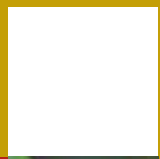
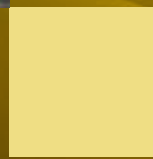
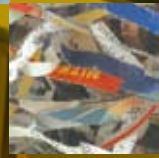
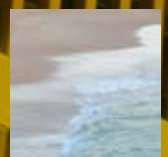


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# State of the Environment REPORT 2008



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**COVER IMAGE**

48–50 Penkivil Street, Bondi

A new seven storey residential  
apartment building containing  
affordable housing

© Waverley Council 2008

PO Box 9, Bondi Junction NSW 1355

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# Introduction

**This is the** fourteenth consecutive State of the Environment Report (SoE) prepared by Waverley Council for the Waverley Local Government Area. The report covers the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008.

This report is a supplementary document, prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, that is designed to support the comprehensive document prepared for 2001–2004.

This supplementary report is an update of the eight environmental sectors: land, aquatic systems, biodiversity, air, waste and resource recovery, noise, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Heritage, and social environment. For more detailed information, see the comprehensive State of the Environment Report from 2001–2004.

## WHAT IS A SOE REPORT?

A State of the Environment (SoE) report summarises the physical and social attributes of the Waverley environment while identifying the human impacts on our local environment in a financial year. It also provides information on all of the activities conducted by Council and the community to protect and restore the Waverley environment, and is essentially a mechanism for reporting on progress towards Environmental sustainability.

Comparing SoE reports from year to year enables Council to see improvements and identify areas that need attention in all sectors of the local environment. This then assists us to further protect the health and diversity of the environment for the benefit of current and future generations.

## TOWARD SUSTAINABILITY

In partnership with our local community, Council has developed 31 sustainability indicators that best represent how the community wants us to measure our progress toward environmental sustainability. By comparing our progress in these key areas from year to year, we can monitor Council's movement toward achieving our corporate sustainability goals.

## COMMUNITY VALUES

Community consultation is an integral component of SoE reporting. To assist with the development of our SoE report, Council conducted a telephone survey of Waverley residents to explore their knowledge, attitudes, skills, and behaviours with respect to environmental protection.

These findings will not only assist Council with our reporting requirements but will also help us to develop suitably targeted environmental programs for our local residents.

Major environmental issues identified by our residents:

- beach pollution
- littering
- rubbish dumping
- motor vehicle emissions
- bushland protection
- increasing urban development
- recycling
- sewage discharge
- stormwater pollution.

## Key to Sustainability Indicators

↑	Positive movement toward sustainability
↓	Negative movement toward sustainability
↔	No progress toward sustainability
ND	Not determined

***Comparing SoE reports from year to year enables Council to see improvements and identify areas that need attention in all sectors of the local environment.***





# Land

**The Waverley** Local Government Area (LGA) is located on Sydney's eastern seaboard, approximately seven kilometres from the central business district. It includes the localities of Bondi Junction, Queens Park, Bronte, Waverley, Bondi, North Bondi, Tamarama, Dover Heights and parts of Rose Bay. Waverley's position between the city and the sea is the key to its enormous attraction for residents and visitors. Waverley lies just south of the beautiful Sydney Harbour with its eastern boundary defined by the Tasman Sea. Dover Heights, arguably Waverley's most affluent suburb, enjoys views to the Harbour Bridge while the beachside suburbs of Bondi, Tamarama and Bronte, are among the most popular in Australia.

With an area of 9.3 square kilometres and a population density of 7,333 people per square kilometre, Waverley is the most densely populated LGA in Australia after the City of Sydney. Despite our small area, Waverley boasts a rich and diverse mixture of residential, business, and natural landscapes that attract local, regional, and international visitors.

Since the 1850s, a greater appreciation of the scenic and recreational values within the Waverley area has seen a steady increase in both residential and commercial development over industrial land uses. An increase in development has brought with it extensive land degradation in the coastal zone from adverse impacts such as land clearing, destruction of native vegetation, introduction of exotic weed species, erosion and increased urban runoff.

In response to these pressures, Council continues to develop environmental strategies within our corporate planning documents, policies, and environmental planning instruments that will ensure that these impacts are minimised and the state of our environment is preserved for present and future generations.

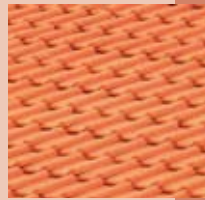
## PRESSURES ON OUR LAND

- Urban redevelopment
- Excessive land clearing
- Land degradation
- Contaminated sites
- Soil erosion
- Introduced species
- Visitation
- Beach erosion/ Shoreline recession
- Excessive excavation

***Council continues to develop environmental strategies, policies and planning instruments that will ensure impacts are minimised and the state of our environment is preserved for present and future generations.***

## SUSTAINABILITY TRENDS

Environmental indicator	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	Movement toward sustainability
Per capita of open space (ha)	0.0017	0.0017	0.0017	0.0017	0.0017	0.0017	↔
Number of development applications approved by Council	1,081	1,011	1,093	1,020	1,014	1,025	↔
Residential Density (population per km <sup>2</sup> )	6,889	7,369	7,388	ND	7,333	7,333	↔



## RESPONSES TO THESE PRESSURES

- A feasibility study was undertaken in December 2007 into accommodation/storage issues at Tamarama. Further work was carried out following the adoption of the Plan of Management for Tamarama Park to refine how all stakeholders can be accommodated. Consideration of improvements to the amenity block and a possible addition to the tower to complement the rebuilding of the kiosk and services building has occurred. Architects were sourced for design and documentation services for the kiosk and consultation with stakeholders is continuing.
- The Stage 2 landscape plan has been developed and the planting design is complete. Works are due to commence in July 2008.
- Design and tender documentation has been completed for the Coastal Walk (south) from Calga Reserve to Waverley Cemetery. Tenders will be called in July 2008 with an anticipated construction commencement date of October 2008.
- Preparation of a Waverley Park Master Plan commenced in June 2008. Consultants have been engaged and detailed planning for the south west corner of the park is underway. Work has also commenced on planning to accommodate a smaller footprint for Nursery operations. A User Survey has commenced. The draft Master Plan is due for completion prior to community consultation in April 2009.
- A Footpath Improvement program was approved by Council in June 2007 as part of the 2007/2008 Maintenance and Construction Program. Future priority footpath improvements detailed in Council's Strategic Asset Management Plan (SAMP2) were approved in December 2007. An Improvement Plan is currently being developed for a Seating and Access Improvement Program. The revised plans for Bondi Junction and Local Villages, including ESD principles, were completed and will be presented at the July 2008 Council meeting.
- On 15 April 2008, Waverley Council resolved to prepare a draft LEP (Amendment No. 33) by incorporating the proposed heritage items and conservation areas currently included in the Waverley heritage policy. The Section 54 notification was sent to the Department of Planning in May 2008. The annual review of Waverley Development Control Plan (Amendment No.4) has been finalised and will be presented to Council in July 2008, recommending public exhibition.
- Preliminary design has been completed for Murrivierie Road shops streetscape improvements. Additional funding has been provided to carry out this work. Construction work is due to commence in 2008/2009.

