



# Thomastown & Lalor Local Flood Guide

Flash flood information for Darebin, Edgars and Central Creeks



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



**City of  
Whittlesea**





## Thomastown and Lalor Local Area

Thomastown and Lalor are located in the City of Whittlesea, approximately 20 kilometres north of Melbourne.

Settlement of the area dates from the 1850s when German migrants established the township of Westgarthtown. Land was used mainly for dairy farming. Both suburbs are now mainly residential with a large industrial and commercial precinct south of the Metropolitan Ring Road.

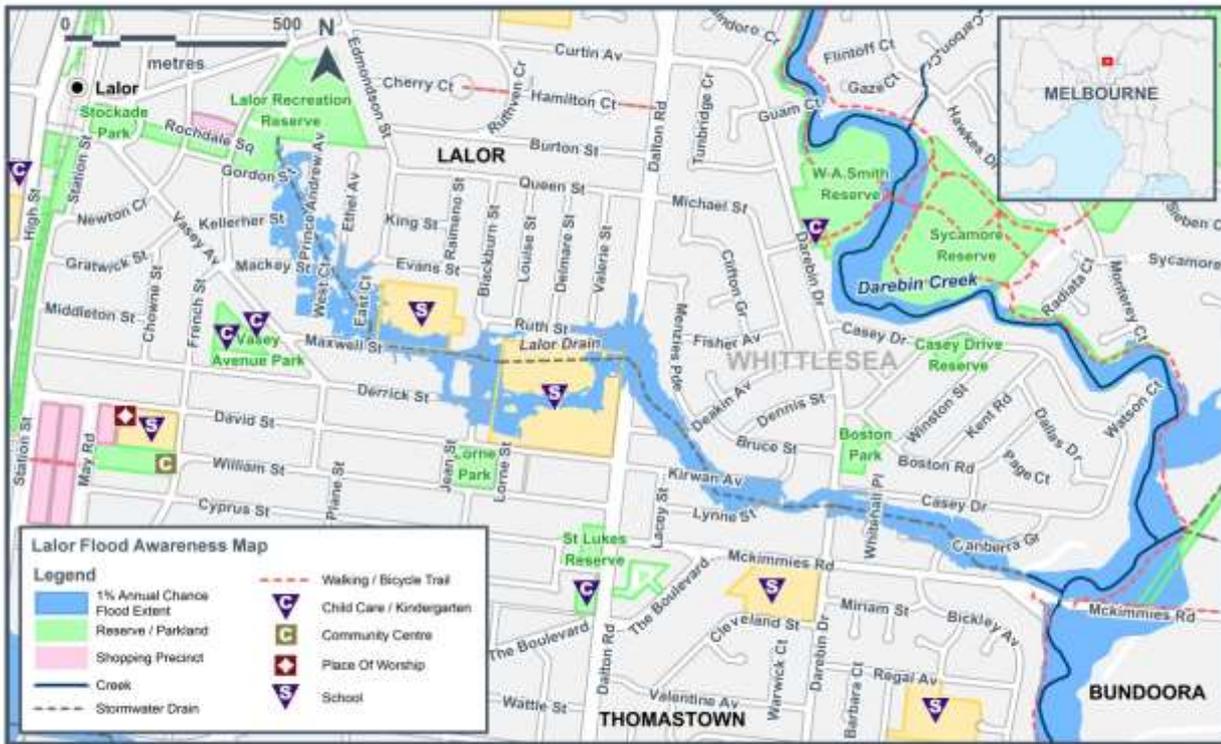
Darebin, Edgars and Central Creeks are the predominant waterways in the area, fed by a series of main drains managed by Melbourne Water. Many properties close to these creeks and drains are at risk of either riverine or flash flooding.

The maps on page 2 and 3 show the impact of a 1% flood in the Lalor and Thomastown area. A 1% flood means there is a 1% chance of a flood this size happening in any given year. These maps are provided as a guide to possible flooding within the area.



