

State Emergency Service

Media Release



Government
of South Australia



Tuesday 21 June, 2016

Sandbags available for local residents at risk of flooding in the Port Adelaide-Birkenhead areas

The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) has advised the SES that a vigorous front with associated rain is expected to pass across the state from the west and reach the Adelaide metropolitan area on Thursday afternoon.

This coincides with forecast relatively high tides at Port Adelaide on Thursday evening.

The combination of rain and high tides may increase the risk of minor flooding on Thursday afternoon and evening in the Port Adelaide and Birkenhead areas, according to the SES State Duty Officer Robert Charlton.

“As a result, the SES has pre-positioned 3,000 sandbags for use by local residents at risk of flooding,” Mr Charlton said.

The sandbags will be available this evening from Naval Reserve, Fletcher Road, Birkenhead (just north of Semaphore Road) from 6pm through to 8.30pm.

Volunteers from SES Prospect Unit will be on site to help fill the bags for residents. Alternatively, residents can take empty sandbags and fill them themselves.

Residents will also be able to pick up a leaflet explaining how to fill and lay the sandbags. While sand is the best option to fill sandbags, garden soil can also be used if sand is not available.

Following recent heavy rains in the South Australian Outback – and the prospect of even more rain this week – Mr Charlton also advised motorists to check on the conditions of roads before travelling through northern parts of the state.

Outback road conditions can be checked by going to the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure website <http://www.dpti.sa.gov.au/OutbackRoads>

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
- be aware of the risk of high seas in and around jetties
- 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