



Robinvale

Local Flood Guide

Flood information for the Murray River at Robinvale



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



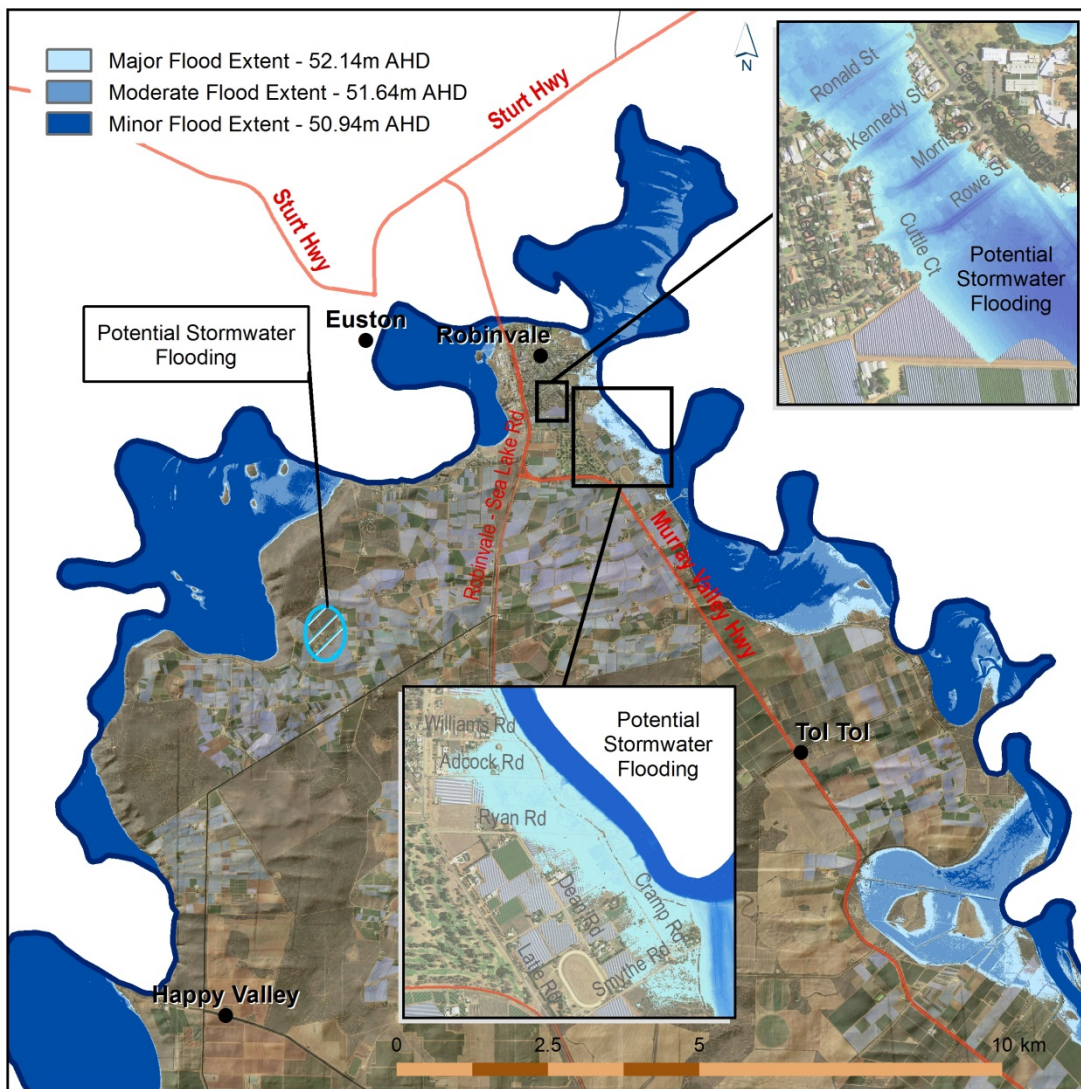


Robinvale

Robinvale is located on the south bank of the Murray River in North West Victoria. Robinvale's location on the Murray River means that parts of the town and surrounding areas are subject to flooding from overflows of the Murray River following prolonged rainfall.

