



# Yea

## Local Flood Guide

Riverine and flash flood information for the Yea River, Boundary Creek and Murrindindi River at Yea



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





## Yea

The Yea township is located north-east of Melbourne in the Murrundindi Shire. Significant riverine floods (water overflowing from the river or creeks) have occurred in 1934, 1974, 1989, 1996 and 2010. The 1934 then 1974 floods are known to be the town's largest, however the 1989 flood is the highest officially recorded at 4.30 metres at the Devlin's Bridge river gauge since the gauge began operation. Flooding in Yea usually lasts from one to three days or longer in low-lying or rural areas.

In the Yea area, flash flooding can occur more often within the township due to locally hilly terrain resulting in flows of floodwater across the land, along roads and on rural farmland after heavy rain or thunderstorms at any time of year.

The following map shows the expected flooding in a 1% flood in Yea. A 1% flood means there is a 1% chance of a flood measuring 4.75 metres on the Court Street gauge at Yea.



### Disclaimer

This map publication is presented by Victoria State Emergency Service for the purpose of disseminating emergency management information. The contents of the information has 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 risk information is provided by Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority.



## Are you at risk of flood?



The Yea River, Murrindindi River and Boundary Creek are in the upper part of the Goulburn River catchment, within the Goulburn-Broken flood warning area. The Yea and Murrindindi Rivers are fast flowing mountain streams where floodwater can reach Yea in about 12 hours making local knowledge about floods very important.

The Yea River travels from steep terrain in the Toolangi, Mount Tanglefoot, Murrindindi and Glenburn State Forest areas. The river passes along the northern edge of town, joining the Goulburn River about ten kilometres west of Yea. The Murrindindi River starts in the steep catchments of the Murrindindi-Toolangi State Forest (with a high average rainfall of over two metres per year) and joins the Yea River ten kilometres south of Yea near Frogponds Road. Boundary Creek also travels through steep terrain along Whittlesea-Yea Road then along the western side of town, joining the Yea River near the railtrail.

## Did you know?

Floods in Yea can happen just about any time of the year. Many riverside caravan parks are at risk of flooding. The Yea Caravan Park has often been affected during floods.

Environmental flow releases are focussed on in-channel flows within the Goulburn River and will not impact on the Yea Township.

In 1973, a severe storm with extremely heavy local rainfall caused dangerous flash flooding from Yea to Seymour. In nearby Whiteheads Creek, one person drowned. In Yea, flash flooding affected many areas of town including High Street shops. The section should follow the format outlined below.

The image on the front page is of flash flooding in Yea in 1973. Image courtesy of the Berkery Family.



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.

### Staying Informed and Further Information

- Current warnings (VicEmergency) [emergency.vic.gov.au](http://emergency.vic.gov.au) 1800 226 226
- Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) [bom.gov.au/vic/warnings](http://bom.gov.au/vic/warnings) 1300 659 217
- VicRoads Traffic [traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au](http://traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au)
- Emergency Broadcasters  
ABC 774 AM  
UGFM YEA 88.9 FM  
UGFM MARYVILLE 98.5 FM  
UGFM ALEXANDRA 106.9 FM  
SKY NEWS Television
- VICSES Social Media [facebook.com/vicses](https://facebook.com/vicses)  
[twitter.com/vicsesnews](https://twitter.com/vicsesnews)
- Preparing for Flood Emergencies [ses.vic.gov.au/get-ready](http://ses.vic.gov.au/get-ready)
- Creating an Emergency Plan [redcross.org.au/prepare](http://redcross.org.au/prepare)
- Catchment Management Authority [gbcma.vic.gov.au](http://gbcma.vic.gov.au) (03) 5822 7700
- Murrindindi Shire Council [murrindindi.vic.gov.au](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au) (03) 5772 0333
- National Relay Service (NRS) [relayservice.gov.au](http://relayservice.gov.au)

**Life-threatening  
Emergency  
000**



## Yea River flood levels at the Court Street Gauge

This gauge is manually monitored by the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) during floods. The Victoria State Emergency Service (SES) will aim to include predicted river heights in their flood warnings. While no two floods are the same, the following table can give you an indication of what you could expect at certain heights, including when your access may be cut off and when your property may be affected.

