



Welcome to

# Lake Buffalo



/goulburnmurraywater



@GMWater\_Lakes\_Dams  
#GMWater\_Lakes\_Dams

## Things to do

### Fishing

Lake Buffalo is a great spot to throw in a line, and Redfin, Macquarie and Golden Perch, Brown and Rainbow Trout, Murray Cod and River Blackfish can all be found. Try using yabbies, worms and crickets as bait.

For the latest information on fishing in Victoria, contact the Victorian Fisheries Authority on 136 186, and don't forget your Recreational Fishing Licence!

### Camping

Camping is not allowed on the foreshore of the lake, but there are a range of accommodation options throughout the region.

Visit [www.visitmyrtlefordvic.com.au](http://www.visitmyrtlefordvic.com.au) or [www.parkweb.vic.gov.au](http://www.parkweb.vic.gov.au)

### Boating

Lake Buffalo is a popular spot for boating and a range of water sports.

Boats can be launched from the main boat ramp near the dam wall. The Marshalls Ridge boat ramp is opened seasonally depending on the water level of the lake (see map).

A 5 knot speed limit applies at any level within 60 metres of the water's edge, other vessels, navigation aids, swimmers and fixed or floating structures; and within 100 metres of vessels displaying a dive flag.

Keep a lookout at all times for hazards and other vessels.

Refer to the Victorian Recreational Boating Safety Handbook at [www.transportsafety.vic.gov.au](http://www.transportsafety.vic.gov.au) for more information.

## Water levels

The water in Lake Buffalo is owned by GMW customers, who produce food and fibre, supply towns and businesses, and protect and improve environmental waterway health.

Visitors need to be conscious of potential hazards and consider their own safety and the safety of other users at all times. Water levels (high or low) can prompt increased safety measures, and changes to access for recreational areas and boating. Safety information and alerts will be signposted at public areas and boat ramps.

You can find out more information about water levels at [www.gmwater.com.au/storage-levels](http://www.gmwater.com.au/storage-levels)

### Blue-Green Algae

At times, the level of blue-green algae in storages can exceed safe limits. When this happens you should avoid direct contact with the water as the algae can cause skin rashes; itchiness; sore eyes, ears and nose; and nausea.

If unsafe blue-green algae levels occur, warning signs will be positioned at major recreational areas around the storage.

Recreational users can still boat, sightsee and enjoy other activities that don't involve direct contact with the water.

Blue-green algae warnings can be found online at [www.gmwater.com.au/bluegreenalgae-alert](http://www.gmwater.com.au/bluegreenalgae-alert) or by phoning the 24 hour GMW blue-green algae hotline on (03) 5826 3785.

For more information on GMW and its operations visit [www.gmwater.com.au](http://www.gmwater.com.au)

## About Lake Buffalo

Lake Buffalo is on the picturesque Buffalo River, 20 kilometres south of Myrtleford and just over 300 kilometres north of Melbourne.

The lake lies at the foot of Mount Buffalo National Park with the rocky outcrops of the mountain clearly visible. A popular place for waterskiing, boating, fishing and kayaking, Lake Buffalo offers an array of recreational opportunities and is a fantastic place for a picnic with family and friends.

Today it supplies irrigation and stock and domestic water to entitlement holders from surrounding towns, supporting an array of agricultural activities including dairy, cropping, nuts, berries, wine grapes and more.

Lake Buffalo is one of 24 lakes, dams and reservoirs managed by GMW to capture, store and deliver 70% of Victoria's stored water across the region.



## Facilities

Lake Buffalo has facilities to suit every visitor, including fishing, boating and picnic amenities.

Marshalls Ridge Recreation Area on the western side, accessible from Buffalo River Road, and the main recreation area on the north eastern lake fringe each offer a public boat launching area (see Boating), picnic facilities and public toilets.

The lake is surrounded by bushwalking, birdwatching and hiking areas, as well as plenty of four-wheel drive tracks. If you're a cyclist, there's a number of cycling trails around the lake which are child-friendly or through the cool alpine valleys.

### Events

GMW's lakes, dams and reservoirs are ideal places for events. If you would like to host an event at one of our storages, visit: [www.gmwater.com.au/events](http://www.gmwater.com.au/events).



## Lake Buffalo Code of Conduct

Lake Buffalo is a beautiful natural resource. Please care for the lake so it can be enjoyed now and into the future.

