



Healesville

Local Flood Guide

Flood information for Healesville on Watts River



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





Healesville

The township of Healesville is located approximately 65 kilometres east of Melbourne and is the largest rural township in the Yarra Ranges. Healesville includes pockets of residential areas set within rural and forested landscape.

Healesville is located on the junction of the Watts River and the Grace Burn Creek. Most of Watts River is contained within the Maroondah Reservoir water supply catchment surrounded by forest. The Maroondah Reservoir was completed in 1927 and has a capacity of 22,000 million litres.

The map below shows the impact of a 1% flood in the Healesville area. A 1% flood means there is a 1% chance a flood this size could happen in any given year. This map is provided as a guide to possible flooding in 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 information is provided by Melbourne Water



Are you at risk of flood?

The main waterway running through the Yarra Ranges municipality is the Yarra River. The Yarra River has several major branches including Don River, Watts River, Woori Yallock Creek, Stringybark Creek, Steels Creek, Dixons Creek and Little Yarra River. Healesville sits on the Watts River where it's joined by Grace Burn Creek and New Chum Creek.

Flooding along the Yarra River and its branches can vary from fairly quick rises and falls, especially around the townships of Warburton and Healesville, to slow water movements with prolonged flooding around the nearby towns of Yarra Junction and Yarra Glen.

Heavy rainfall over a short period of time can cause flash flooding in and around Healesville, while prolonged rainfall over a number of days or weeks may cause the Watts River to overflow, affecting the centre parts of the town. Flooding from the Watts River with flows from the Grace Burn Creek can cut off the northern, southern and eastern parts of Healesville from each other for short periods.

Streets at risk of flooding in Healesville should be avoided if flooding occurs. These include:

Don Road	Glenfern Road	Rutter Avenue
Maroondah Highway	Juel Crescent	St Leonards Road
Healesville-Kingslake Road	Maroondah Parade	Walkers Lane
Bradshaw Drive	Myers Creek Road	Wallace Parade
Camerons Road	Railway Parade	Weiss Road
Donnellys Weir Road	River Street	Wilson Street

Did you know?

- In July 2012, wild weather brought down large trees and caused flooding of the Healesville Caravan Park.
- In February 2011, the Watts River floodwaters peaked at 2.86 metres and caused flooding of Don Road, near the Maroondah Highway.
- In the flood of October 2010 the Watts River floodwaters peaked at 3.49 metres at the Healesville Gauge. This event resulted in flooding of the following areas:
 - Properties on Walkers Lane were flooded
 - A property on Robin Parade was flooded
 - Flood water on Donnellys Weir Road
 - Healesville Amateur Racing Club
 - Healesville Bowling Club



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

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



Watts River flood levels at the Healesville Gauge

When the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) issues Flood Warnings they include a prediction of the flood height at Healesville Gauge at the Kinglake road bridge. While no two floods are the same, the following table can give you an indication of what you could expect at certain flood heights, including when your access may be cut off and when your property may be affected.

Height (metres)	Impact/level
	Height shown map page 2.
4 metres	<p>Major flood level</p> <p>Community infrastructure that may be flooded includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coronation Park Picnic area behind the Healesville Walk Shopping Centre • Coronation Park car park • Healesville Bowling Club • Queens Park • Bus Routes 684, 685, 686, 687 and 965 are likely to be impacted along Maroondah Highway. • Bus Routes 686, 685 and 965 are likely to be impacted along Don Road. • Entrance to Maroondah Retirement Village via Don Road • Healesville RSL carpark • Healesville Walk Shopping Centre • Healesville Amateur Racing Club • Healesville Tourist Railway line west of Healesville-Kinglake Road.
	55 Properties are at risk of flooding
	<p>Flood water at depths of 300 millimetres or greater may occur on the following roads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River Street • Don Road • Maroondah Highway • Donnellys Weir Road • St Leonards Road • Myers Creek Road • Bradshaw Drive • Weiss Road • Walkers Lane • Wilson Street • Rutter Avenue • Wallace Parade • Glenfern Road • Juel Crescent • Healesville-Kinglake Road • Railway Parade
3.1 metres	<p>Moderate flood level</p> <p>Community infrastructure that may be flooded includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coronation Park Picnic area behind the Healesville Walk Shopping Centre



