

Structural Assessment

Home owners, small business (light commercial) and not-for-profit property owners can register for a structural assessment where eligible properties have structures that have been damaged or destroyed by the floods beginning in October 2022.

An all-hazards structural assessment is an assessment undertaken by qualified contractors to understand the state of the structure, whether it is repairable or requires removal. Structure owners, and their local council, receive an assessment report. Contractors will be wearing Emergency Recovery Victoria or Johns Lyng Ground branded attire and the property owner can ask for photo ID.

Eligibility

- Are you in a declared and eligible LGA for this flood event? Check online at: **[go.vic.gov.au/3WUMJKC](https://www.vic.gov.au/3WUMJKC)**
- Is your property residential or a commercial property of a small business?
- Do you have structures on your property that have been damaged?

Register online at **[vic.gov.au/2022-flood-recovery](https://www.vic.gov.au/2022-flood-recovery)** or via the Flood Recovery Hotline at **1800 560 760**

Structures will be assessed at no cost if the structure meets two of the three criteria:

- A building or object constructed from several parts
- A building or object that rests on deliberately placed foundations
- A building or object that is connected to 2 or more essential systems (e.g. mains water, electricity or solar including batteries, sewage or gas).

Once you have registered, ERV will contact you and process your registration and then book an assessment time. Johns Lyng Group (JLG) the appointed clean-up contractors conduct the assessment, and a report is provided to the structure's owner, and to their local council.

Where the assessment determines that demolition is required, regardless of whether the structure is insured, this can be coordinated with JLG.

Where make-safe works are required and the structure is not insured, this can also be coordinated through Emergency Recovery Victoria (ERV) structural make-safe program.

For more information about eligibility, visit **[vic.gov.au/2022-flood-recovery](https://www.vic.gov.au/2022-flood-recovery)**

Structural Make-Safe

Flood-affected structures that are uninsured and deemed repairable through the structural assessment are eligible for the Structural Make-Safe Program which will remove safety hazards (such as electrical dangers and asbestos) from uninsured flood-eligible structures.

To be eligible for the Structural Make-Safe program, you must first register for the Structural Assessment program and receive an all-hazards structural assessment. If your structure is uninsured and the structural assessment deems it repairable, you can then opt-in for structural make-safe works.

Structural make-safe works include:

- Removal of any immediate hazard or risk preventing the structure from being safely occupied.
- Removal of any immediate occupational, health and safety hazards or risks that may impinge on residents, workers, neighbours, or the environmental requirements of structural repair.

Structural make-safe works do not include:

- Removal of waste that is non-hazardous.
- Works or costs that are covered through other programs or funding sources, such as insurance.
- Legal costs

Hazards at flood damaged properties present immediate risks to the health and safety of homeowners and residents, emergency services agencies, volunteer groups and clean-up providers who may inadvertently expose themselves to unidentified hazards.

The structural make-safe program will ensure that hazards in uninsured structures are removed and will also reduce the likelihood of hazardous materials being dumped illegally or moving unsafely into the waste system.

The structural make-safe program supports hazard removal, it is not a general clean up, mucking out or removal of non-hazardous waste. Owners of insured properties should contact their insurer.

Street debris removal

Eligible local councils, in conjunction with Emergency Recovery Victoria (ERV) and Johns Lyng Group (JLG), are collecting flood debris and waste from kerbsides.

To request waste collection assistance, local councils must register. Opt-in to the Street Debris Removal Program by calling **1800 560 760** or emailing **cleanup@erv.vic.gov.au**

For volunteers

Disaster Relief Australia are also providing help, such as with debris removal and 'muck out' activities.

If you would like to volunteer to assist, register at the Disaster Relief Australia website.

disasterreliefaus.org/volunteer