

Stoney Creek, 2011



Local Flood Guide

Halls Gap

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



FLOOD STORM
EMERGENCY **132 500**



If life threatening
call triple zero 000

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Victorian State Emergency Service acknowledges Aboriginal Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria and pays respect to their cultures and Elders past and present.

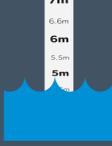
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Content reviewed: October 2025



For more information visit: ses.vic.gov.au/plan-and-stay-safe

Local flood information

 <p>There have been 14 significant flood events in Halls Gap between 1973 and 2016.</p>	 <p>The January 2011 flood caused significant disruption and damage throughout Halls Gap.</p>	 <p>Flooding can happen within hours, giving people little to no time to prepare and take action.</p>
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Why does Halls Gap flood?

Heavy rainfall can cause **flash flooding**. This can happen quickly and you may not receive an official warning.

Although these floods only last short time, they can cause severe damage.

- Halls Gap is situated at the bottom of a steep mountain range where it's terrain is naturally low-lying and more likely to be impacted in a flood.
- Stoney Creek and Fyans Creek may quickly rise, causing water to rise and overflow its banks.
- Small gullies such as the Stoney Creek from the Mt Difficult Range contribute to the flash flood risk.



How do floods impact communities?

Even if your home or workplace stays dry, floods can impact you in many ways.

 <p>Buildings flooded</p>	 <p>Road closures</p>	 <p>Drinking water supply and quality affected</p>	 <p>Power outages</p>	 <p>Mobile and internet network outage</p>	 <p>Sewage overflows inside building</p>
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Check your home, work, and travel routes for floodwater

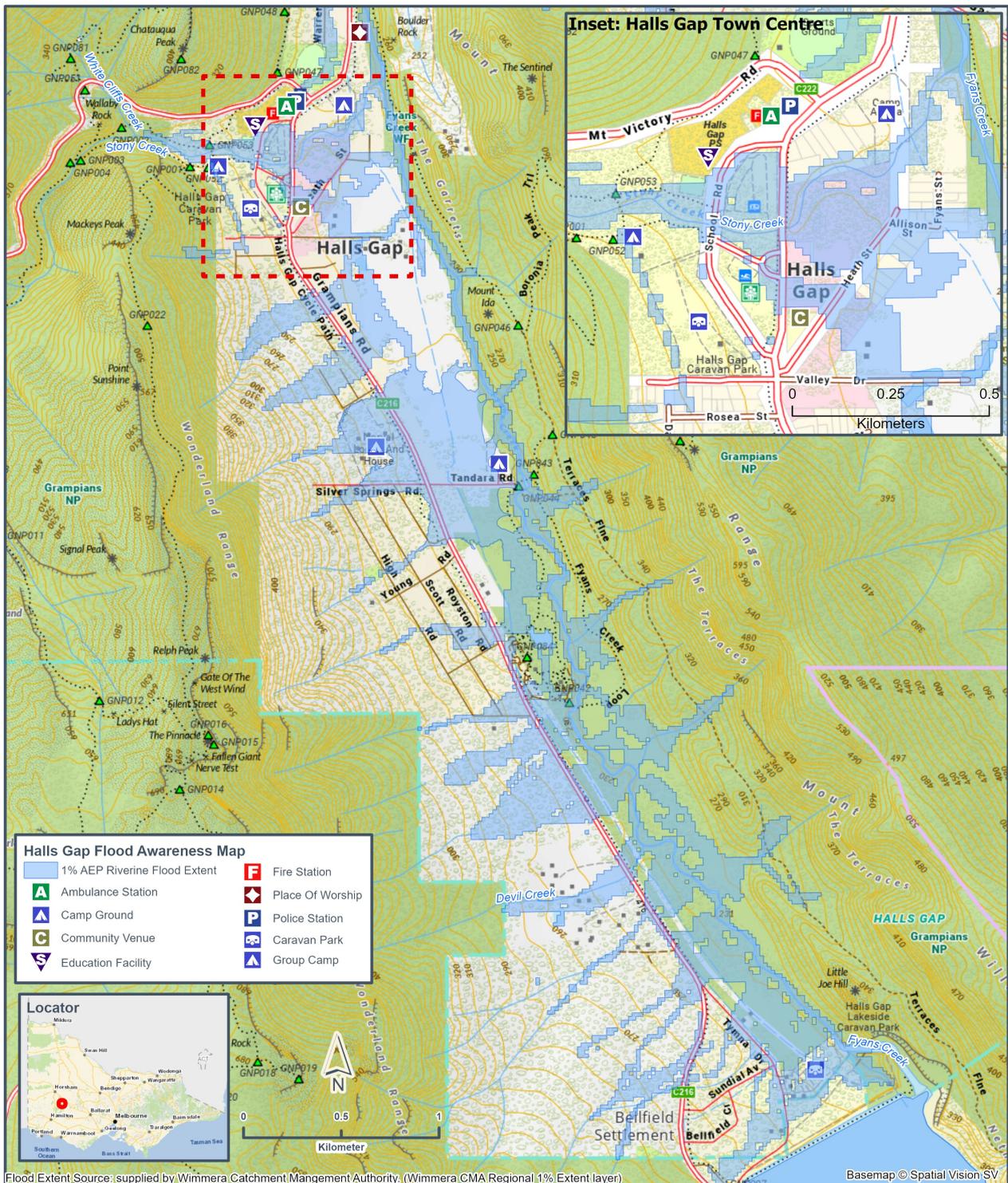
If this map shows potential flood risk for you, ensure you take action to **plan and prepare for floods**. See [page 7](#) for more information.

