

## IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

### Tasmania Police

General Enquiries 131 444  
Emergency 000

### State Emergency Service

General Enquiries 6336 3790  
Emergency 132 500

### Ambulance

General Enquiries 1800 008 008  
Emergency 000

Red Cross - Enquiries 1800 246 850

Aurora Energy 1300 132 003

Bureau of Meteorology 1900 659 216



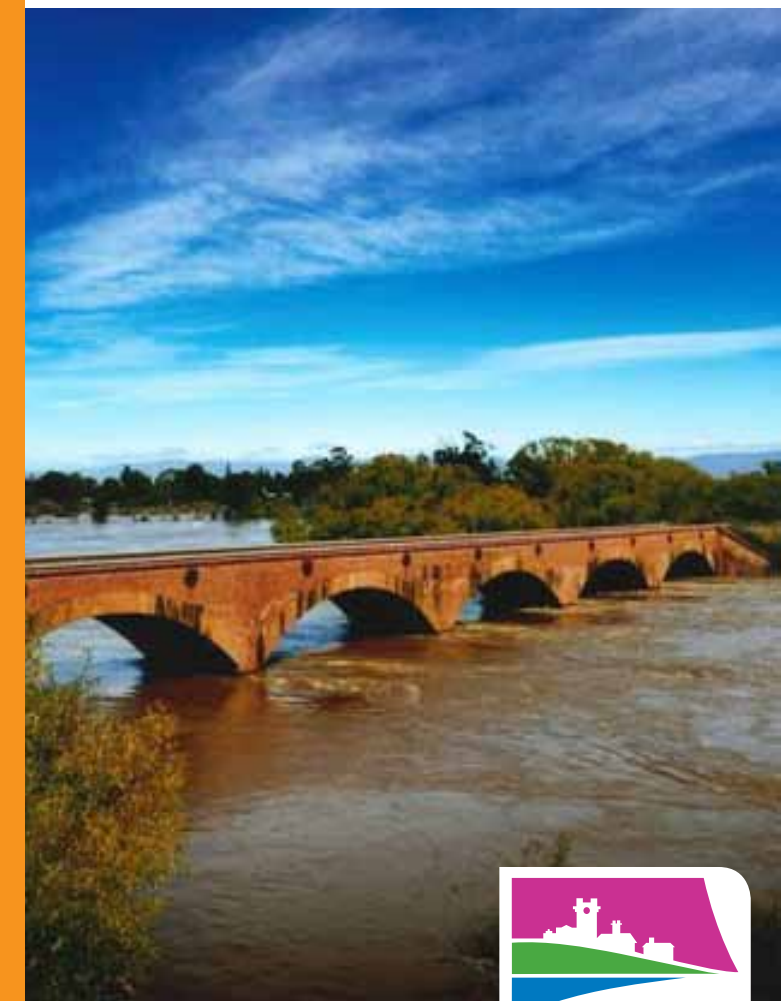
## What YOU can do to protect your home...

Listen to and act on the advice of the emergency services. Follow these simple steps to stay safe...

- Locate your Emergency Flood Kit.
- Relocate small manageable furniture and items upstairs or to a high point in your home (e.g. ceiling space for light household items).
- Place furniture on beds and then personal items on the furniture. Electrical equipment should be placed on top.
- Secure all items that may become hazardous and cause damage if moved by flood water, for example – refrigerators and other large household items.
- If safe to do so, turn off gas, electricity and water supplies when flood water is about to enter your home. DO NOT touch sources of electricity when standing in flood water.
- Put plugs in sinks and baths. Weigh them down with a strong plastic bag filled with sand or earth.
- Place a strong plastic bag full of sand or earth in the toilet bowl to prevent sewage entering your property. Close the lid and weigh down.
- Disconnect any equipment that uses water (like washing machines and dishwashers).
- Leave all drawers, cabinet doors and room doors open. This makes sure they don't swell and stick shut.
- If possible, move any outside belongings to higher locations including car oils, pesticides and chemicals which can be very hazardous to the environment when mixed with floodwaters. These should be stored in plastic, airtight containers in a secure place away from the floodwaters.
- Cardboard boxes and newspapers etc should be placed in waterproof containers and moved to higher ground. If this is not done, they will disintegrate and clog drains.
- Tie and anchor outdoor garbage, wheelie and recycling bins to minimise the spread of disease.