Height (metres)	Impact/level
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coronation Park car park Healesville Bowling Club Queens Park Bus Routes 684, 685, 686, 687 and 965 are likely to be impacted along Maroondah Highway. Bus Routes 686, 685 and 965 are likely to be impacted along Don Road.
	5 Properties are at risk of flooding
	Flood water at depths of 300 millimetres or greater may occur on the following roads: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> River Street Don Road Maroondah Highway
2.6 metres	Minor flood level
	Community infrastructure that may be flooded includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coronation Park Picnic area behind the Healesville Walk Shopping Centre Coronation Park car park
	2 Properties are at risk of flooding.
	Flood water at depths of 300 millimetres or greater may occur on the following roads: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> River Street Don Road

Staying Informed and Further Information

■ Current warnings (VicEmergency)	emergency.vic.gov.au	1800 226 226
■ Bureau of Meteorology (BoM)	bom.gov.au/vic/warnings	1300 659 217
■ VicRoads Traffic	traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au	
■ Emergency Broadcasters	ABC 774 AM SKY NEWS Television 3AW 693 AM	
■ VICSES Social Media	facebook.com/vicses twitter.com/vicsesnews	
■ SES Healesville Unit	facebook.com/healesvilleleses	
■ Preparing for Flood Emergencies	ses.vic.gov.au/get-ready	
■ Creating an Emergency Plan	redcross.org.au/prepare	
■ Melbourne Water	melbournewater.com.au	131 722
■ Yarra Ranges Council	yarraranges.vic.gov.au	1300 368 333




**Life-threatening
Emergency
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Flood warnings and emergency checklist

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. Communities can also access this information through VICSES 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 that the emergency could impact on the community.

WARNING LEVELS	
	<p>EMERGENCY WARNING</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>WARNING (WATCH AND ACT)</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>ADVICE</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>PREPARE TO EVACUATE/ EVACUATE NOW</p> <p>An evacuation is recommended or procedures are in place to evacuate.</p>
	<p>COMMUNITY INFORMATION</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>EMERGENCY ALERT</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 and with little warning. People who plan and prepare for emergencies can reduce the impact and recover faster.

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

Visit 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.

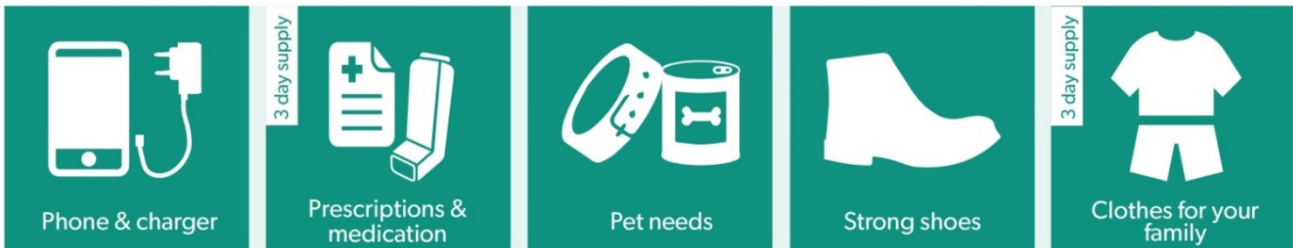


Emergency Kit

Visit [Emergency Toolkit](#) for more information



Every home and business should have a basic emergency kit with supplies for 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 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 <http://www.bom.gov.au> and warnings through 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. Never enter floodwater. 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://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 until authorities advise it is safe to do so.
- 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.