

State Emergency Service

Media Release



Monday, 12 January, 2015

Prepare for significant rains later today

The SA State Emergency Service (SES) is urging South Australians to remain vigilant following Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) forecasts of further rain in the Adelaide metropolitan area and the Mount Lofty Ranges later today.

The Bureau is predicting overnight falls of up to 20mm in the Adelaide metropolitan area and falls of between 30 and 35mm in the Mount Lofty Ranges.

The Bureau has also issued a severe thunderstorm warning for heavy rain for people living in the North East Pastoral and parts of the Flinders districts at 2.15pm today.

SES Chief Officer Chris Beattie said because the rain may be very heavy over a relatively short period of time, there is the potential for flash flooding.

"We are advising everybody to be aware of the situation by monitoring local conditions. This can be done by such things as tuning into ABC local radio and commercial radio stations," Mr Beattie said.

Mr Beattie said the recent deaths in the Northern Territory and Victoria highlight the potential dangers of floodwater.

"We are urging parents to keep a close eye on their children around flooded creeks, drains and other waterways," Mr Beattie said.

Mr Beattie said there were a number of things homeowners could do if they were in danger of being flooded including blocking shower and household drains and sinks to stop sewage backflow and raising belongings above the expected floodwater by placing them on tables, benches and beds.

For more information on preparing for possible flooding go to http://www.ses.sa.gov.au/site/community_safety/floodsafe/emergency_floodsafe_plan.jsp.

Up-to-date warnings and further information on the expected wet weather can be found on the BoM website www.bom.gov.au

During severe weather, the SES advises the following precautions:

- ensure loose items such as outdoor furniture, garden tools and children's play equipment (including trampolines and cubby houses) are put away or secured
- park vehicles undercover and well away from trees
- stay indoors and away from windows and skylights when weather conditions are severe
- stay away from fallen powerlines. Always assume fallen powerlines are live – they should be reported to SA Power Networks on 13 13 66
- never walk, ride or drive through floodwaters
- shelter and secure pets and other animals, and
- check weather forecasts regularly and listen to local radio for updates.

For media enquires telephone the SES Media Line on (08) 8211 6176

For SES response in floods or storms telephone 132 500. If the matter is life threatening telephone 000
www.ses.sa.gov.au