## Emergencies can happen when you least expect them

To protect your life and the wellbeing of your family and friends, it is important to be prepared for emergencies, whether you're at home, at work, or on holidays. Contact family and friends to let them know what you are planning to do.

#### Important contacts

Council supports lead emergency service agencies to manage and respond to local natural disasters and emergencies.

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**Police, Fire, Ambulance** For life-threatening emergencies



Flood and storm emergencies

**132 500** ses.nsw.gov.au



**Rural Fire Service** Major bush fire incident updates

**1800 679 737** rfs.nsw.gov.au

#### Let's get emergency ready

Visit Council's website to learn more about how you can get emergency ready

lakemac.com.au/for-residents
/emergencies

Download the Hazards Near Me NSW app to stay up to date





# Let's get ready and stay safe this winter



Climate projections show extreme weather events are occurring more often and with greater intensity.

It is important to prepare early, plan for floods and storms, and protect yourself and your loved ones.

Act now and get ready with five simple steps:

- Know your risk
- Plan now what you'll do
- Get your home ready
- Be aware
- Look out for each other

## Floods

Our lake, creeks, and low-lying land put many areas of Lake Macquarie at risk of flooding.

### Storms

No matter where you are, severe storms can cause major damage to people, property, and pets.



#### **Get Ready**

- Find out about your local area to help you assess if there is a risk of flooding
- Monitor rainfall and water levels in your local catchment on Lake Macquarie FloodWatch
- Be prepared to evacuate and leave if <u>flooding is</u> predicted for your area. If you're in a holiday park, this includes disconnecting all services and preparing your van for moving. Keep in contact with the park manager
- If you need to evacuate, act early as roads may become congested or closed

#### **Stay Safe**

#### During a flood:

- Take your emergency kit with you
- Never drive, ride, walk, or play in floodwater. Water may be deeper, or flow faster than you think. It may also contain hidden snags and debris
- Listen to local radio station ABC Newcastle 1233AM for updates
- Take your mobile phone and charger
- Empty freezers and fridges and leave the doors open
- Turn off electricity, gas, and water supplies. Unplug appliances and lock doors and windows before leaving

#### **Get Ready**

- Secure or put away items that could blow around in strong winds
- Trim trees and branches that could potentially fall on your home or property
- Shelter vehicles if possible or move them away from trees and cover with blankets
- Make sure your pets are safe
- Clean your gutters, downpipes, and drains regularly and fix any damage to your roof

#### **Stay Safe**

#### During a storm:

- Stay indoors until the storm passes
- Stay clear of windows, doors, and skylights
- Unplug all electrical items
- Do not use a landline telephone with a cord during a thunderstorm
- If driving, put your hazard lights on and pull over to the side of the road keeping clear of drains, causeways, streams, creeks, trees, and power lines
- If you are camping, relocate to the common area during the storm or wherever the park manager directs you
- If you are outdoors, seek secure shelter away from drains, causeways, streams, creeks, trees, and powerlines