

Media Release

Sydney Western Region

1/03/2012 3:55 PM

MESSAGE FOR HAWKESBURY NEPEAN SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES

The Bureau of Meteorology has issued a warning for moderate flooding throughout the Hawkesbury Nepean area.

There will be moderate flooding in North Richmond and Windsor areas including Pitt Town Bottoms and Grono's Point.

- With continued heavy rain, the bridges at North Richmond and Windsor are expected to be closed from early Friday 2nd March 2012.
- The areas will include: the Richmond Lowlands area, including Cornwallis, low lying areas at the northern part of Richmond, Richmond Lowlands, low lying areas at the western part of Hobartville, low lying areas in the northern part of Agnes Banks.
- The areas of Pitt Town Bottoms, the southern part of Pitt Town, northern tip of Pitt Town and Grono's Point will be affected.

The Richmond Lowlands will also be subjected to moderate levels of flooding.

NSW SES Assistant Commissioner Keith Fitzgerald has urged residents to prepare now.

"Severe weather can be very dangerous and people need to be aware that under no circumstance, should they enter floodwater".

"Parents whose children attend schools in the Hawkesbury Nepean area are encouraged to keep their children home tomorrow, or if you do send them to school, closely monitor the weather situation and road closures", Mr Fitzgerald said.

The NSW State Emergency Service is urging children, parents, and commuters to take basic measures to keep themselves and their families safe:

- Never drive, ride or walk through floodwater

- DO NOT take unnecessary risks to collect your children from school
- All schools will be open and supervision will be provided for those attending
- Make sure your children know to stay well away from flooded rivers, creeks and drains and not to play in flood water
- Keep listening to your local radio station for updates
- FloodSafe advice is available at www.ses.nsw.gov.au

For emergency assistance in floods and storms, call the SES on 132 500

For life threatening emergencies, call 000 immediately

For the latest weather forecast: www.bom.gov.au

For more information or interviews please contact:

Becky Gollings
Senior Public Affairs Officer
Sydney Western Region
NSW State Emergency service
Ph: 02 88117700