The town has also experienced flash flooding due to a heavy rainfall over a short period of time, as occurred in 2011.

The map below shows the expected flooding in Robinvale at minor, moderate and major flood levels based on the Murray River Gauge at Euston.



Disclaimer

This map publication is presented by Victoria State Emergency Service for the purpose of disseminating emergency management information. The contents of the information has 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 Mallee Catchment Management Authority.



Are you at risk of flood?



Robinvale's location on the Murray River means that parts of the town are at risk of flooding from the Murray River overflowing following prolonged rainfall in the upper catchments. Low-lying areas of the town including the Robinvale Caravan Park, the parkland between Latje Road and McLennan Drive and small acreages on the river flats east of Latje Road are located on a floodplain. These areas are likely to flood as a result of the Murray River overflowing its banks into surrounding areas. In a major flood from the Murray River such as the one that occurred in 1956, other parts of the town may also flood.

Robinvale has a levee located from McLennan Drive to Smythe Road. The levee was put in place for the 1956 flood. The levee cannot be relied on as no levee is flood proof and levees can, and do, fail

Parts of Robinvale are also at risk of overland flash flooding from heavy rainfall over a short period of time. These include low-lying parts of Kennedy Street and the Cloverdale area south west of the main township.

Flash floods arrive quickly and there may be no warnings. In such events, the levees designed to lower the risk to the town from riverine flooding can actually prevent water from draining into the river.



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

Did you know?

Robinvale has experienced significant flooding from the Murray River, including floods in 1870, 1931, 1956, 1974 and 1975. The 1956 flood measured 52.7 metres on the Euston Gauge and lasted for several months, while it was larger than the 1974 flood, more damage occurred in 1974 as levees were built in 1956 and had no formal maintenance program in place at that time.

In recent years Robinvale has experienced a mixture of flash flooding along with riverine events

- The 2011 flood was a flash flood caused when the stormwater drainage system could not cope with the amount of water during heavy rainfall.
- The flooding of 2011 caused between 10 – 15 homes to be affected in the vicinity of Bogadjim Road in Cloverdale.
- In 2016 the Murray river flood reached minor level as the peak moved through Robinvale and Euston affecting the Robinvale caravan park (pictured on the right)





Murray River flood levels at the Euston gauge

When the Bureau of Meteorology issues a flood warning, it will often provide a prediction of a peak flood height based on a gauge. For Robinvale, the prediction will be based on the Euston Gauge located in Euston, downstream from Robinvale. The following table provides key heights at the gauge so that you can get an indication of what to expect in a flood from the Murray River

Gauge Height		Flood Levels
AHD Height	Metres	
52.43 m	10.59	August 1956 flood level
52.14 m	10.30	Major flood level
52.09 m	10.25	July 1931 flood level
51.75 m	9.91	1975 flood level
51.68 m	9.84	1974 flood level
51.64 m	9.80	Moderate flood level
51.43 m	9.59	October 1955 flood level
51.40 m	9.56	November 1993 flood level
50.94 m	9.10	Minor flood level / November 2016 flood level

The Euston Gauge is measured based on the Australian Height Datum (AHD) which assumes sea level is zero (0) metres the Murray River at Euston Gauge was measuring 44 metres AHD.

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 Local Radio 102.1 FM
or 104.3 FM
SKY NEWS Television
3 SH 1332 AM
- VICSES Social Media
facebook.com/vicses
twitter.com/vicsesnews
- Preparing for Flood Emergencies ses.vic.gov.au/get-ready
- Creating an Emergency Plan redcross.org.au/prepare
- Mallee Catchment Management Authority malleecma.com.au (03) 5051 4377
- Swan Hill Rural City Council swanhill.vic.gov.au (03) 5036 2333
- National Relay Service (NRS) relayservice.gov.au

**Life-threatening
Emergency
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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

	<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. 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>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.</p>
	<p>EMERGENCY ALERT</p> <p>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.</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 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 (eg, babies, Elderly)
- | 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 [redcross.org.au/prepare](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 [bom.vic.gov.au](https://www.bom.vic.gov.au) and warnings through [emergency.vic.gov.au](https://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.
- 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://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. 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.