*Council approved the DA application for a rainwater tank to capture stormwater from the roof of Council Chambers. Further studies have been completed into the feasibility of using collected water within the Council Chambers building.*





# Land

- Detailed design plans for the Avoca Street closure have been completed. Community consultation on the design was carried out in April 2008. The project is currently out to tender, with construction expected to commence in August 2008 in conjunction with the Bondi Road Streetscape Improvement Project.
- Minor footpath adjustment works to improve disability access were undertaken as directed by the Access Committee.
- An audit of the location of all public seating has been completed to improve and provide additional seating as part of the disability access strategy.
- Campbell Parade road pavement and footpath works were completed in December 2007.
- The final stage of the Hall Street, Bondi project at Australia Post has been completed. Negotiation on defects rectification is underway. The project was completed within the timeframe.
- The Sam Fizman Park project is complete and the first stage was opened last year. The second stage, including the raised dais and lighting, was constructed in December.
- Reviews of Residential Preferential Parking around Francis Street and Wellington Street were carried out in June 2008 and both these streets have now been included in Area 1 of the parking scheme.
- Design plans for the Spring Street footpath upgrade are complete. Tenders for construction are currently being called with construction planned to be complete by November 2008.
- Additional bicycle facilities will be installed as part of the Spring Street footpath upgrade.
- The Bondi Junction parking review is complete. Concept plans on various intersections in Bondi Junction, following the Bondi Junction Traffic and Transport Study, are currently being prepared. Review of parking conditions in the Bondi Junction commercial area – as recommended in the Bondi Junction Traffic and Transport Study – is underway.
- In November 2007 Council amended Waverley DCP 2006 to include greater controls with respect to excavation.

***...daily cleaning and landscape maintenance of Council's major reserves was completed 100% of the time.***

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# Aquatic Systems

**Urban stormwater** is the untreated run-off from hard surfaces such as roofs, footpaths, and roads. Stormwater flow is intercepted by engineered stormwater management systems that have replaced natural watercourses and streams over time. These management systems channel excess water away from urban areas to natural aquatic environments as a flood mitigation measure, often carrying pollutants such as nitrogen, phosphorus, metals (eg, copper, lead, zinc), and hydrocarbons. Other material such as faecal bacteria and grease can also be washed off surfaces into stormwater, all of which have adverse impacts upon the health of aquatic ecosystems.

The Waverley LGA consists of nine stormwater sub-catchments that drain into three major receiving water bodies: Sydney Harbour, the Pacific Ocean and Lachlan Swamps in Centennial Parklands. Therefore, both the quantity and quality of stormwater generated within the catchment can have regional implications.

Human impacts within the catchment have increased the amount of litter, nutrients, bacteria, heavy metals, and sediment being discharged into our receiving water bodies, thus degrading the quality of our local aquatic systems. In response to these pressures, Council continues to develop integrated water management programs that focus both on reducing the quantity of stormwater and improving water quality throughout the catchment. Integrated water management is one of Council's key corporate goals.

*This year the Permanent Wave program was significantly revised to better respond to the needs of local businesses and expanded to include water and energy conservation, chemical and packaging alternatives, waste minimisation and greenpower.*

## SUSTAINABILITY TRENDS

Environmental Indicator	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	Movement towards sustainability
Total water consumption in Waverley (kL)							
Community	6,228,058	6,842,007	ND	6,308,303	6,204,477	5,908,795	↑
Council	175,492	134,719	78,259	79,235	93,335	86,089	↑
Average compliance with EPA Beachwatch: Faecal Coliform	100%	97%	97%	98%	100%	100%	↑
Average compliance with EPA Beachwatch: Enterococci	100%	83%	100%	93%	94%	100%	↑
Number of pollution control devices (including trash racks & pit baskets)	80	96	96	96	96	96	↔



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# Aquatic Systems

## PRESSURES ON OUR AQUATIC SYSTEMS

- Ongoing environmental impacts from businesses.
- Vacluse/Diamond Bay Diversion Scheme: untreated sewage is continuously discharged into the ocean from three cliff-face outfalls, one of which is located within Waverley LGA at Diamond Bay.
- Pollution: 140 environmental pollution incidents were recorded in the reporting period.
- Sewer overflows: regular overflows from designed sewer overflow points throughout Waverley.
- Increased quantity of stormwater, increased development and reduction of pervious surfaces.
- Loss of biodiversity.

## RESPONSES TO THESE PRESSURES

- Council has funded environmental projects through a levy since July 2001. Following expiry of this levy at the end of June 2006, Council obtained a five-year extension. The new program will continue existing work and help implement new, previously unfunded, environmental projects. While the previous focus was on improving quality and reducing quantity of stormwater in the area, the new environmental levy has a wider sustainability focus.

- The Environmental Levy funded a number of programs and projects that have provided benefit to residents and businesses. Local schools took advantage of the Environmental Grants program to obtain funds to set up food waste composting systems and establish a native hedge. Many schools also worked with Council on waste, water and energy audits and educational days.
- Annual festivals to raise environmental awareness in the community were held, including World Environment day and Ocean Care Day.
- Waverley Permanent Wave Business Program is a voluntary environmental assessment and education program designed to help local businesses reduce their environmental impacts. In the past the program focused primarily on stormwater pollution, however this year the program was significantly revised to better respond to the needs of local businesses and expanded to include water and energy conservation, chemical and packaging alternatives, waste minimisation and greenpower. The revised program was implemented across the Charing Cross, Bondi Road and Bronte Beach business communities.
- Council has developed a new Water Management component of the Waverley DCP 2006 and accompanying Water Management Technical Guidelines. Based on the principles of Water Sensitive Urban Design, these documents provide a policy and planning framework for safe and effective control, re-use and disposal of roofwater, stormwater, greywater, blackwater and groundwater within the Waverley LGA.
- 14 Parks and Gardens supervisors completed environmental training. They will now pass this training onto their staff. 52 Resource Recovery staff undertook refresher Environmental Awareness and Safety, Health & Environment Safe Work Method Statements (SHESWMS) training.
- The Waverley Water Savings Action Plan (WSAP) was completed and adopted by the Department of Energy and Utilities and Sustainability (DEUS) change to DECC in July 2006. Council's strategy was one of the first such plans approved by the Minister, and a range of water saving initiatives have already been introduced under the plan. Specific projects commenced in the Bondi Basin include the implementation of water harvesting and retrofits along the popular coastal walk

