



Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology



Strengthening flood services in Greater Melbourne



Yarra River, Melbourne, Victoria.

Enhancing flood forecasts and warning services

From July 2026, the Bureau of Meteorology will be responsible for riverine flood forecasts and warnings in Greater Melbourne.

Melbourne Water currently develops these forecasts and warnings. The bureau issues these warnings on Melbourne Water's behalf.

The bureau will have the information, models and tools needed to forecast riverine flooding across Greater Melbourne.

This means the bureau can issue timely flood warnings for the community.

The Victoria State Emergency Service (VICSES) will continue to publish flood warnings through the VicEmergency website, app and social media channels.

Benefits of this change

- 1 Improved flood forecast and warning services for Greater Melbourne catchments.
- 2 The Greater Melbourne community will have access to rainfall and river conditions on the bureau website. To see what is happening as conditions change, visit: www.bom.gov.au/vic/flood/port_phillip.shtml
- 3 Greater Melbourne will be consistent with the bureau's flood forecast services across the rest of Victoria and nationally.

The Bureau will issue riverine flood warnings for Greater Melbourne, at 27 sites across these catchments:

- Werribee River catchment
- Maribyrnong River catchment
- Yarra River catchment
- Dandenong Creek catchment
- Bunyip River catchment

What are flash floods and riverine floods?

Heavy or intense rainfall can quickly lead to flash flooding anywhere. Flash flooding can happen suddenly, often with little or no warning.

Riverine flooding is when river levels rise so that water covers surrounding land. This is mostly caused by heavy or prolonged rainfall.

Learn more about the bureau's flood warning services here: www.bom.gov.au/resources/learn-and-explore/flood-knowledge-centre.



Maribyrnong River, Melbourne, Victoria.

Be flood ready

Prepare ahead of floods by having a plan. This will help you act when needed.

Your plan should include an evacuation plan and a flood preparation checklist.

Stay away from flood water and keep up to date with the latest warnings and forecasts.

Prepare and stay informed

VICSES

Learn how to prepare to be flood ready and stay safe. Visit the **VICSES website**.

<https://www.ses.vic.gov.au/plan-and-stay-safe/emergencies/flood>

VicEmergency

Visit the **VicEmergency website** and download the app for flood warnings and advice on what you should do.

<https://linktr.ee/vicemergency>



Advice



Watch
and act



Emergency
warning

Bureau of Meteorology

Stay up to date with the latest forecasts and warnings through the **BOM website**.

www.bom.gov.au

Enable notifications to get the latest warnings for your location through the **BOM Weather app**.

www.bom.gov.au/bom-weather-app

Melbourne Water

Learn more about Melbourne Water's flood and drainage services.

Visit **Melbourne Water's website**.

www.melbournewater.com.au/water-and-environment/flooding-and-drainage