



Media Release

Victoria State Emergency Service

Victorian Headquarters • 168 Sturt Street, Southbank Victoria 3006

SES on alert as heavy rains move into Victoria

From: Victorian Headquarters

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Time: 3pm

Heavy rainfall may bring flooding to parts of Victoria's south as early as today, Victoria State Emergency Service (SES) has warned.

The Bureau of Meteorology has forecast a low pressure system to move across Victoria today, bringing rainfall to much of the state before developing into an East Coast Low early tomorrow and persisting throughout Friday.

The heaviest rainfall is forecast around central Gippsland on Thursday and over East Gippsland on Friday.

Total rainfall over the three days to Friday in Gippsland is forecast to exceed 150mm - or twice the average June rainfall. Rainfall around metropolitan Melbourne may exceed 40mm over this period, with strong winds to follow on late Thursday and Friday.

To 9am this morning, the highest rainfalls have been recorded in the Wimmera, including 66mm in Nhill and 46mm in Yanac North.

Flood Watches [have been issued](#) for Greater Melbourne, East Gippsland, West and South Gippsland, North East Catchment, Barwon River and Goulburn Broken Basins.

Victoria SES State Commander Mark Cattell is urging Victorians to take simple precautions and monitor the situation closely.

"Our volunteers and staff are on standby and we are monitoring the situation closely," he said.

"In the meantime, there are simple precautions the community can take to defend against damage or injury should the worst happen. Flash flooding can happen without warning and become dangerous very quickly, so it's important to prepare ahead of time and have a plan.

"Simple precautions include checking gutters and downpipes for blockages, securing outdoor furniture and objects and having an emergency plan for your home, family and business."

Motorists are advised to drive to conditions during heavy rainfall and to never drive through floodwater.

People are encouraged to stay informed about the situation by tuning to local emergency broadcasters – including ABC Radio, Sky News and community radio stations – and by visiting ses.vic.gov.au/warnings, twitter.com/vicseswarnings or facebook.com/vicses and by calling the Victoria SES Emergency Information Line on 1300 VICSES (1300 842 737).

Parks Victoria has urged caution when visiting parks and forests over the next few days and has been in contact with campers and school groups at Wilsons Prom and other parks. Some tracks and trails are expected to be closed.

For the latest conditions in parks and forests contact Parks Victoria at www.parks.vic.gov.au

For the latest forecasts and warnings for Victoria go to www.bom.gov.au/vic/

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