



# Yarra Glen

## Local Flood Guide

Flood information for the Yarra River at Yarra Glen



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





### Yarra Glen

Yarra Glen is a rural town located 60 kilometres north east of Melbourne connected primarily to the metropolitan area by the Melba Highway. Yarra Glen is surrounded by large rural and agricultural areas that are home to numerous vineyards and farms.

The township is home to a mix of retail, civic, leisure, recreational and small businesses. Tourism adds significantly to both the traffic and the population of Yarra Glen, with a growing number of related services and businesses developing in the area.

Yarra Glen sits on the Yarra River at the junction of Steels Creek where the town of Yering is located. Heavy rainfall over a short period of time can cause flash flooding, whilst prolonged rainfall over a number of days or weeks can cause the Yarra River to overflow and flood the surrounding areas.

The following map shows the expected flooding in a 1% flood in Yarra Glen. A 1% flood means that there is a 1% chance that a flood of this size could occur in any year.



#### 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 towns of Yarra Glen and Yering are located on a floodplain, which means that in a flooding event the water is expected to spread and will move slowly downstream towards the township of Warrandyte. Flooding along the Yarra River can vary from fairly rapid rises and falls around Warburton and Healesville to slow water movement with prolonged flooding around Yarra Junction and Yarra Glen.

Roads that may be impacted by flooding of the Yarra River in Yarra Glen include:

- The Healesville-Yarra Glen road, between Bell Street and Yarra Valley Racecourse and between the Melba Highway and the Yarra Glen Bypass.
- Armstrong Grove
- Bell Street
- Yarraview Road

## Did you know?

The Yarra Ranges has a long history of flooding with floods recorded as early as 1891.

Yarra Glen has also experienced some major flood events. More recent flooding events recorded include 1992, 1993, 2004 and 2010. In 2010, the Yarra Glen Races were cancelled as the roads and race grounds were flooded. Other significant recent events include:

- On February 7<sup>th</sup> 2011 floodwaters peaked at the Yarra Glen Gauge at 4.77 metres and caused flooding of the Melba Highway at Yarra Glen and Yering between St Huberts Road and Bell Street. Roads were closed for more than 24 hours and the Yarra Valley Racecourse was flooded.
- In July 1996, flood waters reached 4.165 metres and flooded the Melba Highway between Macintyre Lane and Bell Street, Yarra Valley Racecourse, Victoria Road and the Lilydale Gun Club.

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.



**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**



## Yarra River flood levels at the Yarra Glen Gauge

When the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) issues Flood Warnings they include a prediction of the flood height at Yarra Glen Gauge, located on the west bank of the river at the River View Cottages B&B. 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.
5 metres	Major flood level
	Community Infrastructure that may flood includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most of the Yarra Glen Recreation Reserve and Showgrounds</li> <li>• More sections of the Yarra Glen Racecourse</li> <li>• Yarra Flats Billabongs pedestrian bridge and internal track.</li> <li>• Spadoni's Nature Reserve</li> <li>• Yarra Valley Tourist Railway flooded between Yarra Glen Railway Station and Healesville Railway Station</li> <li>• Melbourne Gun Club</li> <li>• Yering Meadows Golf Course</li> <li>• Lilydale Airport</li> </ul>
	13 properties are at risk of flooding
	Water over the road is possible on the <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Melba Highway between Healesville-Yarra Glen Road and St Huberts Road.</li> <li>• Healesville-Yarra Glen Road</li> <li>• Bell Street</li> <li>• Yarraview Road</li> <li>• McMelkans Road, Yering</li> <li>• St Huberts Road, Yering</li> <li>• Macintyre Lane, Yering</li> <li>• Victoria Road, Yering</li> </ul>
4.57 metres	Moderate flood level
	Community Infrastructure that may flood includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most of the Yarra Glen Recreation Reserve and Showgrounds</li> <li>• More sections of the Yarra Glen Racecourse</li> <li>• Yarra Flats Billabongs pedestrian bridge and internal track.</li> <li>• Spadoni's Nature Reserve</li> </ul>
	No properties are at risk of flooding
	Water over the road is possible on the Melba Highway between Lilyponds Creek Bridge and Yarra Glen.
4.1 metres	Minor flood level
	Community Infrastructure that may flood includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The BBQ area entrance to the Yarra Glen Recreation Reserve and into the toilet block at Sport Oval, Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road.</li> </ul>



Height (metres)	Impact/level
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sections of the Yarra Glen Racecourse</li> <li>Yarra Flats Billabongs pedestrian bridge and internal track.</li> <li>Spadoni's Nature Reserve internal track</li> </ul>
	No properties are at risk of flooding
	Water over the road is possible at the lowest point on Melba Highway

### Staying Informed and Further Information

- Current warnings (VicEmergency) [emergency.vic.gov.au](https://emergency.vic.gov.au) 1800 226 226
- Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) [bom.gov.au/vic/warnings](https://bom.gov.au/vic/warnings) 1300 659 217
- VicRoads Traffic [traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au](https://traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au)
- Emergency Broadcasters  
 ABC 774 AM  
 SKY NEWS Television  
 Yarra Valley 99.1 FM
- VICSES Social Media  
[facebook.com/vicses](https://facebook.com/vicses)  
[twitter.com/vicsesnews](https://twitter.com/vicsesnews)
- SES Healesville Unit [facebook.com/healesvilleleses](https://facebook.com/healesvilleleses)
- Preparing for Flood Emergencies [ses.vic.gov.au/get-ready](https://ses.vic.gov.au/get-ready)
- Creating an Emergency Plan [redcross.org.au/prepare](https://redcross.org.au/prepare)
- Melbourne Water [melbournewater.com.au](https://melbournewater.com.au) 131 722
- Yarra Ranges Council [yarraranges.vic.gov.au](https://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><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 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](https://redcross.org.au/prepare) start creating your plan.



**ARE YOU READY?**  
DO ONE SIMPLE THING TO MAKE YOU SAFER

- 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.

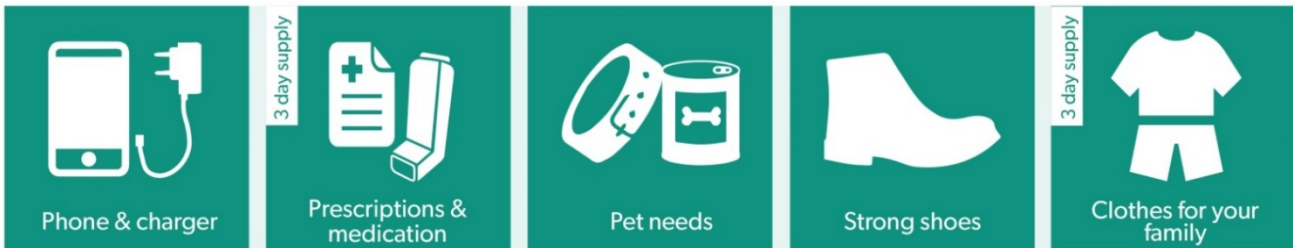


## Emergency Kit

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](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. 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://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.