

Drainage Factsheet

Who does drainage?

Melbourne Water and councils both play a role in managing most of Melbourne's drainage system. Today, underground drainage systems are generally designed to cater for rain events that have a 20% chance of occurring in any year. For land developed since the mid 1970's the balance of flows up to those with

a 1% chance of occurring in any year are then catered for in designed overland flow paths such as roads, channels or defined flood ways. This is generally sufficient for the vast majority of storm events. In older subdivisions, overland flows were rarely considered and once the underground pipe capacity is exceeded the overland flows

follow the original valley form, often running through private property and flooding houses. While some drains are managed by other agencies like, VicRoads and VicTrack, Melbourne Water and councils look after the bulk of the system.

Who looks after what?



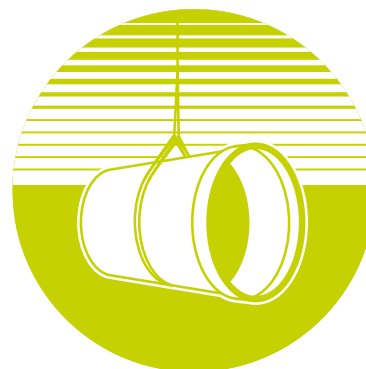
You

Individual property owners are responsible for stormwater drainage systems within their property boundaries. These systems generally connect to council systems.



Council

Council is generally responsible for the installation and maintenance of drainage systems, including drain capacity and flood mitigation works, for catchments with an area smaller than 60ha.



Melbourne Water

Melbourne Water is generally responsible for the installation and maintenance of drainage systems, including drain capacity and flood mitigation works, for catchments with an area greater than 60ha.

What happens to water once it is in Melbourne Water's drains?

When water is in the drains it heads to the nearest river or creek before reaching its final destination of Port Phillip Bay or Western Port.



Water from the drains



to nearest river or creek



final destination Port Phillip Bay or Western Port

What happens in a flood situation? Before, during and after.

Before a flood the Commonwealth Government, State Government, regional agencies and councils, as well as local communities and individuals all have a vital role to play. Melbourne Water carries out flood protection works aimed at

eliminating or reducing the occurrence or severity of floods or mitigation of the impacts. During a flood, the Police, SES and a range of organisations work to combat emergencies and provide rescue and immediate relief services. Following

the flood, Melbourne Water will support councils and other response agencies to make sure the drains are working. We also build our understanding of floods to further inform works to reduce the impacts of future flood events.

How is this funded?

1.8 million customers across Melbourne Water's operating region contribute to fund these works. In rural areas customers pay a Waterways Charge and in urban areas customers pay a Waterways and Drainage Charge. The waterways and drainage charge funds a wide range of waterway

management, flood protection and regional drainage services in Melbourne Water's area of responsibility, the Port Phillip and Westernport region. Our work varies from localised projects to extremely large projects that benefit the entire region. Spreading the cost of these services across

all properties in the region is the fairest possible approach, given that everyone benefits either directly or indirectly from healthy waterways and a safe reliable drainage system.

The roles agencies play before, during and after floods.

DSE

BEFORE & AFTER

Develop State-wide strategies and policy in relation to flood and stormwater management.

VICSES

BEFORE, DURING & AFTER

Respond to floods, assist councils with Municipal Emergency Management Plans, and with community education and awareness.

Melbourne Water

BEFORE, DURING & AFTER

Identification of flood levels, providing flood warning advice for major waterways to Bureau of Meteorology, controlling development in floodplains, providing advice on flooding to local councils and the community, developing plans, and working to minimise flooding and flood damage in our region.

Councils

BEFORE, DURING & AFTER

Municipal Emergency Management Planning, community support, damage clean-up, and administration of planning and building controls, management of local drainage system.

Community

BEFORE, DURING & AFTER

Be prepared, listen to advice or warnings from BoM, don't ride, play or driver through flood waters.

Bureau of Meteorology

BEFORE & DURING

The bureau provides weather warnings and alerts to relevant agencies and the media as weather systems develop that may cause flooding. During a flood they put out flood warnings and work closely with agencies to provide updates on the weather and meteorologic forecasts.

DHS

BEFORE, DURING & AFTER

Help with the recovery effort following a flood and can assist with development of Municipal Emergency Management Plans.

FLOOD MANAGEMENT

