

Gentle Annie Bridge : the King River washed it away in September 2010 (image RCoW)



Local Flood Guide

King Valley

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



NORTH EAST
CATCHMENT
MANAGEMENT
AUTHORITY



Rural City of
Wangaratta



FLOOD STORM
EMERGENCY **132 500**



If life threatening
call triple zero 000

Contents

■ Local flood information	<u>Page 3</u>
Why does King Valley 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 & 5</u>
What might happen in a flood in your area?	<u>Page 6</u>
Your local services	<u>Page 7</u>
■ Plan and prepare for floods	<u>Page 8</u>
■ What to do in a flood emergency	<u>Page 9</u>
■ Sandbag Guide	<u>Page 10 & 11</u>



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: August 2026

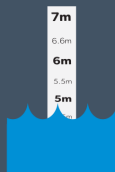


For more information visit: ses.vic.gov.au/plan-and-stay-safe

Local flood information



There have been 6 significant flood events in King Valley between 1917 and 2010.



The largest flood on record was in 1998 when the floodwater reached 3.95 metres at the King River gauge.



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

Why does King Valley flood?

King Valley is at risk of both **riverine flooding** and **flash flooding**, which can happen separately or at the same time. Both are usually caused by heavy rainfall.

Riverine flooding

This happens when the King river rises and overflows it's banks, and spills water onto land.

- The King River flows north through Lake William Hovell and the townships of Cheshunt, Whitfield, Moyhu and Oxley to join with the Ovens river near Apex Park in Wangaratta.
- The upper King River catchment has steep topography down to Moyhu.
- Water levels from the Ovens river can end up affecting the King river potentially causing, or adding to flooding.



Flash flooding

This type of flooding can happen quickly and you may not receive an official warning. Although these floods only last short time, they can cause severe damage.

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 likely to flood in a significant flood event.
- This is referred to as a 1% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP), which means there is a 1% chance of this size flood (or greater) happening in any year.



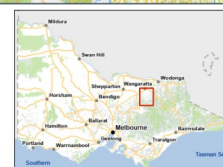
Printed Source: FloodZone 2020 (IN2016 Regional AEP100 or 1% AEP Extent, North East CMA Extent). Map produced by VICSES: 2020/2021 4:52 PM



King Valley

Cheshunt South to Wangaratta
1% AEP Flood Extent

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ■ 1% AEP Waterway Flood Extent | ▲ Ambulance Station |
| — Major Waterway | ▲ Camp Ground |
| — Stream, Channel or Drain | ■ Community Venue |
| ⚡ Water Level & Rain Gauge | Ⓢ Emergency Coordination Centre |
| ⚡ Water Level Gauge | Ⓢ Fire Station |
| ● Rain Gauge | Ⓢ Police Station |
| ■ VICSES Unit Locations | |

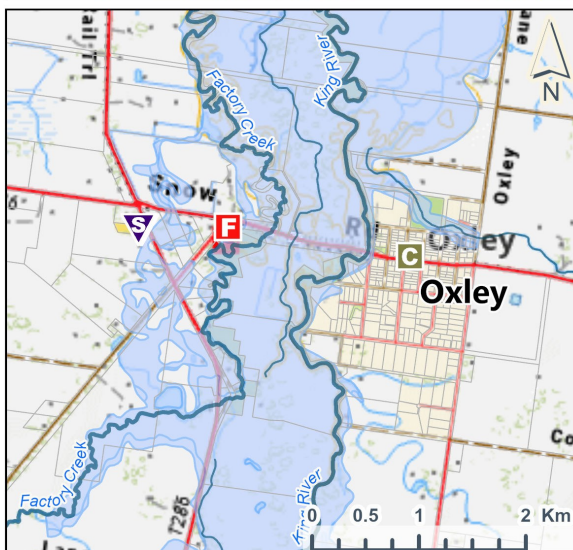
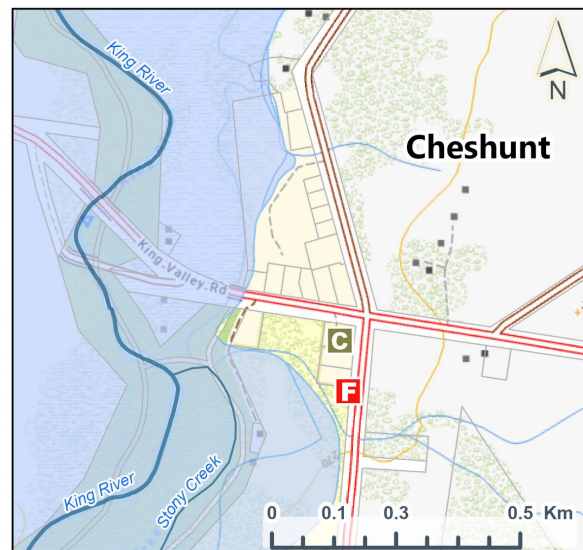
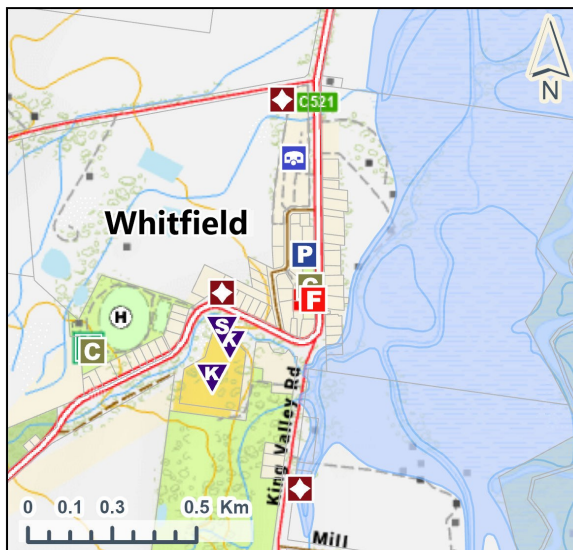
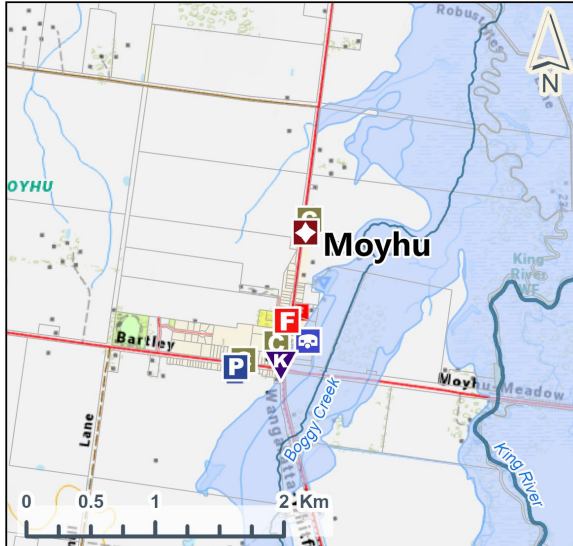


