

# Information on flooding in Natimuk

*This guide has been prepared by Horsham Rural City Council to help Natimuk residents be better informed about flood risks and can be prepared in order to minimise the impact from flooding.*

## Warnings and Alerts

Depending on conditions parts of Natimuk can experience flooding from the Natimuk Creek and Little Natimuk Creek in a relatively short time (7 hours) after heavy rain when the soil is saturated. It is important to be aware of the weather forecast by checking websites or listening to news services.

Weather forecasts are available at Bureau of Meteorology website - [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au) . 24 hr totals and hourly rainfall levels and flood and weather warnings are available at <http://www.bom.gov.au/vic/flood>. The most relevant weather stations to Natimuk are Natimuk, Fire Dam 159 (on the 'little' Natimuk Ck) and Mc Neils Bridge (on Natimuk Ck) these are listed in the table at <http://bit.ly/WimmeraRainFalls> .

Emergency warnings are issued through the Bureau of Meteorology website, ABC local radio, the VicEmergency website - <http://emergency.vic.gov.au/respond/> or SES social media.

## Background Information

Check the "Natimuk Flood Guidance Tool" which is included in the 2013 Natimuk Flood Study. This document indicates what properties and dwellings are likely to experience flooding based on the amount of rain that falls over a certain time period. A chart that maps the amount of rainfall against time is included in this document and this will help work out the likely extent of flooding. The 2013 Natimuk Flood Study has indicated that dwellings on the following list are likely to experience over floor flooding during the following flood events:

Residences likely to experience over floor flooding as per 2013 Natimuk Flood Study	20yr	50yr	100yr	200yr
71 Main Street – weatherboard house on stumps		✓	✓	✓
41 Lake Avenue – weatherboard house on stumps		✓	✓	✓
43 Lake Avenue – weatherboard house on stumps		✓	✓	✓
37 Lake Avenue – weatherboard house on stumps		✓	✓	✓
59 Lake Avenue – weatherboard house on stumps		✓	✓	✓
69 Main Street – rendered brick shop		✓	✓	✓
71 Lake Avenue – brick house on concrete slab		✓	✓	✓
45 Lake Avenue – weatherboard house on stumps			✓	✓
75 Main Street – steel clad milk bar			✓	✓
21 Elmes Street – weatherboard house on stumps			✓	✓
5 Elmes Street – weatherboard house on stumps			✓	✓
33 Lake Avenue – weatherboard house on stumps			✓	✓
67 Main Street – iron clad, brick façade shop			✓	✓
7 Elmes Street – weatherboard house on stumps				✓
17 Elmes Street – brick house on stumps				✓
87 Main Street – double brick shop				✓
31 Lake Avenue – weatherboard house on stumps				✓
6 Elmes Street – large corrugated shed (Parks Vic)				✓
3 Schmidt Street – weatherboard house on stumps				✓
89 Main St – brick shop				✓
27 Elmes Street – weatherboard house on stumps				✓
6 Jory Street – weatherboard house on stumps				✓
81 Main Street – brick Post Office				✓
1 Schmidt Street – Telstra iron clad on stumps				✓

As well as the above some properties on Lake Road, Duncan Street, Jory Street, Sudholz Street and Station Street may experience flooding on their properties.

The 2013 Natimuk Flood Study can be found on the Wimmera CMA website [www.wcma.vic.gov.au](http://www.wcma.vic.gov.au) or accessed by calling the Wimmera CMA on 5382 1544. This flood study shows areas that are affected by flooding as well as likely flood depth for 6 different flood extents.

## Monitor Actual Conditions

Monitor the actual rain by checking your rain gauge or by contacting someone upstream to see how much rain has fallen upstream. 24 hr totals and hourly rainfall levels are available on the Bureau of Meteorology website - [www.bom.gov.au/vic/flood](http://www.bom.gov.au/vic/flood). The water level in Natimuk Creek at McNeils Bridge can be monitored at - <http://bit.ly/NatiCkGauge>. The nearest automated weather stations to Natimuk are, Fire Dam 159 (on the 'little' Natimuk Ck) and Mc Neils Bridge (on Natimuk Ck) these are listed in the table at <http://bit.ly/WimmeraRainFalls>.

## Report

If you are concerned about the risk of flooding based on rainfall and comparison with the "Natimuk Flood Guidance Tool", call the SES on 132 500 or alert Horsham Rural City Council on 5382 9777. The Natimuk Police can also be informed.

*If you require emergency services assistance due to flooding call the SES on 132 500.*

## Enact your Flood Response Plan

If you think your house may be flooded you need to enact your own flood response plan. To prepare your home:

- Stack possessions on benches and tables, with electrical goods on top
- Secure objects that are likely to float and cause damage
- Relocate waste containers, chemicals, and poisons well above floor level
- Move computers, cash and critical records to a flood-free location
- Secure all personal and business records and equipment or relocate them to higher ground
- Put all important papers and valuables in your emergency kit
- Turn off the electricity, gas and water where they enter your property
- Install any available flood proofing devices and block toilets, sinks and showers with sandbags.
- Make arrangements for alternative pet care

The Red Cross or SES have Personal Emergency Plans that you can prepare so you know what to take if you need to leave your home.

During a flood some roads in Natimuk will not be passable - even if your dwelling or property does not get flooded, your local road may be closed during a flood.

In the event of a flood Horsham Rural City Council will establish a relief centre if required in a safe location in Natimuk.

## Sandbagging

In weatherboard homes it is most effective to place a sandbag in the toilet and over the plug hole in the bath and shower and in other sinks. This will stop the flow of flood water back up these systems.

Brick houses can more effectively be sandbagged by also sandbagging doorways and weep holes. Sandbags and some sand are already available in Natimuk at the Council depot.

## Request help locally

Natimuk community members are willing to help move sandbags, furniture etc.

ARI= Average Return Interval which is the average time between events of this size or alternatively 5 year ARI event has a 20% chance of occurring in any year and 100 year ARI event has a 1% chance of occurring in a given year.

## Guidance for likelihood of flooding at Natimuk based on rainfall

If catchment is very wet, move up one level. For example, if rainfall is on 10-yr curve and catchment is very wet, refer to 20-yr map and consequences