This map shows the areas likely to flood in a significant flood event. It uses Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) to indicate the percentage chance of a flood of this size (or greater) happening in any year. For example, a 1% flood has a 1% chance (or greater) of happening in any year.

- This map shows the likely areas to flood in a 1 in 100 year AEP (1% AEP)



View an interactive version of this map through the [Wimmera Catchment Management Authority](#), see [page 6](#) more for information.



What might happen in a flood in your area?

Although no two floods are the same and the environment is constantly changing, the below table provides an idea of what to expect at different flood heights.

- **Before a flood:** Use the floodwater heights in the table to help you decide when you will need to act to protect yourself and your property in a flood event.
- **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.



Rainfall* (millimetres)	How likely is this flood to happen^	Potential impacts [and previous flood events^
286mm over 5 days	1% AEP (or greater) chance in any year	Area shown on map, see page 4. January 2011 Flood: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Flooding impacted many buildings, including 8 shops, 14 houses above floor. ■ Extensive landslides occurred with more than 200 landslides in Grampians National Park, some were over 200m wide and 3km long.
164mm in 72 hours	2% AEP (or greater) chance in any year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ In addition to previously mentioned impacts buildings in the main shopping complex area and around the Halls Gap Caravan are at risk of flooding.
76.9mm in 12 hours	5% AEP (or greater) chance in any year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ In addition to previously mentioned impacts flooding may impact houses close to gully lines along Mt Difficult and Mt William Mountain Range. ■ Flooding likely to overtop Heath Street and Grampians Road.
65.9mm in 12 hours	10% AEP (or greater) chance in any year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Flooding may impact Brambuk cultural Centre, Big 4 Caravan Park and Lakeside Caravan Park. Including previously mentioned impacts.
71.6mm in 24 hours	20% AEP (or greater) chance in any year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Minor flooding may start to impact the Grampians Caravan Park. ■ Flooding may cut across to Warren Road and Tandara Road.

*The height measurement is at the Mount William Rainfall gauge.

^This table includes information from flood studies, which are scientific models used to predict impacts at different flood heights and flows.

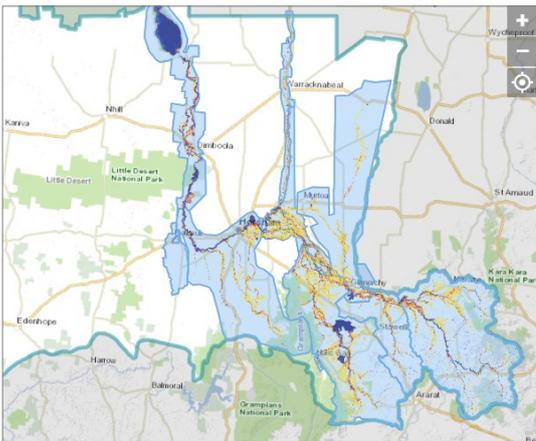
Previous flood impacts

While no two floods are the same, understanding the impacts of past floods can help you anticipate impacts of future flood events.

2011 January Flood

- Eight Shops, the Brambuk Cultural Centre, Parks Victoria office buildings, Grampians Caravan Park and Big 4 Caravan Park were damaged.
- 14 Houses were flooded above floor on Grampians Road, Warren Road, Tymna Drive, Scott Street, Heath Street, High Road and Mt Zero Road.
- Power Supply and water sewer mains north of Halls Gap were cut.
- Flooding caused landslides to occur throughout Halls Gap and Grampians National Park

Download your free Property Flood Report



Wimmera Catchment Management Authority offers tools for residents and businesses to assess their flood risk.

- Use the map to zoom in on your property and see if it's likely to be affected in a large flood event.
- Download a free Planning Property Report which will tell you if your property has a flooding overlay.



Go to wcma.vic.gov.au/advice-and-services/flood-advice.



In a flood emergency, stay informed through [VicEmergency](#), see [page 8](#) for more information.

Your local services

Catchment Management Authority

For general advice about flooding and controls on planning scheme amendments.