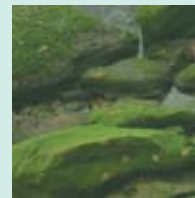


- Council continued to offer free community workshops on chemical free living, which will invariably reduce pollutants from entering the aquatic environment. 'Green Cleaning' and 'Living with Less Chemicals' were very popular with the community as were the 'Water Savings at Home' workshops.
- Council set up a Sustainability Committee as a reference group to help guide the implementation of its new Environmental Levy and ensuing programs. This committee is made up of elected Councillors and sustainability professionals who met for the first time in February 2007. They are committed to helping Council develop a sustainable community. The committee brings external expertise to expand Council's capacity to identify Waverley's impact on the natural environment. It will also develop policies and practices to reduce the ecological footprint of the area. The committee will meet quarterly and will hold other working sessions where relevant.
- Coordination and implementation of Council's Sustainable Schools Program continued throughout the reporting period. This program (funded by the Environmental Levy) assists Waverley schools to fulfil the mandatory requirements of the Department of Education and Training Environmental Schools Policy. The Sustainable Schools Program facilitates a complete environmental audit of the entire school operations. The 'gaps' identified in each school's current operations form the basis of an Environmental Management Plan. The program has gained significant momentum this year, with half of Waverley schools participating to some degree.
- Council's Environmental Levy partly funded a Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) demonstration project at 158 Carrington Road. This is an environmentally-efficient aged housing facility, that includes rainwater harvesting and reuse, a porous pavement demonstration and solar hot water. The project was completed in September 2007.
- Council has installed new water-saving features at Marks Park and Bondi Beach South. Rainwater tanks and waterless urinals have been installed in the two high use public amenities at these locations. A 6,000 litre rainwater tank was installed at Marks Park and a 4,500 litre tank at Bondi Beach South. The rainwater from these tanks will be used to flush toilets in the amenities blocks. Timer taps have also been installed in the Marks Park amenities block. Overall, these new water saving features are expected to reduce drinking water usage at Marks Park and Bondi Beach South amenities by 34% and 18% respectively each year. This amounts to an estimated saving of 2,763,960 litres of drinking water each year.
- Groundwater storage tanks have been installed at Barracluff Park and Waverley Oval for use by Council operations. The tanks are filled with water which is extracted from aquifers deep below the parks. Water is extracted at a sustainable rate, ensuring dependent ecosystems are maintained. This Environmental Levy-funded project is expected to save 16,000,000 litres of drinking water each year and improve irrigation at the parks. Council received \$74,900 from the NSW Government's Water Savings Fund to help finance this project.



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# Aquatic Systems



- Council is currently working with Sydney Water and consultants as part of the Every Drop Counts Program to determine best practice irrigation regimes for the playing fields. This will ensure that our precious water is not wasted.
- In September 2008, Council completed the Bronte Gully Stormwater Harvesting and Re-use system (funded by the Environmental Levy and NSW Government's Climate Change Fund). This innovative system captures stormwater that flows through the gully to be stored in a 120,000 litre underground tank. The water is treated via a UV system to kill pathogens, and is then used to irrigate the park, flush the public toilets and by Bronte Bush Care group. Council will now look at extending the system to help clean Bronte Pool and service the southern amenities block.
- In July 2006 Council resolved to replace the Integrated Stormwater Management Plan with a Sustainability Plan and adopted the LA 21 framework to facilitate its development and implementation. In August 2006 Council successfully applied for an Urban Sustainability Grant to fund the preparation of the plan. The completion date is scheduled for late 2009.
- Council continues to appoint external contractors to clean our Gross Pollutant Traps (GPTs) approximately four times per year. Council (with the use of its suction truck) also regularly carries out pit cleaning. This maintenance is important in preventing aquatic pollution as it prevents a significant amount of waste from entering the aquatic environment.
- Council continued weekly water monitoring of two ocean pools as part of the Beachwatch Water Monitoring Program. Council also conducted regular water quality snapshots of all stormwater outlets to monitor water quality, isolate problem catchments and identify pollution sources.
- Council continued to support the Marine Discovery Centre at the Bondi Beach Pavilion, which raises awareness about conservation of coastal areas. Council has supported the development of an interactive stormwater education display at the centre which is due to open in early 2009.
- Council continues to implement the Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC) Soil and Water Management Program. This program aims to prevent degradation of waterways and stormwater systems by minimising the loss of soil and building materials from construction sites.
- Research began in 2007 in collaboration with National Parks Association Coast Keepers Program to develop a public database of fish species in our LGA. This state-wide community monitoring project involves divers monitoring Sydney Harbour and NSW marine life. It allows divers, the wider community and environmental managers to view results on interactive maps or through species searches.
- Council resolved to support the Department of Primary Industry's request to enter into a Joint Operation Agreement for the cooperative management of the Bronte to Coogee Aquatic Reserve. The development of a management plan commenced early 2007.
- Council officers attended eight Sydney Water Environment Group meetings this year.

***Council completed the Bronte Gully Stormwater Harvesting and Re-use system. The innovative system captures stormwater in the gully to be stored in an underground tank. The water is treated, then used in the park and public toilets...***

# Waste and Resource Recovery

**As people buy** and consume more products, the rate of waste generation increases. This general trend places pressure on the environment and Council's waste management systems.

People who visit, live or work in Waverley, can reduce this impact by taking more responsibility for their waste. This involves actively avoiding generation of waste, recycling more, and disposing of non-recyclable materials responsibly.

Council is constantly improving its capacity to handle waste more efficiently and to reduce its initial generation by implementing various corporate plans, strategies and education programs. Council recognises a large percentage of waste as a valuable resource and, in response, continually increases its efforts to divert waste from landfill by improving resource recovery throughout the LGA.

## PRESSURES ON OUR WASTE SYSTEM

- Population increases
- Littering
- Increasing generation of waste
- Reduction in the availability of landfill space
- Subsequent increase in landfill disposal costs
- Cost of managing negative environmental impacts from landfill sites eg, leachate, greenhouse gasses
- Illegal dumping
- Reduced life span of goods, especially electronic
- Increased packaging of products
- Increased economic growth and consumption of goods

***Council introduced a voluntary fourth bin for residents to dispose of their gardenwaste, which is then composted and used in parks and gardens.***

## SUSTAINABILITY TRENDS

Environmental indicator	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	Movement towards sustainability
Total tonnes waste to landfill (no recycling)	22,870	23,433	18,309	16,958	15,403.3	14,217.7	↑
Total tonnes waste diverted to recycling	7,351	7,572.4	8,394.7	10,493.9	10,886	10,633.2	↑
Tonnes of illegally dumped rubbish removed by Council	ND	ND	ND	805	650.6	403.2	↑
Tonnes of gardenwaste collected for composting	ND	ND	488.5	568.1	819.2	1046.6	↑



