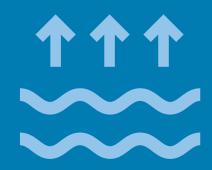


# FIVE STEPS TO GET READY FOR A FLOOD

## STÉP ONÉ -UNDERSTAND YOUR RISK



#### What is a flood?

No two FLOODS are the same and can vary depending on the quantity, duration and location of rain falling on our catchments. There are four main types of flooding experienced in the Rockhampton Region.

- RIVER FLOODING happens when widespread and prolonged rain falls over the Fitzroy River catchment.
- CREEK FLOODING happens when intense rain falls over one of the many creek catchments in the region causing creek levels to rise, which often occurs quickly with little warning.
- OVERLAND FLOW happens as water travels over the land during heavy rainfall events and generally occurs over a short period of time.
- **STORM TIDE FLOODING** happens when a low pressure system or strong onshore winds force sea levels to rise above normal levels, creating a storm surge that can cause flooding of low-lying areas close to tidal waterways and foreshores.

For more information on flooding refer to the Queensland Reconstruction Authority's video on <u>Understanding Your Flood Risk in the Fitzroy Region</u> available on Youtube.

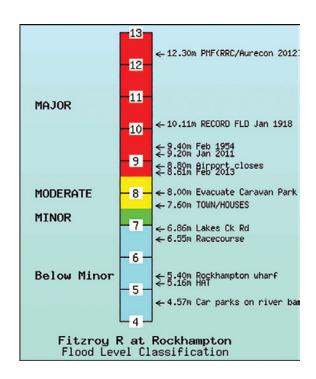
## **Fitzroy River flood level classifications**

The Bureau of Meteorology uses a three tiered classification scheme that defines flooding as minor, moderate or major at key river height stations in the Fitzroy River, known as the river gauge locations. Each classification is defined by the water level that causes certain impacts upstream and downstream of the station.

- Minor flooding: Causes inconvenience such as closure of minor local roads and low bridges.
- Moderate flooding: Low lying areas will be inundated requiring removal of stock, equipment and evacuation of homes. Some major roads or access points may be covered.
- Major flooding: Higher areas will be inundated with isolation of towns and properties causing extensive damage.

The Bureau of Meteorology issues a Flood Watch to provide early advice of a developing situation which may lead to flooding. A Flood Watch is not a warning of imminent flooding.

Keep up-to-date with flood warnings by logging on to <u>Council's Emergency Dashboard</u> or find out more on the Flood Warning system visit <u>BOM</u>.



# Am I in a flood prone area?

Log on to Council's Emergency Dashboard to access flood mapping for the Rockhampton region. Alternatively contact Council's Customer Service Centre on 1300 22 55 77 or 07 4932 9000 to obtain information on the flood risk for your property.

# STEP TWO - MAKE A PLAN

Prepare your household emergency and evacuation plan to keep you and your family or household members connected and safe in the event you become separated during a natural disaster. For more information and to complete your plan online access Your Emergency Guide on Council's Emergency Dashboard.

#### STEP THREE - PACK SUPPLIES

Pack your Emergency Kit with essential supplies in the case you are unable to leave your home for an extended period of time, and your Evacuation Kit if it becomes unsafe to remain and you need to leave your home. For more information and a checklist of supplies to pack in your kits access Your Emergency Guide on Council's Emergency Dashboard.

#### STEP FOUR - PREPARE YOUR HOME

There is no better time than now to get your home prepared so you are ready for the next time flooding occurs. For more information on home maintenance and home preparations for when a flood is imminent access Your Emergency Guide on Council's Emergency Dashboard.

### **STEP FIVE - PROTECT YOUR PET**

In emergency situations, pets are often the most vulnerable member of the family. It's important to consider what will happen to our pets in the event of a natural disaster. For more information on protecting your pet during a flood, including supplies needed for your Pet Emergency Kit, access Your Emergency Guide on Council's Emergency Dashboard.