- **Wimmera Catchment Management Authority**
wcma.vic.gov.au | 03 5382 1544

Local Council

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

- **Northern Grampians Shire Council**
ngshire.vic.gov.au | 03 5358 8700

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
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
- 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

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



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
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/wimmera_mallee.shtml

Emergency broadcasters



Radio | ABC 594AM, 3WM 1089AM, Mixx 101.3FM

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

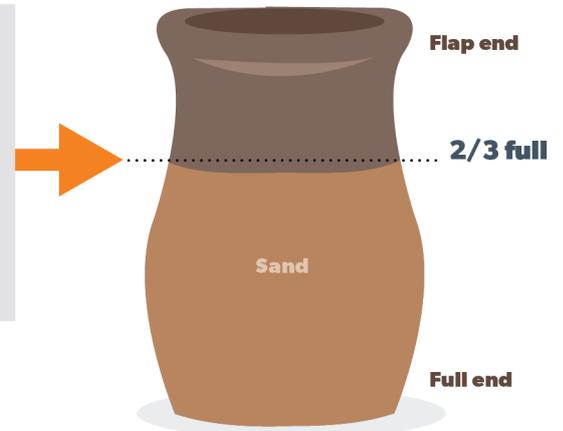


Sandbagging

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

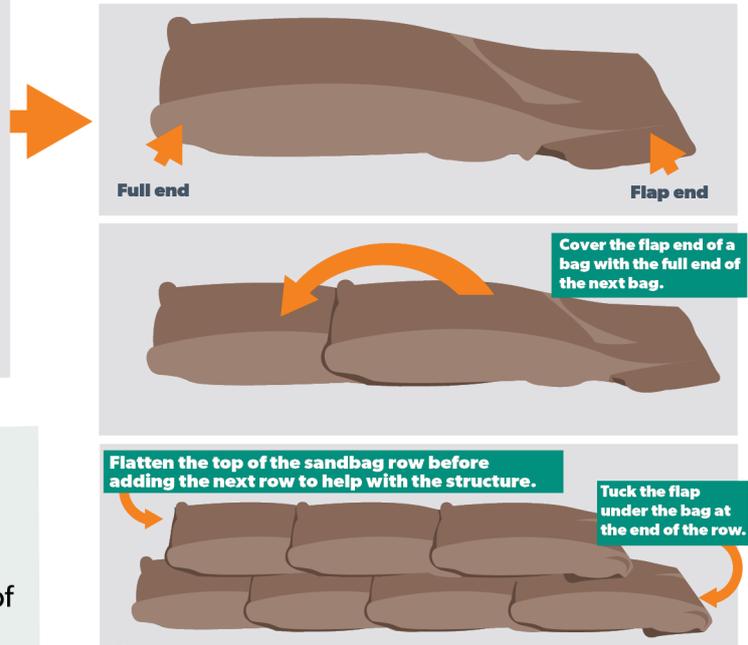
How do I fill a sandbag?

- 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?

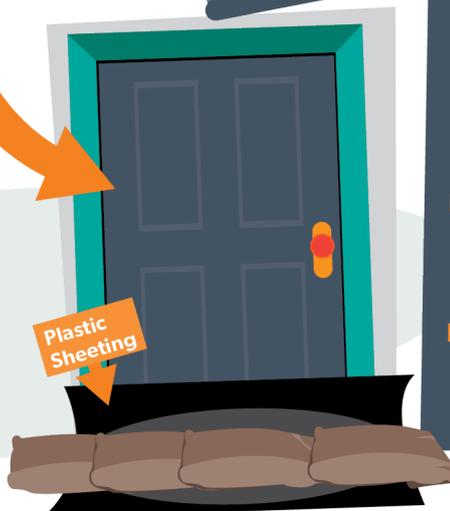
- Place sandbags in plastic bags to cover drainage holes in home (e.g. showers, toilets, sinks) to stop back flow of water.
- Place a small wall across doorways, at least the height of the expected water level. Be careful not to trap yourself inside.
- If available, plastic sheeting may be used under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

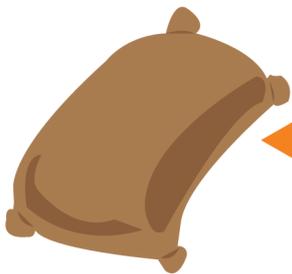


What supplies do I need to sandbag my home?

- 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.

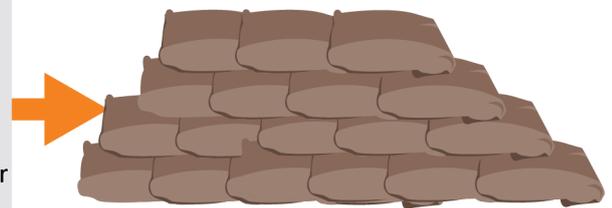


How many sandbags will I need and how much sand?

- 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.