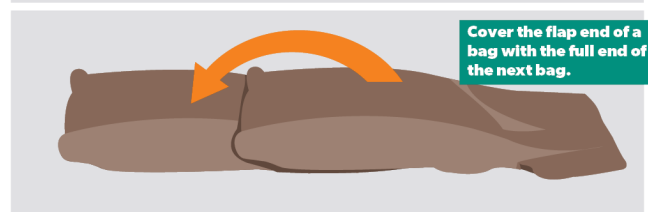
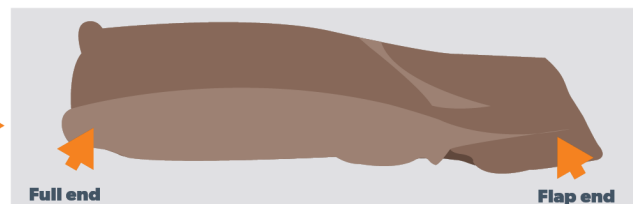
## How do I fill a sandbag?

- 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?

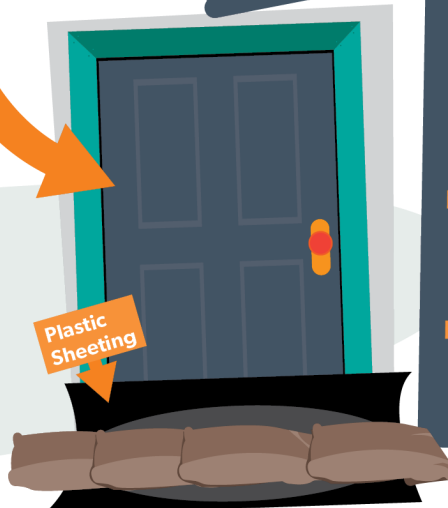
- Place sandbags in plastic bags to cover drainage holes in home (e.g. showers, toilets, sinks) to stop back flow of water.
- Place a small wall across doorways, at least the height of the expected water level. Be careful not to trap yourself inside.
- If available, plastic sheeting may be used under sandbags to reduce the seepage.

### Block it

Toilets, bath and all drain holes



Plastic Sheetting



## 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.

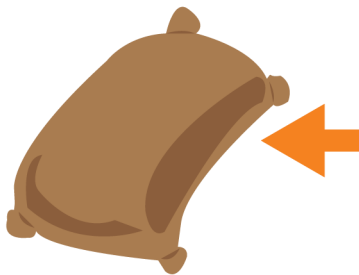


### *What supplies do I need to sandbag my home?*

- Sandbags
- Sand
- Plastic sheeting
- Gloves and safety goggles
- Shovel and hand scoop

### *Where can I purchase these supplies?*

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

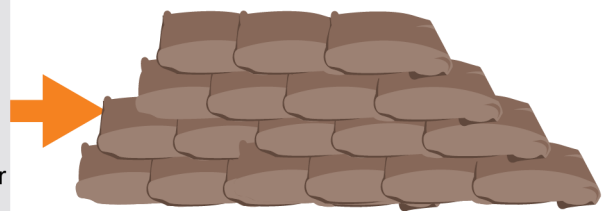


### *How many sandbags will I need and how much sand?*

- 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.