This map is published by the Victorian State Emergency Service for the purpose of providing information for the management of emergency services. The contents of this information have not been independently verified by the Victorian State Emergency Service. No liability is accepted for any damage, loss or injury caused by errors or omissions in the information or for any action taken by any person in reliance upon it.

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 likely to flood in a significant flood event within the below townships.
- This is referred to as a 1% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP), which means there is a 1% chance of this size flood (or greater) happening in any year.



Flood Extent Source: FloodZoom 2026 (NECMA Regional ARI100 or 1% AEP Extent, North East CMA Extents)

Detailed 1% flood maps showing Moyhu, Carboor, Whitfield, Cheshunt and Oxley Townships

1% AEP Waterway (Riverine) Flood Extent	Education Facility
Property Boundary	Fire Station
Child Care / Kindergarten	Place Of Worship
Community Venue	Police Station
	Caravan Park

Basemap © Veris

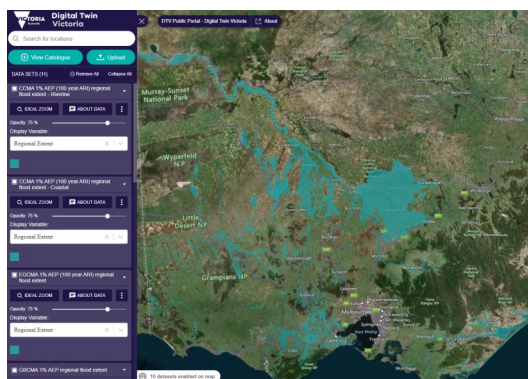
What might happen in a flood in your area?

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.

Flood Height (metres)*	Potential impacts previous flood events^
3.95m	Water Over Road Docker-Carboor Road is closed between Wangaratta-Whitfield Road and Oxley-Meadow Creek Road
3.54m	1998 Flood Peak (Sept) large areas of farmland along King River flooded
3.38m	September 1998 peak height
2.90m	■ May 1974 Peak height (2.91m) ■ Jessie's Creek commences flooding near Mountain Hotel, Whitfield. Water over road ■ Upper King Road closed between Lake William Hovell and Cheshunt (south of Hamilton Bridge) ■ Gentle Annie Lane inundated ■ Satori Road inundated ■ Kind Valley Road floods at Cheshunt Causeway between Whitfield and Cheshunt ■ Edi-Cheshunt Road flooded
2.70m	Property inundation ■ 2 properties at King Valley Road in Cheshunt commence flooding ■ Residential properties in Cheshunt Township likely to be evacuated Water over road Wangaratta-Whitfield Road closed at many locations e.g, at Edi Cutting
2.60m	Major flood level ■ Large areas of farmland flooded along the King River Valley ■ Kind River causeway at Cheshunt commences flooding ■ Edi Cutting camping ground inundated ■ Fosangs Lane residential land flooding ■ King River floods over the riverbank at Gentle Annie Caravan Park ■ At Cheshunt Causeway, abutting farmland commences flooding either side. Water over road ■ Upper King River Road between Cheshunt and Lake William Hovell starts to flood (south of Hamilton Bridge). ■ King Valley Road closed between Whitfield and Cheshunt. ■ Edi-Cheshunt Road starts to flood.
2.3m	Moderate flood level ■ Large areas of farmland flooding along the King River.
2.3m	■ Johnsons Bride on Lake Buffalo-Whitfield Road (Black Range Creek) close to inundation ■ Land inundated where Black range Creek and the King River Creek meet.
2.0m	■ At Cheshunt, King River level at the top of the bank. ■ King Valley roadside flooding commences at Cheshunt. ■ Low lying farland (Cheshunt-Edi) commences flooding ■ Local roadside flooding along King Valley Road.
1.8m	Minor flood level ■ Dry Creek commences to flow over farmland from Queens Creek to King River
1.8m	■ At Gently Annie Caravan Park, King River approaching top of the bank Water over road Whitfield-Wangaratta Road, at Edi commences flooding

