

## Pets and animals



Some evacuation centres will not allow animals. Make plans for where you will go and how you will care for your pets now, well before there is any sign of flooding.

Do not leave your pets behind. Put them on leads or in pet carriers. Dogs should wear a fixed collar with an identification tag. Animal carriers should be labelled with the owners details. Take feed and water with you as well as any medications for your pets.

## Stay informed

NSW SES can give you information on what you can do to reduce the impacts of flooding on your family and your property. This brochure and general information on preparing for floods and storms can be found on the NSW SES website [www.floodsafe.com.au](http://www.floodsafe.com.au)

The NSW Department of Primary Industries can also provide information for rural producers affected by severe floods. The NSW Department of Primary Industries website at [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au) has a range of articles relating to the effects on flooding on rural producers.

Your local council may be able to provide you with specific information on how flooding affects your property.

## How the NSW SES can help you



The NSW SES is responsible for responding to floods. This includes planning for floods and educating people about how to protect themselves and their property.

During floods the NSW SES will provide flood information, safety advice and arrange for the delivery of essential supplies to people isolated by floodwater. Where appropriate, the NSW SES will conduct evacuations and undertake flood rescue, including the rescue of livestock.

## How the NSW Department of Primary Industries can help you

Under the Agricultural Services Functional Area Supporting Plan, the NSW Department of Primary Industries is responsible for coordinating animal relief services for livestock, wildlife and companion animals.

The NSW Department of Primary Industries is responsible for agriculture and animals in floods. Local agricultural coordinators in each area are responsible for planning, implementing and coordinating relief programs.



Principal Partner



FOR EMERGENCY HELP IN FLOOD,  
STORM AND TSUNAMI CALL

**132 500**

In life-threatening emergencies call 000 (triple zero)

For more information call the NSW SES  
on **1800 201 000**

or visit: [www.floodsafe.com.au](http://www.floodsafe.com.au)



#NSWSES



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Rural Properties Floodsafe



## Are you at risk from floods?



New South Wales has a long history of floods. Some of these have been extreme events costing millions of dollars.

The effects of flooding on rural property owners include losses to livestock, crops, fencing, buildings, personal items, farm equipment and machinery. While damage to crops and fences is usually unavoidable, there is the potential to reduce losses particularly to life, livestock and irrigation equipment.

As a rural property owner or manager you may have experienced many floods. It is important to be aware that larger floods than those previously experienced can occur in your area.

Even if your property is not directly affected by flooding, you may be isolated and require assistance such as the supply of essential items and feed for livestock.

While in many cases evacuation will not be necessary, you should consider early evacuation as an option if severe flooding is predicted. Deciding to remain in your home when it is inundated or surrounded by floodwater can be dangerous.

Flooding may last for weeks. Your home may become a refuge for vermin, snakes and spiders. There may be no water, sewerage, power, telephone or other services for several weeks and you may be unable to call for help in an emergency.

## What you can do now

### 8 TIPS YOU CAN DO NOW TO PREPARE FOR FLOODS

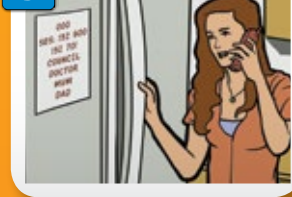
#### 1 KNOW YOUR FLOOD RISK



#### 2 KNOW WHERE TO GO



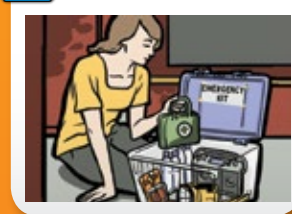
#### 3 KNOW WHO TO CALL



#### 4 KNOW YOUR PLAN



#### 5 GET YOUR KIT TOGETHER



#### 6 PREPARE NOW TO ACT EARLY



#### 7 CHECK YOUR INSURANCE



#### 8 LISTEN TO LOCAL RADIO



## How you will be advised of a coming flood



Flood information including flood forecasts, road closures, and advice on evacuations and property protection will be broadcast over local radio stations. The Bureau of Meteorology issues Flood Watches when there is the possibility of flooding and Flood Warnings when flooding is about to happen and when it is flooding.

## When flooding is likely (Flood Watch)

A Flood Watch is issued by the Bureau of Meteorology when flooding is likely. Be prepared to act should flooding occur.

- Listen to your local radio station for information, updates and advice
- Lift household items and farm equipment on to benches and tables placing electrical goods on top
- Secure objects that are likely to float and cause damage
- Locate important papers, valuables and mementoes. Put them in your emergency kit and take them with you when you evacuate
- Check sheds and outbuildings and relocate waste containers, chemicals and poisons well above floor level
- Check if your neighbours need help
- Locate and prepare pets for possible evacuation
- Consider early evacuation. It can be life-threatening to stay on a property surrounded by floodwater however, if isolation is likely, have sufficient non-perishable food, essential medications fuel and other necessities to last two weeks. Do not forget pet food and stockfeed
- Move livestock to high ground where they can be provided with feed for the duration of the flood
- Relocate fodder supplies to high ground
- Move farm equipment and relocate pumps to high ground

## During a flood (Flood Warning)

A Flood Warning is issued by the Bureau of Meteorology when flooding is about to happen. Flood Warnings provide a predicted flood level and time at which a river may reach that level. Flood Warnings are issued in relation to gauges along rivers.

- Never drive, ride or walk through floodwater – this is the main cause of death during floods as water may be deeper or faster flowing than you think and may contain hidden snags and debris
- Remember the safety of your pets and any other animals. You are responsible for their well-being. The NSW Department of Primary Industries may be able to assist you
- Keep listening to a local radio station for further information, updates and advice
- Keep in contact with your neighbours
- Be prepared to evacuate if advised

## If evacuation is required

Take your emergency kit with you. Turn off the electricity and water as you leave and turn off and secure gas bottles. You should leave well before roads to high ground are closed by floodwater.

You can go to friends or relatives who live in flood-free areas, or you can go to an evacuation centre. The Department of Community Services (DoCS) may establish evacuation centres in your area where help will be available including:

- temporary accommodation
- financial help
- personal support
- refreshments and meals
- clothing and personal needs
- help in contacting family and friends.

Where evacuation is necessary and you have livestock, you should notify the NSW Department of Primary Industries with details of:

- a contact person, telephone number and an alternate contact number
- the location, type and number of animals
- your handling facilities – yards, loading ramps, stock crates
- availability of fodder/food
- potential problem animals such as unbroken horses and guard dogs