## RESPONSES TO THESE PRESSURES

- The total tonnes of waste diverted to recycling increased by approximately 4% in the reporting period. Although this may seem low, it was stated in the previous SoE report that any further significant increase in recycling is reliant upon new technology at the recycling centres that would process additional material types.
- Council reviewed its waste services for residents and in April introduced a voluntary fourth bin for residents to dispose of their gardenwaste. This has resulted in a significant increase in the amount of gardenwaste being collected which is composted and used in parks and gardens. The increase in gardenwaste – and the reduction in waste collected – could indicate that gardenwaste that was previously going to landfill is now being diverted.
- Council held E-Waste collection days (for electronic waste excluding white goods) in November 2006 and June 2007. The June collection was the third E-Waste collection held since the start of the program. The amount collected has increased substantially, with just over 12 tonnes of recyclable electronic waste collected in June and just over eight tonnes collected in November. The 21 tonnes collected for the year is a 200% increase from last year's collection. Residents dropped off 457 monitors, 258 hard drives, 213 printers, 211 televisions and a variety of smaller household items including toasters, mobile phones, coffee makers, and hair dryers.
- One tour of the VISY Recycling Facility was offered to residents for World Environment Day and National Recycling Week. Approximately 25 residents attended the tours. Participants were taken to the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) at Taren Point, where some of the 10,886 tonnes of recycling that Waverley produces each year are sorted.
- Council continued to promote the free Household Chemical Clean out Days for local residents. These are held several times a year and are run by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC).
- Council employs a full-time Waste Education Officer to coordinate and expand educational programs in the community, schools and child care centres. Waste-related community workshops continued this year in partnership with the Eastern Suburbs Community College. School workshops were conducted through Council's Sustainable Schools Program. Workshop topics included Composting and Worm-Farming, and Green Cleaning.
- Council introduced an 'on call' cleanup collection service, allowing residents to book a collection for bulky household items. It was developed as a response to the high incidence of illegal dumping of items.
- An illegal dumping awareness campaign, including posters in bus shelters, train stations, Council buildings and local publications, helped raise awareness of the illegality of dumping household waste on the street. This program, along with education about the new 'on call' service, helped raise awareness of the environmental impacts of illegally dumping rubbish and resulted in a reduction in the amount of dumping.
- A comprehensive litter audit was undertaken on all beaches in Waverley during the 07/08 financial year. This audit was completed using the Department of Environment and Climate Change guidelines and will establish new baseline data. Cigarette butts continue to make up nearly 20% of litter found on Waverley beaches and are the third most common litter item behind drink containers and plastics.
- Council's Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Action Plan 2007-2017 has been reviewed and was adopted by Council in March 2007. The plan outlines our approach to waste management strategies and actions over the next ten years. Of the WARR Action Plan projects identified for the 2007/2008 reporting period, 86% were implemented. These included working with schools to establish recycling and food scrap composting systems; investigating a food waste collection trial for commercial businesses; rolling out the 'Dumping it's Dumb' illegal dumping education program; and conducting litter audits to help develop targeted education.



- Future actions to be undertaken by Council include:
  - develop and deliver community education on correct presentation of domestic waste and recycling to encourage increased resource recovery rates
  - develop community education programs to reduce contamination levels of recycling
  - develop community education programs that encourage higher recovery rates for recyclables
  - investigate feasibility of domestic organic waste collection trial
  - develop and implement an education program that aims to reduce food waste
  - develop education programs that reduce green waste production, through the encouragement of appropriate plantings
  - implement 'Bins on Footpath' Policy.
- The Waste Minimisation and Resource Recovery Policy for events will be incorporated into the comprehensive review of planning, approving and holding special events in Waverley. This review has commenced and is due for completion in the 08/09 financial year. Waste audits of events were completed and these will better inform the development of the waste management guidelines and plans required for events.
- The public place recycling trial was conducted in Bronte Park and was highly successful. The recycling bins collected over 50% of the total waste generated in the park, and of the recycling collected less than 5% of the material was unable to be recycled. Council has resolved to keep the bins in the park indefinitely. Due to the success of the Bronte Park public place recycling trial, Council agreed to trial a similar system in Bondi Park and Pavilion, beginning in November 2008.
- As part of the Regional Eco-footprint project, Council investigated the feasibility of undertaking a joint domestic organic food waste trial with Randwick Council. Due to the recent introduction of a containerised gardenwaste collection service in Waverley, it was decided that both Councils use the opportunity to conduct a trial of collecting food waste from commercial premises in Waverley. The research stages of this trial have commenced.
- Clean Up Australia Day was held in March 2008. The event drew 150 volunteers and, for the second year in a row, Council sponsored volunteers to do an underwater clean up off Ben Buckler. The administration and promotion of the day was outsourced by Clean Up Australia, and seemed to result in fewer volunteers.

***The 21 tonnes of E-Waste collected for the year is a 200% increase from last year's collection.***





# Waste and Resource Recovery

- Waste Audit and Community Liaison Officers continue to work with and educate strata managers and real estate agents regarding waste and recycling services, in particular the 'on call' clean up service. Education packs containing calendars, brochures and desk jotters were delivered to all real estate agents in the area. Posters for unit blocks have also been developed and delivered.
- Street litter bins were cleared according to the program and the bins were less than 100% full for over 95% of the time.
- The summer waste management program for 2007/2008 was developed. The program was split into three collection days to concentrate on removal of dumped rubbish within the Bondi Basin and surrounding areas. In addition, any service desk requests for the Bondi Basin area were responded to within the service standard. The program for 2007/2008 commenced on 3 December 2007. Total tonnage removed from the Bondi Basin area during the course of the program was 141.1 tonnes.
- For the third year running, Waverley Council continued to financially support The Bower Re-use and Repair Cooperative – a not-for-profit cooperative, registered charity and retail store which provides alternatives for residents' unwanted goods. The Bower achieves this aim by directly accepting unwanted goods for reuse and by referring clients to other organisations or businesses who can take their items. The Bower received 79 calls from our residents and estimates that 174.46 m<sup>3</sup> of unwanted goods was diverted from landfill. In addition 53 organisations and businesses from within the LGA are registered with the Bower to take unwanted items.
- The Waste Management Action Strategy is reviewed on a bi-monthly basis. Stakeholder meetings were held in February, May and June 2008 and at the June meeting an Action Plan was drawn up for 2008/2009. The revised strategy was implemented in June 2007 and the Waste and Litter Action plan was updated to reflect this.
- Council held information stalls to educate residents about responsible waste management. A mobile worm farm was set up at Council's World Environment Day celebrations.
- Council worked with seven other SSROC Councils to secure a grant from NSW Health to commence a regional collection and education program for community sharps. The incorrect disposal of community sharps in recycling bins was an increasing Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) concern for workers. Waverley has three participating pharmacies where community members can dispose of their sharps responsibly.



- Council employs a full-time Waste Enforcement Officer, to regulate illegal rubbish dumping and bins being left on footpaths. In the reporting period, 2,596 illegal rubbish dumps were reported and investigated, which led to 10 penalty notices, 37 clean up notices, and 102 incidences where the dumper was contacted, educated and the waste removed.
- The management of waste quantities and operation of the waste facility at Bondi Pavilion was reviewed and an upgrade was undertaken. Upgrades to the Bondi Pavilion Waste Room included the removal of the Pavilion mural (lead paint) and repairing of the walls.

