

## Community Newsletter Traralgon Flood Event

### No. 1, Saturday 12 June 2021

#### Information about the Traralgon Creek Flood Event

On Wednesday 9 and Thursday 10 June, a weather system of strong winds and heavy rainfall impacted Victoria overnight, resulting in fallen trees and building damage, flooding, power outages and road closures across the state.

Residents from the Traralgon area were advised to evacuate on Thursday 10 June and Friday 11 June in response to the predicted flood conditions and their likely impact on properties.

As of Saturday 12 June, the warning for Traralgon has been downgraded to moderate.

The Traralgon Creek is currently below the minor flood level, though a rise in water levels has occurred in the upper catchment in response to rainfall overnight. Flood level is rising slowly, and currently not expected to reach moderate levels.

Since 6:00 pm Friday, rainfall totals of 25 to 45 mm have been recorded over the Traralgon Creek Catchment. Further totals of 5-15mm are forecast for the Traralgon Creek catchment during Saturday.

Emergency service impact teams are undertaking damage assessments across the region. Air observers are monitoring catchments and technical specialists for flood continue to monitor the situation.



Aerial image of Traralgon township credit to Blake Bourne

#### Community meetings

Saturday 12 June 2021  
Live streamed by Latrobe City Council via Youtube following this link: [www.youtube.com/c/LatrobeCityCouncilVic](https://www.youtube.com/c/LatrobeCityCouncilVic)

#### Information for people returning home after evacuating

If you are returning home after evacuating, remember to stay alert - dangerous conditions caused by flooding in Traralgon may remain.

Check for building damage before you enter and if your home has been flooded, have all electrical and gas equipment professionally tested before use.

Tragically there have been two lives lost in the past two days and police will prepare reports for the coroner. We don't want to see any more, so we implore the community to please take care. Never drive in flood waters – it may be the last decision you make.

#### Other things to be mindful of:

- Cuts from broken glass and debris may be a problem – wear sturdy waterproof boots and rubber or leather gloves.
- Avoid any areas that remain flooded.
- Wild animals, including rodents, snakes or spiders, may be trapped in and around your home.
- Flooding can cause excessive mould growth, which must be cleaned up before moving back to your home.
- Flooding may cause sewage to overflow inside your home. Contaminated areas must be cleaned and disinfected. Keep children and pets away until the clean-up is completed.
- If you rely on rainwater or groundwater, your water may be contaminated after floods. Find out what you need to know.
- If you live in a flood-affected area, your septic tank system may be affected.

#### Relief information

Contact Latrobe City Council on 1300 367 700 or visit the relief centre to find out about available support services.

Australian Red Cross has opened its Register.Find.Reunite service to assist people evacuated from Traralgon get in touch with their family and friends. There is no requirement for donations to be collected for communities at this time.

### Road closures

- There are 12 roads that are currently closed due to flooding, these include:
- Monash Way, between Commercial Road and Acacia Way.
- Tramway Road, between Church Road and Mackeys Road.
- Boldings Road, between Tramway Road and Thomson Road.
- Old Melbourne Road, between Airfield Road and Alexanders Road.
- Traralgon-Maffra Road from the Princes Highway (Traralgon) to Glengarry West Road (Glengarry).
- Old Maffra Road near Jeffrey Drive.
- Davidson Street near Franklin Street.
- Peterkin Street near Princes Highway.
- Whittakers Road near Howitt Street.
- Booth Court near Tennyson Street.
- Roads that may be impacted by flooding include Howitt Street, Shakespeare Street and Traralgon Creek Road.

Information on updated road closures is available via 13 11 70 or the VicTraffic website [traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au](http://traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au)

### Traralgon Flood Guide

The Traralgon Flood Guide provides local information in flooding in the area. You can find it by googling the phrase 'Traralgon Flood Guide' or following this link: [https://www.latrobe.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-07/Traralgon%20Local%20Flood%20Guide\\_0.pdf](https://www.latrobe.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-07/Traralgon%20Local%20Flood%20Guide_0.pdf)

### Mental health

It is normal to have strong emotional or physical reactions following a distressing event. There is always help available through:

- Your doctor
- Local mental health professionals
- **Lifeline** - 131 114
- **Beyond Blue** - 1300 224 636
- **MensLine** - 1300 789 978
- **Kid's Help Line** - 1800 55 1800
- **Parent Line** - 13 22 89

### Family Violence

There is an increased risk of family violence after an emergency. Help is available. Visit [www.vic.gov.au/familyviolence](http://www.vic.gov.au/familyviolence) or call 1800 737 732 (1800RESPECT).

### Useful information

**Gippsland Water is asking customers to conserve water where they can, as it works to restore services following this week's flooding event.**

General manager operations Chris Wood said widespread power outages, inundation at key sites and raw water quality changes were contributing to reduced treatment capacity.

For more information visit the Gippsland Water website [gippswater.com.au](http://gippswater.com.au)

More information is provided on the Latrobe City Council website and social media channels <https://www.latrobe.vic.gov.au/>

Contact VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226) to speak to someone about recovering. They can connect you with people who can help.

### Stay informed

- [www.emergency.vic.gov.au](http://www.emergency.vic.gov.au).
- VicEmergency Hotline - freecall 1800 226 226.
- VicEmergency app.
- Facebook or Twitter (#vicHAZARD).
- Local ABC Gippsland radio.

To access this information in other languages call the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 (freecall) and ask them to call VicEmergency Hotline.

If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech/communication impairment contact National Relay Service on 1800 555 677 and ask them to call the VicEmergency Hotline.

### Covid information

If you need to leave your home due to extreme weather or flood, please do so. Follow your normal evacuation or relocation plans in a COVIDSafe way.

If you are currently isolating or quarantining because you have COVID-19, are a primary or secondary close contact, or are awaiting a COVID-19 test result and need to relocate due to an emergency, move somewhere safe as quickly as possible. Then call 1300 651 160 (available 24/7) and press 0 to let operators know that you have relocated.