*The height measurement is at the King River Gauge at Chestnut. ^This table includes information from previous flood events.

View the interactive flood map on Digital Twin Victoria (DTV)



The [Digital Twin Victoria Public Portal](#) brings together 2D, 3D and live data in a single online place for everyone to use. The portal hosts some flood mapping data.

- Use the map to zoom in on where you live, work and travel to see if it's likely to be affected in a flood event.

Go to digitaltwin.vic.gov.au



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.

- **North East Catchment Management Authority**
necma.vic.gov.au | 1300 216 513

Local Council

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

- **Rural City of Wangaratta**
wangaratta.vic.gov.au | 03 5722 0888



Whitfield
2010
Floods

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
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.

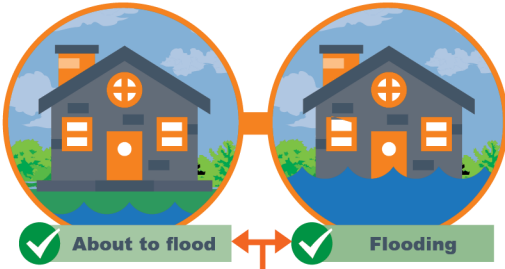


For more details and other tips, visit:
ses.vic.gov.au/flood



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/north_east.shtml

Emergency broadcasters



Radio | ABC 106.5FM, 3NE Edge FM

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.

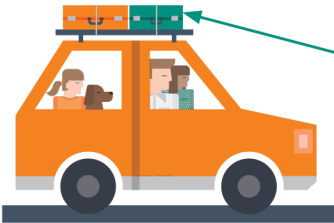
3



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

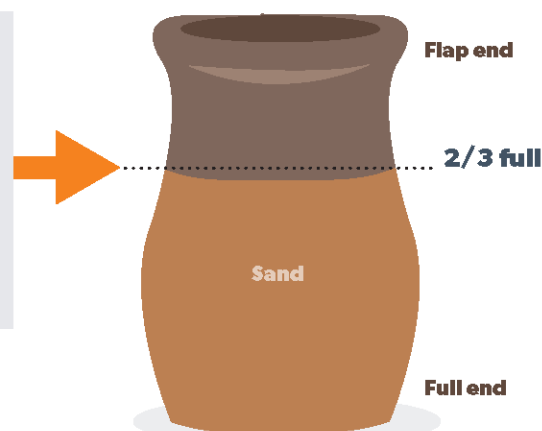
Sandbagging

Protecting your home

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?

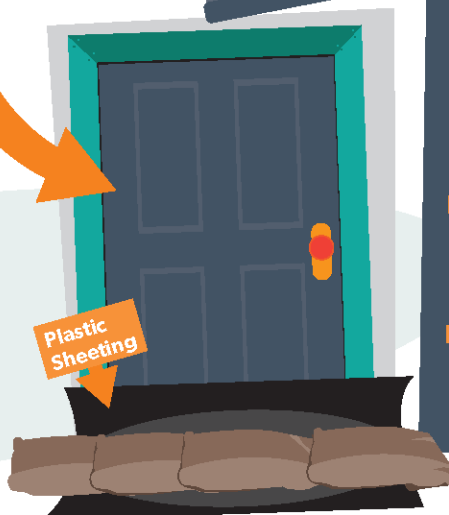
- Place sandbags in plastic bags to cover drainage holes in home (e.g. showers, toilets, sinks) to stop back flow of water.
- Place a small wall across doorways, at least the height of the expected water level. Be careful not to trap yourself inside.
- If available, plastic sheeting may be used under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

Block it

Toilets, bath and all drain holes



Plastic Sheeting



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 or hand scoop

Where can I purchase these supplies?

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

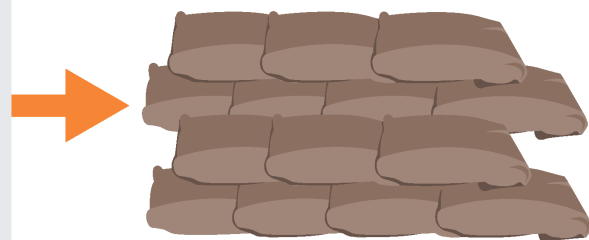


How many sandbags will I need and how much sand?

- 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.