***... a public place recycling trial conducted in Bronte Park was highly successful. The recycling bins collected over 50% of the total waste generated in the park (of which less than 5% was unable to be recycled).***



# Social



**Creating** a sustainable community which meets the lifestyle needs of all its existing and new members requires careful planning so that accessible community services and facilities continue to support Waverley's rich social fabric. To do this, Council must ensure that planning processes and strategies contribute to the maintenance and improvement of our social, natural and physical environments for everyone to enjoy.

Waverley Council is committed to delivering a high standard of strategic and social planning activities. Based on demographic profiles and needs analysis, we develop strategies and actions in response to priority issues and concerns. The details of Waverley's social planning process and action plan are integrated into the Waverley Strategic Plan. The plan is based on extensive consultations with a variety of residents, service providers, and consumers of services in our local community.

## PRESSURES ON OUR SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT

- Increase in aging population
- Housing affordability
- Lack of recreational facilities for young people
- Affordability of childcare services
- Crime
- Community Safety

## RESPONSES TO THESE PRESSURES

- Council ran its third Safe Summer Program this year, which is a community safety model to manage the impact of increased crowds visiting Waverley's coastal reserves. The Safe Summer Initiative once again included a broad communication and education campaign (with the distribution of a 32 page 'My Bondi Summer' Booklet); education and enforcement of alcohol free zones; and provision of safe, alternative environment and events to manage crowds and alcohol consumption. Events included the Christmas Day 'Gatecrasher' party at Bondi Pavilion, the New Year's Eve 'Shore Thing' dance party at Bondi Beach and a family-friendly event at Dudley Page Reserve. Family-friendly activities also took place at Bondi Beach between Christmas and New Year's Eve. These managed safe events form an important part of Council's overall community safety strategy.

## SUSTAINABILITY TRENDS

Environmental Indicator	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	Movement towards sustainability
Number of affordable housing units	56*	20	25	46*	82*	90	↑
<i>Number of community volunteers participating in sustainable activities and related activities:</i>							
Community clean ups	ND	96	105	400	100	150	↑
Bushcare programs	105	106	106	86	154	154	↑
Environmental Levy programs	859	297	1,755	4,778	7,432	7,013	↓
Environmental Courses	48	419	730	374	421	513	↑
Number of residents in precinct forums**	2,065	1,532	1,473	1,318	1,215	790	↓

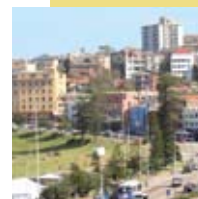
\* These figures are a total of both Affordable Housing and Social Housing (others are for Affordable Housing only)

\*\* There are variations in figures due to different methods of calculation

Many compliments and very few complaints were received regarding the events and activities held during the campaign.

- Council staff and Waverley Police Officers carried out quarterley safety audits around Bondi Beach. These were conducted at night and used proven crime prevention principles, through environmental design, to minimise opportunities for crime. Actions taken so far include ensuring public spaces are well lit; trimming trees to prevent shadowing; removing graffiti; ensuring houses display prominent numbering; and removing obstructions to footpaths and other public spaces. The assessment also assists Council and Police in developing crime prevention programs.
- Council has finalised the Draft ArtsPlus Plan, which is set to promote arts and culture in the community. It aims to encourage vibrant cultural activities and build on our strong sense of civic pride. The initial consultation stage was commenced in the reporting period, however, the process has been held back until a Cultural Planner is appointed. This position was filled in October 2007.
- 'Operation Beachsafe' took place over summer 2007–2008 in an attempt to prevent anti-social or criminal behaviour at Sydney's beaches. Police patrols targeted Cronulla, Bondi, Maroubra and Brighton Le Sands. Police Officers were also supported by additional resources at sea, on land and in the air.
- Four Bondi Live Youth Music Program (BLYMP) concerts were held at Bondi Pavilion in September and November 2006, and May and June 2007. They attracted 145, 270, 201 and 95 people respectively. Other youth-friendly events included a Bondi Wave Concert, 'Busk Off' (held in November 2006) and Petals and Pavers Art held in Bondi Junction.
- This year's 'Bondi Blitz' concert at the Bondi Skate Park was organised as part of Youth Week. The live music event for young people was well attended and included food stalls, dance performances, bands, DJs, surfing lessons, and a skate demonstration.
- Council continued to support the Waverley/Woollahra Youth Advisory Council (WWYAC). This group, comprised of young people from the local area, meet monthly to advocate youth issues. They also decide on the theme for discussion at the Youth Forum. This year's Youth Forum, with 'Crisis Intervention' as the theme was effective and well received by young people.

***Council must ensure that planning processes and strategies contribute to the maintenance and improvement of our social, natural and physical environments for everyone to enjoy.***





- Programs for young people in Waverley, organised through the Bondi Pavilion, exceeded the target for the year. Activities included four school holiday programs, three after-school pottery classes per week during each school term, Bondi Wave Youth Music workshops plus the 2007 Bondi Wave May seminar, the Emerging Artists Music Program, the Primary Age Band Project, Festival of the Winds pre-Festival Workshop Program and the Waverley Council Youth Art Award.
- In addition to Council's programs for young people, local artists, performers, tutors and organisations were assisted to provide a range of exhibitions, workshops and theatre performances for young people throughout the year. During the past quarter, this has included music, art, dance, drama workshops, the Urban Arts Base Youth Week exhibition, Bondi Openair Big Kids Festival and two productions of Shakespeare (for school studies), which attracted a very large number of young people.
- Council's Graffiti Management Team has been operating since October 2006. During this time all offensive graffiti has been removed within the service standard and all Council-owned buildings inspected and graffiti removed on a weekly basis.
- Approximately four Frail Age Programs were conducted per month for older people and people with a disability at Bondi Pavilion. Total attendance at the centre for the year averaged well over 1700 members per month, with more than 30 different types of activities run each week. These include bingo, chair exercise, social outings and low vision group meetings for frail aged; remedial massage, foot massage, Bowen and podiatry services; fitness and health classes; and free social activities.
- Waverley Council is committed to improving access and services for people with disabilities through its Disability Action Plan and Access Policy.
- Council continues to operate its Waverley Community Living Project (WCLP). This service provides medium-term subsidised accommodation, independent living skills training and transition support to enable people with mild intellectual disability to move towards independent living in the Waverley community. Council has supported approximately 12 people with disabilities over the year and the program is currently operating at full capacity. A satisfaction survey was completed by WCLP clients with the level of satisfaction averaging 90% for all clients.
- Over 13 new community networks or partnerships have been established over the year. The development of these partnerships has been assisted by staff attendance at the Eastern Suburbs Disability Interagency meetings.
- Over 20 'Learning for Life' courses were conducted. These include a food hygiene and storage course, a client advisory forum, a client achievement information night, City to Surf preparation program, a quarantine education tour and social skill development courses such as friendships and qualities, listening skills, communicating clearly and values clarification.
- Approximately six subsidised rental accommodation places were available for people with mild intellectual disability. A new 'Eastern Suburbs Disability Interagency' has also been established to provide ongoing information exchange opportunities within the disability industry sector.
- Council now has a total of 90 affordable housing units retained under the Waverley Housing for Older People Program and Affordable Housing Program (AHP).



