

# State Emergency Service **Media Release**



Wednesday, 29 November 2017

## **Planning ahead is the key says the SES**

The SES is advising people to clear their gutters and downpipes ahead of heavy rains and associated thunderstorms in some parts of the state in the days ahead.

SES Chief of Staff Graeme Wynwood said blocked gutters and downpipes caused rainwater to flow back into the roof cavity of a house, causing significant damage.

“Not only is there the potential for the electrical wiring to be damaged, ceilings can also become saturated causing them to collapse into the room below,” Mr Wynwood said.

Mr Wynwood also urged people to plan ahead and ensure all loose items in the backyard are secured ahead of the stormy weather.

“Put away garden furniture, outdoor play equipment and market umbrellas as they can become airborne during a strong wind event,” Mr Wynwood said.

“It is also a good idea not to park under large trees as they can become unstable during severe storms”. Mr Wynwood said.

.Mr Wynwood also advised against camping in dry creek beds or near other waterways over the next few days as there is the potential for flash flooding to occur.

“Statistics show that driving through floodwater is one of the most dangerous things you can do. Think of the safety of you and your family before you attempt to cross a flooded creek or ford. You don’t know what is under the water,” Mr Wynwood added.

The SES is urging people to listen to local radio stations and other media for information, updates and advice.

Information on how home and business owners can prepare for severe weather can be found on the SES websites [www.ses.sa.gov.au](http://www.ses.sa.gov.au)

For emergency assistance in storms and floods call the SES on 132 500 and in life threatening emergencies call 000 (Triple Zero).

Further South Australian weather information can be found at [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au).

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**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](http://www.ses.sa.gov.au)