

Know how to get out

FLOOD EVACUATION ROUTES IN THE HAWKESBURY-NEPEAN VALLEY

Floods in the Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley can happen with little notice. You may not have much time to get out following an emergency warning to evacuate. You need to be prepared and know your evacuation routes.

Knowing when and how to leave

The Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley has a long history of damaging and dangerous floods. You need to follow all advice and emergency warnings, including any directions to evacuate, to keep you, your family and pets safe. You may be asked to leave well before you see any sign of floodwater in your neighbourhood. It is not safe to stay and shelter in your home once you have been ordered to evacuate.

To find out about emergency warnings, including directions to evacuate and which routes are open listen to your local and ABC radio, visit the NSW SES website, or follow NSW SES Facebook, or NSW Police Facebook and Twitter.

Get familiar with the routes

There are 12 designated evacuation routes that provide the quickest and safest way to exit the Wallacia, Penrith-Emu Plains, Richmond-Windsor, South and Eastern Creek floodplains. (See map on reverse of fact sheet).

You need to be aware of more than one route because each flood behaves differently and evacuation routes will get cut by floodwater at different points. Some routes can get cut quite early in relatively small floods. For example, Windsor Road is cut when floodwaters reach 13.5m at Windsor, around a 1 in 20 chance of happening in any given year.

Even high set evacuation routes can be affected by large floods. The Jim Anderson Bridge would be cut when floodwaters approach its road level at 17.3 metres at Windsor, around a 1 in 100 chance of happening in any given year.

Once you know your best routes, have a conversation with friends or relatives to organise a place to go to. Remember, as each flood can be different, it's important to follow emergency warnings to evacuate when they are given.

Follow the signs

More than 150 flood evacuation signs have been installed across the Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley to guide drivers. There are several different types of signs, including a number of folded signs designed to be opened during a flood emergency to provide extra direction for drivers.

Signs to guide people along the regional flood evacuation routes towards safer areas.