- Approximately 50 affordable accessible cultural programs were held at Bondi Pavilion this year. Activities include NAIDOC Week activities, Refugee Week activities, Festival of the Winds and the pre-Festival workshop program, Ocean Care Day with the Pacific Arts Festival, Carols by the Sea, Seniors Christmas Concert, The Pavilion Potters Exhibition, the South American Festival, the Pavilion Music Program (including the Emerging Artist Program, Seniors Band, Bondi Community Choir, Children's Rock Band, Senior's Singing Group), Bondi Wave Youth Music Workshops, the Bondi Wave Concert, BLYMP concerts, monthly Seniors Concerts, the Youth Art Award, regular classes program, Pottery Workshop Program and School Holiday Program.
- All Pavilion festivals, events and arts programs incorporate Indigenous and CALD artists and performers as an integral part of the programming. These groups are also represented in more than half of the exhibitions in the Gallery. Events included the 2007 NAIDOC celebrations, which incorporated a two week gallery exhibition and series of Indigenous music and dance performances at Bondi Beach and Oxford Street Mall.
- Council's Multicultural Policy has for the first time been included in Council's Management Plan, of which a second update was undertaken in May 2007. A report on integration of the Multicultural Policy was delivered in February 2008. A report on integration of the Access policy will be completed in the second quarter of 2008/09.
- The fifth annual Global Table Multicultural Street Festival was held on Saturday 29 March 2008 in Oxford Street Mall. This annual event is a celebration of food and music from around the world, and has steadily grown since it first started in 2004.
- Council's Community Grants Program provided almost \$240,000 to local community groups targeting youth, older people, children and families, people with disabilities and those from a CALD background.

# Air

**The Waverley area** is a densely populated urban environment. Our proximity to the city makes us particularly vulnerable to the effects of airborne pollutants.

It is estimated that around 1.2 million tonnes of pollutants enter Sydney's air each year. Motor vehicles are responsible for 75% of these pollutants, with the remainder attributed to industrial and domestic sources. Research has shown that due to Sydney's coastal location, coastal wind patterns transport air pollutants out to sea overnight and in the early

morning. Afternoon sea breezes then transport these pollutants back onto land and concentrate them in the Sydney Basin.

Improving our local air quality has been a commitment of Council since the early 1990s when Council adopted the Waverley Local Air Quality Improvement Plan (LAIP). In 2002, Council adopted the Waverley Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategy to set future direction for air quality management and pollution reduction in Waverley.

Since the early 1990s, Council has continued to implement innovative air quality improvement programs

such as trialling Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) in heavy and light fleet vehicles, incorporating hybrid electric cars into our corporate fleet, developing a local action plan to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, and placing a prohibition on the use of wood fire heaters throughout the LGA. Waverley has also been one of the few Councils in Australia to complete the five milestones of the Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) program – aimed at reducing corporate and community greenhouse gas emissions – and has since then progressed to the CCP Plus Program.

## SUSTAINABILITY TRENDS

Environmental Indicator	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	Movement towards Sustainability
Greenhouse gas emissions (tonnes of CO <sup>2</sup> ) from Council activities	ND	6,226	6,204	6,256	6,301	6,473	↓
No. of vehicle registrations in Waverley	29,870	30,874	31,322	32,128	32,756	32,800	↓
No. of resident trips on public transport (patronage per average <i>weekday</i> )							
• Bus	29,796	ND	29,539	31,042	28,333	ND	↓
• Train	14,814		19,517	16,811	13,907		
• Ferry	2,600		3,119	3,124	3,502		
• Light Rail	330		222	ND	172		
TOTAL	44,540		52,397	50,977	45,914		
No. of resident trips on public transport (patronage per average <i>weekend</i> )							
• Bus	19,952	ND	13,820	17,157	14,019	ND	↓
• Train	6,338		5,320	4,713	2,281		
• Ferry	2,965		1,808	1,826	1,560		
• Light Rail	0		0	0	ND		
TOTAL	29,255		20,948	23,696	17,859		
Total km of cycleways in the LGA (km)	4.5	15.2	15.2	15.2	15.2	24.8	↑

\* These figures have been recalculated as we now have greater accuracy in results due to changing methods of data interpretation. The figures show a reduction in consumption from the previous year.



## PRESSURES ON OUR AIR

- Motor vehicle emissions
- Commercial business operations
- Wood fire heaters
- Construction and demolition
- Pollution
- Global warming
- Bondi Sewage Treatment Plant
- Increasing cost of public transport.

## RESPONSES TO THESE PRESSURES

- Walk Safely to School Day was actively supported by Waverley Council with local schools having a large turnout of pupils walking during May 2008.
- Council completed the first two Green Links routes in June 2008. These links connect Bondi Beach to Centennial Park via Bondi Junction and Bondi Junction to Queens Park. The routes utilise quiet streets, parks and laneways where possible. Plans are in place to increase the network of Green Links walks to Tamarama and Bronte Beaches.
- Council conducted six free community education sessions in the last year on bicycle maintenance, skills and commuting. These workshops continue to be popular within the local community, aiming to encourage residents to use bikes as a means of transport. Workshops included a "Back on your Bike" session for beginners, "General Bicycle Maintenance" and "Commute by Bike" which was a more advanced course providing safety tips about cycling on the roads. The sessions have been well received and attended.
- Council has reduced the growth rate in energy consumption by Council buildings from 5.1% pa between 1996 and 2004 to 3.6% pa between 2004 and 2007. It is difficult to quantify the specific energy savings actions being completed as many are absorbed into the regular maintenance and operational procedures of Council. The significant reduction of energy use of Council buildings indicates that a high number of actions from the plan have been implemented. A key action has been the development of a data management system to monitor energy usage and facilitate better targeting and evaluation of energy savings actions.
- The Beach Runner bus between Coogee, Bronte, Tamarama and Bondi Beaches was successfully trialled from November 2007 to April 2008.

