

Severe weather prompts calls for vigilance

Heavy rain and flash flooding has affected parts of South Gippsland. VicRoads, the State Emergency Service (SES), Country Fire Authority (CFA) and Council have worked together to assist locals and Gippsland SES is expecting resources will be stretched to the limit addressing the repercussions.

With more inclement weather on the way, a number of road closures and water on roads, the SES is advising that all community members should:

- Move vehicles under cover or away from trees
- Secure or put away loose items around your house, yard and balcony
- Keep clear of fallen power lines
- Never walk, ride or drive through floodwater
- Never allow children to play in floodwater
- Stay away from waterways and stormwater drains during and after heavy rain
- Be aware that in fire affected areas, rainfall run-off into waterways may contain debris such as ash, soil, trees and rocks, and heavy rainfall increases the potential for landslides and debris across roads

Current emergency information is available at www.emergency.vic.gov.au. For emergency assistance contact the SES on 132 500. Current road and traffic information is available at the VicRoads website at www.traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au and for the latest weather forecast see the Bureau of Meteorology at www.bom.gov.au/vic/forecasts.

Flood Warnings, Flood Watches, River Height and Rainfall information are also available on the Bureau of Meteorology website. Flood Warnings and Flood Watches for Victorian Catchments are available by contacting the Telephone Weather Service on 1300 659217.

The Department of Health website at www.health.vic.gov.au can help you with information including septic tanks in flood affected areas, returning home safely after a flood, guidance for flood affected pools, animal and insect related hazards following flood and mould following flood damage indoors.

PR1880 6/7/16