### Disclaimer

This map publication is presented by Victoria State Emergency Service for the purpose of disseminating emergency management information. The contents of the information have 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 Melbourne Water.



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**Are you at risk of flood?**

Within the City of Whittlesea, stormwater is generally collected by an underground drainage system in urban areas and by overland flows in rural areas. Stormwater is then diverted to tributaries and creeks. Blocked stormwater drains can also lead to overland flows and associated flooding as drains surcharge and excess water flows above ground. The area sees a mixture of flat and gradually undulating land leading to both medium and slow moving water. Flooding may last for a number of days on areas of flat ground.

High amounts of rain in a short period of time can cause flash flooding in and around Lalor and Thomastown, while prolonged rainfall may see Darebin Creek and its tributaries flood. Darebin Creek is the prominent watercourse in the Lalor area, with the Lator Drain flowing into it. Properties in close proximity to both the drain and creek are at risk of flooding in Lalor.

Properties in Thomastown near the Thomastown West Drain (that flows into Central Creek just north of the Metropolitan Ring Road) are at risk of flash flooding. There is also an area near the Thomastown Drain along both sides of High Street (between Westall Street and Highlands Road) that is prone to flash flooding, extending down the length of the drain in the vicinity of The Boulevard and Beech Street.



### Did you know?

The City of Whittlesea has a history of flooding with 14 floods recorded since 1946, with the most recent ones occurring in 2011 and 2016.

During a 1% flood event, 382 properties are at risk of flooding in Thomastown and Lalor from Edgars and Central Creek.

If you require assistance during a flood or storm, contact SES on 132 500. Your local SES Whittlesea Unit will be able to assist you.

Streets at risk of flooding along the Darebin, Edgars and Central Creek should be avoided if flooding occurs. These include:

Blackburn Street Lalor	Central Avenue Thomastown	Pandora Avenue Thomastown
Canberra Grove Lalor	Chappell Street Thomastown	Pinewood Drive Thomastown
Casey Drive Lalor	Derwent Court Thomastown	Pleasant Road Thomastown
Dalton Road Lalor	Edgars Road Thomastown	Salamander Avenue Thomastown
Darebin Drive Lalor	Fiesta Court Thomastown	Sheila Court Thomastown
Deakin Avenue Lalor	High Street Thomastown	Station Street Thomastown
Griffin Court Lalor	Highlands Road Thomastown	The Boulevard Thomastown
Kirwan Avenue Lalor	Howe Court Thomastown	Victoria Drive Thomastown
Lynne Street Lalor	Kemp Avenue Thomastown	Wirraway Crescent Thomastown
Whitehall Place Lalor	Mustang Lane Thomastown	Ziema Court Thomastown



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  
SKY NEWS Television  
3AW 693 AM  
Plenty Valley FM 88.6
- 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)
- Melbourne Water [melbournewater.com.au](http://melbournewater.com.au) 131 772
- City of Whittlesea [whittlesea.vic.gov.au](http://whittlesea.vic.gov.au) 03 9217 2170 (24 hours)
- National Relay Service (NRS) [relayservice.gov.au](http://relayservice.gov.au)

**Life-threatening  
Emergency  
000**



# 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

	<b>EMERGENCY WARNING</b> You are in imminent danger and need to take action immediately. You will be impacted. A Major flood warning usually fits into this category.
	<b>WARNING (WATCH AND ACT)</b> 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.
	<b>ADVICE</b> 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.

#### ADDITIONAL MESSAGES

	<b>PREPARE TO EVACUATE/ EVACUATE NOW</b> An evacuation is recommended or procedures are in place to evacuate.
	<b>COMMUNITY INFORMATION</b> 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.
	<b>EMERGENCY ALERT</b> 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.

### 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)
- | Photos
- | Family keepsakes
- | Valuables
- | Other

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## 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://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://bom.vic.gov.au) and warnings through [emergency.vic.gov.au](https://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://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.**