*Waverley is one of the few Councils in Australia to complete the five milestones of the Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) program, and has progressed to the CCP Plus Program.*





- In an effort to develop and encourage an alternative to private car use, the Waverley Bike Plan has been developed. Stage 3 of the Bike Plan (Cox Avenue, Glenayr Avenue and Blair Street) is now complete.
- Council submitted its draft Energy Savings Action Plan (ESAP), a four-year energy conservation action plan for Waverley Council, to the NSW Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability (DEUS) in November 2006. The action plan (a Statutory Obligation) schedules energy-saving projects for completion by Council to reduce both our corporate energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.
- Council participated in the National 'Walk to Work Day' in October 2007. Over 60 staff took part in the event, walking a total of just over 200km. An estimated 40kg of CO<sub>2</sub> was saved by walking this distance instead of driving.
- Ride to Work Day was held in October 2007 with over 50 staff participating on the day and many continuing to ride after the day.
- Council introduced a bike fleet available for use by staff members for work purposes. The two hybrid bicycles and an electric assist bicycle are aimed at replacing car use for trips in the local area.
- Following Council's completion of Milestone 5 of the International Council for Local Council Initiatives (ICLEI) Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) Program, Council progressed to ICLEI's CCP Plus Program in April 2006. Through the completion of these milestones there have been a number of local action plans implemented to reduce emissions. Waverley Council is committed to reaching the 20% reduction target on 1996 emissions by 2010. Participation in CCP Plus provides Council with technical support, access to CCP software and tools, and resource material. Council has completed and been awarded the organisational review milestone and has been accepted into the CCP Plus Sustainable Transport Advancing Action project. Council's Sustainable Transport Action Plan was in development stage at the time of this report.
- Council continues to participate in Sydney Coastal Council Group's Climate Change Adaptation Project. This Australian Greenhouse Office (AGO) funded regional project, in collaboration with CSIRO and the University of the Sunshine Coast, aims to research regional approaches to managing climate vulnerability in the Sydney region. Researchers will work with Councils to identify key vulnerabilities and their capacity to adapt in order to manage these climatic risks at a regional scale.
- Waverley was the first council in Australia to purchase greenpower for corporate energy uses. Council continues to purchase 25% of our energy requirements from alternative green energy sources (including solar, wind, hydro and landfill gas) in five of our highest energy using corporate buildings. These buildings include Council Chambers, the Library, the Depot, Eastgate Carpark and Bondi Pavilion. This equates to a reduction of 994.91 tonnes/ year through greenpower purchase.
- Two Greenlinks routes have now been completed. These have been upgraded with footpath improvements, signage and landscaping. The two completed routes connect Centennial Park to Bondi Beach and Bondi Junction to Queens Park. There are three more routes planned for the next two years.
- Council undertook several initiatives to reduce energy consumption from Council facilities. One project included Council participation in the Earth Hour by switching off non-essential building, parks and beach lights. A lighting upgrade of Council's facilities was also undertaken, as was a sustainability review of Bondi Pavilion.
- In a further effort to reduce energy consumption from Council facilities, Council's parking meters have been refitted to operate on solar power.



- The Building Sustainability Index (BASIX) was introduced in 2006 by the NSW Government. This State Environment Planning Policy ensures homes are designed to use less potable water and be responsible for fewer greenhouse gas emissions by setting energy and water reduction targets for houses and units. BASIX now applies to all new residential dwellings, including single dwellings, villas, townhouses and low-rise, mid-rise and high-rise developments in NSW. It also covers all residential alterations and additions throughout NSW. In July 2006, the BASIX energy target was increased to a 40% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.
- Council continues to deliver our Sustainable Schools Challenge program to assist local schools in reducing their overall natural resource consumption. Energy reduction is a key focus of the program.
- Council continues to comply with its Environmental Management System (EMS) for Council fleet vehicles. The EMS ensures the best possible environmental and economic practices are implemented with respect to the operation, maintenance and purchase of Council's vehicle fleet.
- Council has made changes to payments of leaseback vehicles. The leaseback payment amount now reflects consumption figures for the vehicle. The new payment structure is a three-tiered system, with payments of smaller vehicles less than those for the larger two-litre vehicles.
- Council continues to monitor vehicle emissions of its fleet. Six passenger vehicles are tested by the RTA each November, including petrol, gas and hybrid vehicles. The emissions performance of the vehicles tested during 2005/2006 base year at the NSW Roads and Traffic Authority vehicle testing facility, was significantly better than the "good" rating applied by the RTA and also significantly better than the standards of emission performance required by Australian Design Rule ADR 37/01. These results confirm that Council operates a "clean and green" passenger vehicle fleet.
- Following trials of hybrid fleet vehicles, Council now owns four Toyota Prius vehicles.
- Council continues to operate 16 Hino trucks in the Resource Recovery collection fleet. The Hino trucks have carbon monoxide exhaust reductions of 53% compared to the old trucks.
- In partnership with the Australian Greenhouse Office, Council undertook trials of compressed natural gas trucks (CNG) as part of the vehicle fleet. Subsequent emission testing has revealed a 57% reduction in hydrocarbons, a 49% reduction in nitrous oxides and a 93% reduction in fine particulate matter. Council currently has four CNG trucks in its fleet.

***Council introduced a bike fleet for use by staff members. The two hybrid bicycles and an electric assist bicycle are aimed at replacing car use for work trips in the local area.***





# Biodiversity

**‘Biodiversity’ refers to** the variety of all life forms present, such as the different plants, animals and micro-organisms, the genes they contain, and the different ecosystems in which they are found and form part of. It is important to conserve biodiversity, to protect the life-support systems on earth. These systems include fresh water provision, climate regulation, the creation of soils, and the natural disposal of pollutants. They are fundamental to the quality of our life and our economy.

The Waverley natural environment has undergone significant change in response to the pressures of residential, commercial and recreational use. The few remaining areas of remnant and planted vegetation play an important role in the area, especially in terms of providing food, habitat and shelter for native animals.

Waverley LGA boasts 112 hectares of open space covering 82 parks and reserves. Of this approximately six hectares is native remnant vegetation. Small areas of remnant bushland that provide important refuges for native flora and fauna are also located on private properties throughout Waverley.

In Waverley, the Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub is listed as an endangered ecological community under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1999*. This isolated site is located on the York Road boundary to Centennial Parklands.

The wattle, *Acacia terminalis* ssp *terminalis*, is listed under this same legislation as an endangered species. The exact location of this rare plant in the Waverley LGA is now difficult to ascertain, although it is expected that dormant seed exists in several different locations.

## PRESSURES ON OUR BIODIVERSITY

- Noxious weeds
- Land clearing
- Stormwater pollution
- Fragmentation of remnant bushland
- Exotic plants spreading from private gardens
- Illegal dumping
- Feral animals
- Illegal tree removal
- Companion animals

## SUSTAINABILITY TRENDS

Environmental indicator	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	Movement toward sustainability
Area of bushland in active care of Council and community (m <sup>2</sup> )	1,319	1,843	2,209	2,243	5,240	6,823	↑
Number of native flora species identified in Waverley LGA	154	154	154	154	154	154	↔
Number of native fauna species identified in the Waverley LGA	93	93	93	93	94	94	↑



