

Thursday, 26 May 2016

## Flood Watch for Mount Lofty Ranges

The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) has issued a flood warning for Mount Lofty Ranges. The Bureau have warned that rainfalls of 25 to 50 mm are expected over the Mount Lofty Ranges on Friday (27/5/2016), with localised higher totals possible.

This rainfall will likely cause stream rises and may lead to minor flooding during Friday afternoon and evening, particularly in the middle Torrens River, middle Onkaparinga River and North Para River catchments.

People living or working close to rivers and creeks should monitor the latest weather forecasts and warnings, and be ready to move to a safe location should flooding develop.

SES State Duty Officer Sara Pulford said driving through floodwater was a “recipe for disaster”.

“Driving through floodwater is the main cause of adult death during floods,”

“Floodwater washes out roads and tracks, causing unseen sinkholes and hollows to form. Even relatively shallow water has sufficient force to wash a car off a road or track, rendering the driver helpless and in danger of drowning. Even if the water looks still, there may be a strong current underneath the surface,” she said.

Dr Pulford said parents should ensure children do not play in floodwater.

“Apart from the risk of strong currents, floodwater picks up all sorts of debris, including raw sewage, dead animals, iron sheets, broken glass, fencing material, or any number of other dangerous objects,” she said.

Residents needing assistance from the SES during floods and storms should call 132 500.

If the matter is life-threatening they should call 000 (Triple Zero).

### **During severe weather, the SES advises the following precautions:**

- Ensure loose items such as outdoor furniture, garden tools and children's play equipment (such as 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 a battery-powered radio for updates.