

Friday 8 June, 2016

## SES WARNS OF MORE RAIN/WIND HAZARDS FOR START OF SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

With The Bureau of Meteorology forecasting more heavy rain and high winds for Sunday, Monday and possibly Tuesday, the State Emergency Service is warning of potential, severe hazards coinciding with the start of the July school holidays.

At this time of year, many families plan on driving; camping or just getting away, and with the countryside already saturated from recent heavy rains, there are significant risks associated with swollen creeks and flooded roadways.

SES has advised that there a number of risks that both metropolitan and regional communities need to be particularly concerned about over the coming days. These are:

- Swollen creeks and waterways may become fast moving and dangerous
- Roads may become flooded and hazardous to drivers and walkers
- Don't camp in creeks and waterways
- Supervise children during wet and windy weather

SES Chief of Staff, Derren Halleday has expressed concern about the continued dangerous habit of some drivers entering flooded roadways or waterways. "If it is flooded, forget it". Mr. Halleday said

"Even though we continue to advise motorists and walkers to avoid flooded roads we still find that some people take risks, I strongly stress that when encountering large amounts of water on the road, pull over and wait for either; the water to subside or directions from emergency services or local authorities", Mr. Halleday said.

**Mr. Halleday said that sandbags will be available to the community at designated locations on Saturday only between 10am and 1pm.**

"We are asking the community to fill any sandbags prior to the forecast event to enable the SES staff and volunteers to be fully available to respond to the expected calls for assistance". Mr. Halleday said

Mr. Halleday said that sand and bags would be available at the following locations on Saturday between 10am and 1pm;

- Noarlunga SES - Corner of Lindsay and Brian Roads, Lonsdale
- Mount Barker SES – 14 Simper Crescent, Mt Barker
- Edinburgh SES – 20 Hewittson Road, Edinburgh North
- Port Adelaide/Enfield Council Depot - Willochra Street, Largs Bay
- Strathalbyn SES - 51 Murray Street, Strathalbyn

"If further sand bags are required during the expected rainfall event, we will inform the community via twitter at SA\_SES or on the SES Switchboard by phoning 132 500", Mr Halleday said.

During severe weather, the SES advises the following precautions:

- never walk, ride or drive through floodwaters,
- be aware of the rough seas in and around jetties,
- stay away from fallen powerlines. Always assume fallen powerlines are live – they should be reported to SA Power Networks on 13 13 66,
- park vehicles undercover and well away from trees,
- stay indoors and away from windows and skylights when weather conditions are severe,
- shelter and secure pets and other animals, and
- check weather forecasts regularly and listen to local radio for updates.