



# Rosedale

## Local Flood Guide

Riverine information for Latrobe River and Blind Joe Creek at Rosedale



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





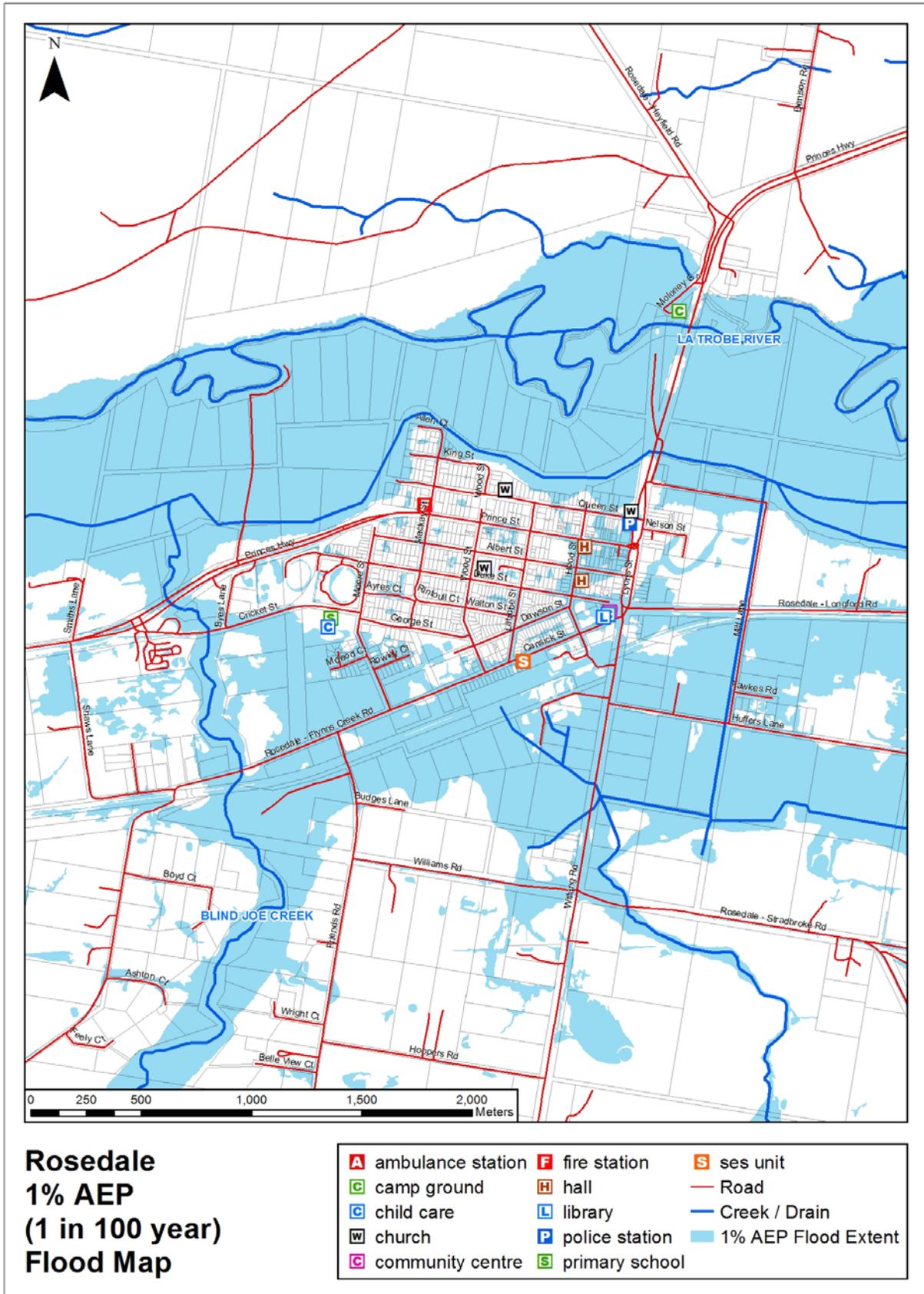
## Rosedale

Rosedale is located on the Princes Highway 184kms east of Melbourne. It is the centre of a local pastoral and agricultural area positioned between Sale and Traralgon. The town is positioned downstream of Blind Joe Creek with the creek running along the western and northern sides of the Rosedale community before joining the Latrobe River west of the town centre.

Flooding in this community can occur as a result of flooding in the Latrobe River, flooding of the smaller catchments south of the township including Blind Joe Creek or localised flooding within the town itself from high rainfall over a short period of time creating stormwater drainage backup and flash flooding in township. Flooding from each of these events can occur separately but often occurs at the same time.