# What to do DURING a flood

Tips to protect you, your family, pets and property.



## For more information

**Northern Midlands Council**  
13 Smith Street, Longford 7301  
Phone: (03) 6397 7303  
Fax: (03) 6397 7331  
Email: [council@nmc.tas.gov.au](mailto:council@nmc.tas.gov.au)  
Website: [www.northernmidlands.tas.gov.au](http://www.northernmidlands.tas.gov.au)

## YOU will need to evacuate when advised by authorities

- Tasmanian Legislation provides Tasmania Police with the authority to evacuate people in the event of an emergency.
- Keep listening to ABC Radio 91.7 FM for regular advice and updates.
- Emergency personnel will be door knocking in the area. Mobile public address warnings may also be activated.
- Please leave your home if emergency services say so. Refusing to leave on their advice will put you, your family and those trying to help you at risk.
- Leave before flood waters arrive. You may only have minutes to evacuate.
- Once an evacuation has been called, residents and the general public will not be able to return to the flood affected area until Tasmania Police have deemed it safe to do so. This may not be for some days.



## What YOU need to do when evacuating

- Take your pets (secured with a leash or in a pet container – dogs should be muzzled) and pet food with you. Most evacuation centres will have resources available for your pets.
- Turn off electricity, gas and water before you leave.
- Lock and secure your home.
- When you evacuate, you should go to family or friends or to an evacuation centre run by Council.

### Emergency Flood Kit Items

- A food kit filled with foods that don't need to be refrigerated. Make sure it includes bottled water
- Baby food and baby care items (e.g. nappies if applicable)
- A list of emergency telephone numbers (see overleaf)
- A first aid kit and essential medications
- Your mobile phone and charger
- Radio
- Candles and waterproof matches
- Torch with spare batteries
- Rubber gloves
- Toiletries and toilet paper
- Alcohol wipes and anti-bacterial gel
- Children's activities such as colouring books, pens and pencils (if applicable)
- A waterproof bag for clothing and valuables
- Important papers (including insurance documents), bank books, money and credit cards
- Valuables and cherished articles (jewellery, photos etc.)

**These should be stored in a water proof container**

### Other essential items to take with you

- Warm, waterproof clothing and change of clothing
- Blankets/sleeping bag
- Rubber shoes and or gumboots
- Pet food (if applicable)
- Hats, sunscreen
- Camping stove or small bbq
- If you are going to self evacuate and stay with friends or family, please register your location with Red Cross **by calling 1800 246 850.**
- If you are unable to stay with friends or family, you should go to an evacuation centre. Help available at evacuation centres includes:-
- Temporary Accommodation
- Financial Assistance
- Personal Support
- Refreshments and meals
- Clothing and personal needs
- Arranging contact with family and friends



## Travel in flood conditions

- The majority of flood-related deaths in Australia are a result of inexperienced people entering flood waters either in boats, vehicles or on foot. Avoid entering floodwater on foot or by vehicle, it may be deeper or faster flowing than you think, manhole covers may have come off and floodwaters contain hidden snags and debris.
- Don't walk on the riverbanks or across bridges if possible. They may have been damaged and might even collapse.
- Don't swim in flood water – it is usually contaminated and often contains hidden snags, strong currents and other hazards.
- Avoid wading, even in shallow water, for the above reasons.
- If you must enter shallow water, wear rubber shoes or gumboots to protect feet. Don't proceed beyond waist-depth unless absolutely necessary (and only if there is no obvious current).
- Keep in contact with other people. Do things in pairs. Do not go anywhere alone.

### Important! Flood water is dangerous

- Avoid walking or driving through it.
- Keep children and vulnerable people away from it.
- Wash your hands thoroughly if you touch it.
- Never drink flood water in any circumstance; it may contain hazardous substances which can harm you.

## Evacuation Centres

- Evacuation Centres are located at:
  - Town Hall, Longford
  - Town Hall, Campbelltown

Directional signage will be displayed at these sites.