Et out flood evacuation routes in the Hawkesbury-Nepean valley

Floods in the Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley can happen with little warning. You may only have a few hours to get out following an evacuation order. You need to be prepared and get to 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 evacuation orders to keep you, your family and pets safe. You will typically 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 evacuation orders and which routes are open listen to your local and ABC radio, 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 by a flood that has a 98% chance of happening in an 80-year lifetime (also known as a 1 in 20 chance per year flood).

Even relatively new infrastructure can be affected by large floods. The Jim Anderson bridge at Windsor would be cut in a flood with a 55% chance of occurring in an 80-year lifetime (1 in 100 chance per year flood).

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 evacuation orders when they are given.

Follow the signs

More than 150 new 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.