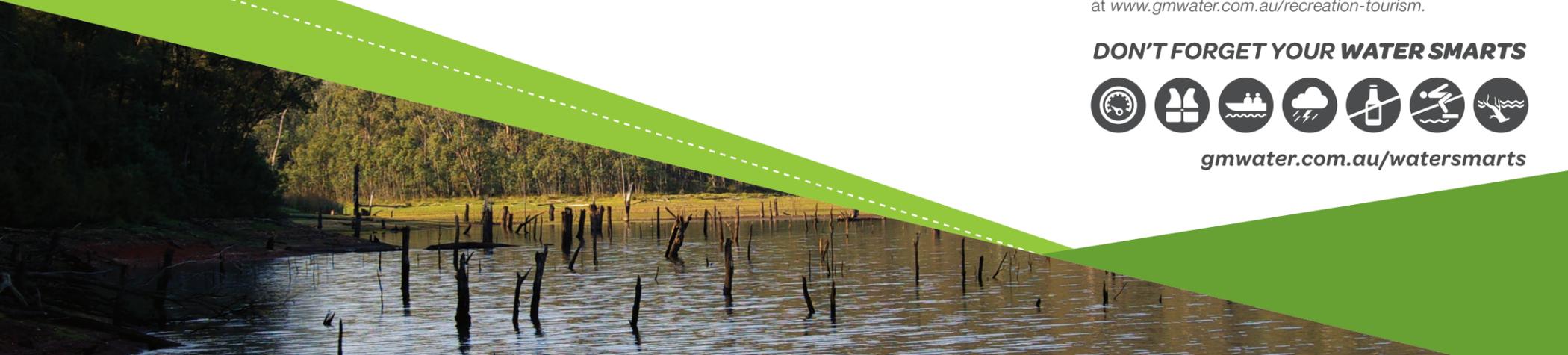
- Camping and campfires are prohibited in GMW reserves and on foreshore and lakebed areas.
- Refer to your local council for landfill services and consider the environment when disposing of your litter. Penalties apply for illegal dumping of rubbish.
- Don't take plants from the foreshore, or bring any in.
- Don't feed the animals or wildlife, or interfere with their habitats.
- Keep to 5 knots in designated areas.
- Vehicles and trail bikes are only allowed on public roads within the reserve.
- All vehicles and trail bikes must be registered and users must be licenced.
- Keep the waterway healthy by not using soap, toothpaste or detergent in the lake.
- Dogs must be on a lead and/or under control at all times and aren't allowed in the lake. Please clean up after your pets.

A copy of GMW's recreational by-law can be found online at [www.gmwater.com.au/recreation-tourism](http://www.gmwater.com.au/recreation-tourism).

### DON'T FORGET YOUR WATER SMARTS



[gmwater.com.au/watersmarts](http://gmwater.com.au/watersmarts)



# Lake Buffalo boating and facilities guide



Submerged Hazard



Above Water Hazard



Sudden Drop-Off



Caution Swimmers



Diving Prohibited

A B C D E F G H I J K L

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16

↑ TO MYRTLEFORD  
TO BRIGHT



On inland waters a 5-knot speed limit applies within 60 metres (except where otherwise indicated) of the water's edge, other vessels, navigation aids, swimmers and fixed or floating structures. Current water levels can be found at [gmwater.com.au/water-levels](http://gmwater.com.au/water-levels)

### Staying Safe

Local boating requirements are posted at all public boat ramps.

1. Boat ramps are for the launching or retrieval of vessels only.
2. Complete any preparation prior to launching, or when returning from the water, away from the ramp.
3. Ensure all safety equipment is on the vessel and operational.
4. Always keep a lookout for waterway hazards and operate your vessel in line with weather and waterway conditions.
5. Parking is only allowed in designated areas.
6. Ensure no one is in or on the vessel when moving to and from the ramp.
7. Swimming and shade structures aren't allowed within 50 metres of either side of boat ramps.

State Forest

Buffalo River Road



Mount Buffalo National Park

MARSHALLS RIDGE SEASONAL RECREATION AREA



#### MAP LEGEND

Road		No Boats	
River / Channel		5 Knots Speed Restriction	
Public Launching Area		Access Lane	
Public Toilets		Picnic Facilities	

Cropper Creek

Buffalo River Road

Yarrarabula Creek Road

Yarrarabula Creek Road

TO CARBOOR

### Please Remember

- No camping or fires allowed on GMW foreshore land.
- Confine vehicles and motor bikes to formed public roads.
- Take your rubbish home.

State Forest

Buffalo River Road

Buffalo River

NOTE: Marshalls Ridge Recreation Area will be open to the public from 1 November to 30 April each year depending on water level and safety concerns.

0 km 200m 400m  
Scale of Kilometres

TO DANDONGADALE  
TO WHITFIELD