For a large flood to impact the greater Rosedale community, the Latrobe River must be in flood combined with significant rain along the Strezlecki Ranges causing flooding in the Blind Joe Creek catchment. Flows move through Rosedale to the Latrobe River floodplain via two locations; at the western edge of the township, via the highway bridge over Blind Joe Creek and at the eastern edge of town with shallow flows moving through the streets before finding their way back into the Latrobe River either side of the Princes Highway Bridge. A significant portion of overland flow also continues east sitting behind the Rosedale–Longford Road (and the Railway Line) before flowing north to the Latrobe River near Mullocky Lane.

While warnings will be issued for Latrobe River, no warnings will be given for Blind Joe Creek which can flood as a result of approximately 38mm of rain over a six hour period.



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## Are you at risk of flood?



Rosedale can be inundated by water as a result of a range of differing flood scenarios, however the largest flood to impact the community will come from substantial rainfall in the Strezlecki Ranges southeast of the town. The rainfall will run off into a number of catchments including Blind Joe Creek, channelling the water down onto the low-lying agricultural land south of the town centre before flowing to the west of the town.

The community will also become inundated after approximately 150mm of rain over a short period. In the most severe scenarios flooding in Blind Joe Creek and Latrobe River will occur at the same time and can cause much of Rosedale to be flooded. While Latrobe River is of considerable size and does experience flooding, the impact on the community from the Latrobe River alone would not be as significant, as the flood plain is expansive and can cater for increased water depth and flow. The following streets would be impacted from this kind of large scale event:

- Allen Court
- Mackay Street (northern end)
- Queen Street and
- Mill Lane.

Willow Park on the banks of the Latrobe River east of Rosedale is a popular stopping place for campers and caravans who could become stranded if the Latrobe River rises suddenly. As a precaution, it is highly likely this camp ground will be given consideration to be closed to the public when flood waters reach minor flood gauge level (4.0m). Before the gauge reaches 4.15m, the park will be closed.

Widespread flooding across the Thomson, Macalister and Latrobe catchments will result in water remaining for a longer period of time and can increase the impacts to the community as a result.

## Did you know?

Rosedale has a history of flooding, including flooding in 1934, 1978 and 1993.

Studies identify Rosedale as being one of the six townships of Wellington Shire as having a significant flood risk<sup>1</sup>.

The historic flood information collected during the 1993 flood event is the most comprehensive historical data collected to date (combined BoM & community records)<sup>2</sup>

Significant rainfall (up to 300mm in 24 hours) fell in the Strezlecki Ranges resulting in major flooding at Blind Joes Creek<sup>3</sup>

Floods that occur in Rosedale can have the following impacts:

- As the Latrobe River floodplain is quite vast, a major flood in the Latrobe River alone will only see Mackay, King and Queen Streets impacted in the Rosedale community
- During high intensity rainfall over Rosedale the storm water drains will back up and cause additional flooding impacts to streets and roads
- Flood water from Blind Joe Creek will change direction, moving to the East when it hits the Railway line and Cansick Bridge due to lack of capacity under bridge.

Rosedale has a number of drains and culverts to assist with the removal of flood water. Due to the strength with which water is sucked through the drains, it is not safe to enter flood waters even when they are subsiding.



**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.**

<sup>1</sup> West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority - West Gippsland Floodplain Management Strategy

<sup>2</sup> West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority – Rosedale Flood Study

<sup>3</sup> West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority – Rosedale Flood Study



## Latrobe River flood levels at the Rosedale gauge

When the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) issues Flood Warnings they include a prediction of the flood height at Rosedale gauge on the Latrobe River. 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
5.71m	1 in 100 year flood
5.50m	Major flood level
5.12m	1 in 50 year flood – isolation to Macleod Street and west end of township.
	Mill Lane and Princes Highway cut off by flood water.
4.80m	Moderate flood level
	Willow Grove camping ground will be closed
4.61m	1 in 25 year flood
4.00m	Minor flood level

### 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 828AM, ABC Gipps 100.7FM, 3TR FM99.5FM,  
 3GV Gold 1242M, 3GCR Gipps Community 104.7FM  
 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 [www.wgcma.vic.gov.au](http://www.wgcma.vic.gov.au) 1300 094 262
- [Wellington Shire Council](http://Wellington Shire Council) [wellington.vic.gov.au](http://wellington.vic.gov.au) 1300 366 244
- National Relay Service NRS [relayservice.gov.au](http://relayservice.gov.au)

**Life-threatening  
Emergency  
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# Flood warnings and emergency checklist

## Bureau of Meteorology Warnings

**Warnings** are issued by the 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, and 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. Communities can also access this information through our social media channels and emergency broadcasters.

VICSES warnings aim to provide you with as much 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.

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.</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><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>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><b>EMERGENCY ALERT</b></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>

## 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 (e.g., babies, elderly and people with a disability)	
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 <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 the [www.bom.vic.gov.au](http://www.bom.vic.gov.au) and warnings through [www.emergency.vic.gov.au](http://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.

### 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.
- If you are staying in a caravan, move to higher ground before flooding begins.
- 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](http://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 they are safe.
- 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.

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