

Understanding my flood hazard

Transcript

Narrator: How well do you know the flood hazards in your area?

You might notice some water pooling in your backyard. But just a few blocks away, your neighbours might find their street covered in fast-moving floodwater.

So, how do you tell what kind of flooding could affect you and how serious it might be?

To figure that out, we look at how deep the water could get and how fast it could move. That combination tells us how dangerous the flooding could be. Not just for property, but for people too.

We use that information to give every location a flood hazard classification, from H1 through to H6. The higher the number, the more dangerous and damaging the flooding could be.

You can find these classifications on your local flood maps. Understanding what they mean can help you get a clearer picture of your local flood risk.

So, let's explore what each hazard classification might mean for you.

[on-screen text: Let's explore what each hazard classification might mean for you.]

[button appears with text: Hazard 1]

Narrator: Hazard 1.

[button appears with text: Hazard 2 & 3]

Narrator: Hazard 2 and 3.

[button appears with text: Hazard 4, 5 & 6]

Narrator: Hazard 4, 5 and 6.

Option: Hazard 1

Narrator: Sarah never thought her street would be impacted by floods. It's not near a river or a creek, and the drains always seemed to work.

Her area is classified as H1, a low hazard. During heavy storms, water might build up and pool in her street or yard, but it's unlikely to make its way into her house.

While it's generally safe for people and property, it's important to understand how flood water behaves in your area.

Option: Hazard 2 & 3

Narrator: When Van first looked at his local flood map online, they saw that their property was listed as H3, because their home sits within a stormwater flow path.

This hazard classification means flooding in Van's area can be deeper or faster moving than might be expected. It might not happen often, but when it does, it can make parts of their street or property unsafe, especially for children or the elderly.

Option: Hazard 4, 5 & 6

Narrator: Jason lives next to a creek and has always enjoyed being close to nature. Even though his house is on higher ground, his updated flood map shows that parts of his backyard is rated H5, a higher hazard.

That means floodwater could move with enough speed or force to cause damage and spread debris, making it unsafe for people and property.

After all options have been selected

Narrator: Want to know more about what your flood hazard means and how to prepare for it? Explore this page to understand each hazard classification in more detail.

You'll find clear explanations and practical steps to help you prepare, no matter what kind of flood applies to your area.