Height (metres)	Impact/level
4.90 m	Floodwater likely to cause extensive flooding in the area around Melba Highway, Frogponds Road and Murrindindi Road Bridges.
4.83 m	Floodwater likely to be above floor level in seven homes / buildings, with 19 others surrounded by floodwater up to one metre deep.
4.75 m	1% flood level. <i>Height shown on map page 2.</i> At this height, floodwater is likely to be above floor level in five homes and buildings, nearly one metre deep at the Caravan Park, 65 centimetres to 1.45 metres deep in parts of Craigie, Marshbank, Miller, Nolan and Webster Streets, 1.45 metre deep at the Goulburn Valley Highway west of Boundary Creek, 25 centimetres deep at the Goulburn Valley Highway east of town and 50 centimetres deep at Court Street Bridge.
4.55 m	<b>1934 November flood level (estimate).</b> Above floor flooding in three homes and two caravan park buildings. In 1934, 350 millimetres of rain fell in 48 hours and caused widespread flooding across the region.
4.45 m	<b>May 1974 flood level (estimate).</b>
4.40 m	Major flood level. Floodwater likely to be above floor level in two houses and two caravan park buildings 80 centimetres deep at the Caravan Park, 80 centimetres to 1.3 metres deep in parts of Craigie, Marshbank, Nolan, Webster Streets, 1.3 metres deep at the Goulburn Valley Highway west of Boundary Creek, ten centimetres deep at the Goulburn Valley Highway east of town, 50 centimetres deep in High Street and the Court Street bridge will be closed being 30 centimetres underwater.
4.22 m	Rising floodwater likely to be up to one metre deep in Miller and Webster Streets, 60 centimetres deep at the Caravan Park and the Goulburn Valley Highway west of Boundary Creek, 25 centimetres deep in High Street and Court Street bridge is ten centimetres under water.
4.16 m	<b>June 1989 flood level.</b> This flood came and went in about 24 hours.
3.99 m	Floodwater likely to be above floor level of two sheds in Craigie Street, 40-60 centimetres deep at the Caravan Park and Craigie, Nolan Streets, 90 centimetres deep at Marshbank, Miller, Webster Streets and the Goulburn Valley Highway west of Boundary Creek.
3.60 m	Moderate flood level. Floodwater likely to be 50 centimetres deep in Marshbank, Miller, Webster Streets and the Goulburn Valley Highway west of town.
3.30 m	Shallow floodwater is likely to spread across the area west of Providence Bridge and Craigie, Hood, Marshbank, Miller, Webster Streets and Goulburn Valley Highway west of Boundary Creek.
3.00 m	Minor flood level. Flooding likely in low parts of Yea Caravan Park, Frogponds and the floodplain south east of Yea.

## Yea River flood levels at the Devlin's Bridge Gauge

When the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) issues Flood Warnings they include a prediction of the flood height at the Devlin's Bridge Gauge in Yea.

Height (metres)	Impact/level
Height unknown	May 1934 flood level
4.32 m	May 1974 flood level (estimate)
4.30 m	June 1989 flood level
2.97 m	September 2010 flood level
2.92 m	June 1996 flood level
2.91 m	January 2011 flood level
2.80 m	Major flood level. At this level, Nashs Road bridge can flood, closing the road.
2.56 m	September 1993 flood level
2.30 m	Moderate flood level. At this level, flooding starts to affect Nash's Road bridge.
2.25 m	February 2005 flood level
1.80 m	Minor flood level. At this level, low areas of Yea Caravan Park start to flood.
1.51 m	Rural farmland starts flooding from Frogponds Rd area to Yea township



# 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

VICSES utilises the VicEmergency app, website and hotline to distribute flood warnings and emergency information in Victoria. You can also access this information through our 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 of community impact.

### WARNING LEVELS

	<p><b>EMERGENCY WARNING</b></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><b>WARNING (WATCH AND ACT)</b></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><b>ADVICE</b></p> <p>An incident is occurring or has occurred in the area. Access information and monitor conditions. 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><b>PREPARE TO EVACUATE/ EVACUATE NOW</b></p> <p>An evacuation is recommended or procedures are in place to evacuate.</p>
	<p><b>COMMUNITY INFORMATION</b></p> <p>Updates for communities affected by an emergency. Can also be used as a notification that an incident has occurred but there is no threat to community.</p>
	<p><b>EMERGENCY ALERT</b></p> <p>During some emergencies, communities may be alerted by the sounding of 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, with little warning. People who plan and prepare for emergencies reduce the impact and recover faster.

Taking the time to think about emergencies and make your own plan helps you think clearly and have more control to make better decisions when an emergency occurs.

Visit [redcross.org.au/prepare](http://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 a supply of 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)
- | 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 [redcross.org.au/prepare](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 [bom.vic.gov.au](https://www.bom.vic.gov.au) and warnings through [emergency.vic.gov.au](https://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.
- If you are staying in a caravan, move to higher ground before flooding begins.

### 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.
- 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. Stay safe by never entering flood water. 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](https://www.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. 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.

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