## RESPONSES TO THESE PRESSURES

- There are 142 volunteers participating in Waverley Council's Bushcare program. There are six Bushcare groups in the area, located at Diamond Bay Reserve, Eastern Reserve, Hugh Bamford Reserve, Tamarama, Bronte Gully and Calga Reserve.
- This year 600 native plants were planted by volunteers.
- National Tree Day was held on Sunday 27 July 2007, with a planting held at Rodney Reserve, Dover Heights. 68 volunteers attended and planted 500 native shrubs and groundcovers.
- Bush regeneration continued at Hugh Bamford Embankment in North Bondi. Work included weed removal, erosion control, mulching, and maintenance of previously landscaped areas and more resilient areas. Work will continue on the embankment in the future and will be funded by Council.
- Bitou Bush and exotic weed control was undertaken at Diamond Bay, Vaucluse and Hugh Bamford Reserve. The Sydney Metropolitan Catchment Management Authority (CMA) awarded Waverley Council \$7,000 to undertake Bitou Bush control (funded through the Australian Government Natural Heritage Trust). Council provided a matching contribution of \$7,000.
- Council funded bush regeneration at Bronte Cutting. The previously eroded and weedy slope was planted with natives, Asthma Weed was removed, and the exotic understorey was removed and replaced with native vegetation.
- Bush regeneration contractors carried out weed removal at Eastern Reserve, Dover Heights. This work was funded through an Environmental Trust Grant and will continue until March 2009.
- Bush regeneration contractors assisted in the maintenance of the National Tree Day planting sites at Rodney Reserve, Dover Heights. This was also funded by an Environmental Trust Grant and will continue until March 2009.
- Bronte Gully received another grant from the Australian Government's Envirofund to extend the Bronte Gully Bushcare site. Council funds maintenance of the original site and will continue to do so for another year.
- Erosion control and tree planting (funded by Sculpture by the Sea) took place in an area along the Coastal Walk below Wilga Street. The native plant cover is now estimated to be approximately 80% on the heavily eroded slope.
- Council continued to offer free environmental workshops for the community in conjunction with the Eastern Suburbs Community College, with 'Gardening with Native Plants' continuing to be popular.

*It is important to conserve biodiversity, to protect the life-support systems on earth. These systems include fresh water provision, climate regulation, the creation of soils, and the natural disposal of pollutants.*



# Biodiversity

- Council funded the attendance of local Bushcare volunteers at an intermediate Bushcare Training Workshop in September 2007. This training was organised in collaboration with councils from South East Sydney and run by Ryde TAFE. The course was comprised of modules of Certificate II of Natural Area Restoration.
- Waverley Bushcare held several information stalls throughout the year to promote the work of the highly valued Bushcare groups and recruit additional volunteers. Events included the Eastern Sydney Community Information Day (September, Bondi Junction Mall), the Eastern Suburbs Children's Festival (October, Waverley Park), the Royal Easter Show (April, Olympic Park, Homebush), and Council's World Environment Day Celebrations (May, Bondi Pavilion).
- A Noxious Weed Mapping project for Waverley is complete with all areas within 500 metres of remnant vegetation now mapped. Data has been captured in residential and commercial areas, parks and reserves. Weed maps from this project will be used to assist Council's Weed Control Program and monitor weed treatments.
- The area of bushland in active care of Council and community in Waverley is currently a total area of 6823m<sup>2</sup>.
- The Draft Tamarama Park Plan of Management was adopted by Council in June 2007. The plan was significantly amended following its initial public exhibition and upon Council consideration in September 2006. It was re-exhibited in November 2006 to ensure the community was aware of the amendments.
- Council developed a Tree Management Plan (TMP) which was adopted in October 2006. This is available on Council's website. The Tree Management Plan provides a framework for the management of trees throughout Waverley and emphasises how trees can improve the environmental sustainability of the local area by providing shade, protection from wind and solar radiation, reducing air pollution and many associated benefits. It also aims to educate and encourage residents to plant more native trees, shrubs and groundcovers to provide the biodiversity necessary to encourage a healthy mix of wildlife in the urban garden. The TMP provides policies and procedures for planting, maintenance and removal and will result in more effective and coordinated management of all trees in the local government area.
- Council established its Sustainable Garden Awards as part of the new Civic Pride Program. The aim of the awards is to recognise aesthetically pleasing and sustainable gardens, focusing on water-wise and environmentally friendly gardening methods. The awards were judged in October with an award ceremony held in November 2007.
- Council's Adopt a Tree Program was also created under the Civic Pride Program. This initiative, launched in May 2007, aims to encourage residents to become involved in their community and improve the amenity of their area. Pamphlets were distributed to assist residents. Brighton Boulevard and Warners Avenue have been targeted for 'whole street' programs with Brighton Boulevard already planted for the adoption program.
- A Vegetation Management Plan has been prepared for Waverley Cemetery. This was prepared mainly for the Coast Walk extension and forms part of the planning for construction. The plan includes advice on vegetation work before construction and protection guidelines during construction.



- Council's Environmental Levy funded an investigation into the viability of an indigenous seed propagation bank for Waverley. A private consultant was appointed to undertake seed collection, which commenced in June 2007. Seeds collected from local remnant areas are stored at Randwick Nursery, and propagated for Council on a needs basis. This collection and propagation project is expected to continue.
- Council continued bi-monthly control of noxious weeds in urban areas as part of the Public Works & Services spraying program. All streets and laneways accessible by quad bike were targeted by weed management consultants.
- Steam treatment has been introduced as a method of weed control in Waverley. This chemical-free approach has been adopted by Parks Operations on a needs basis.

***Council established its Sustainable Garden Awards as part of the new Civic Pride Program. The aim of the awards is to recognise aesthetically pleasing and sustainable gardens, focusing on water-wise and environmentally friendly gardening methods.***



# Noise

**Noise pollution** can be defined as unwanted or offensive sounds that unreasonably intrude into our daily activities. It has many sources, most of which are associated with urban development such as roads, air, transport, industrial noise, neighbourhood and recreational noise. The impact of noise in our community can reduce public amenity, and adversely affect health and communication.

Noise pollution can cause a major reduction in the quality of life. However, some unavoidable activities, such as demolition, construction and excavation are inherently noisy and need to be well managed rather than prevented.

The Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC), the NSW Police Service, and local councils all play a part in monitoring and regulating noise control.

The Protection of the Environment Operation Act 1999 and the Protection of the Environment Operations Noise Control Regulation 2000 are the principal legislations applied throughout New South Wales to address environmental noise issues. Actions implemented under this legislation include: Noise Abatement Order; Noise Abatement Direction; Noise Control Notice; Prevention Notice; Proactive Response; and Regional Response.

## PRESSURES ON OUR ENVIRONMENT FROM NOISE

- Increasing population
- Barking dogs
- Traffic and transport
- House and car alarms
- Swimming pool pumps
- Mechanical ventilation systems
- Parties
- Public events
- Construction noise
- Garbage collection

## RESPONSES TO THESE PRESSURES

- Between July 2007 and June 2008, Council received approximately 415 noise complaints. Council responded to these complaints by carrying out inspections and taking appropriate regulatory action. Most complaints were resolved at this stage, however non-compliance with regulatory notices led to some fines being issued.
- In the reporting period, approximately 190 of the total noise complaints were attributed to barking dogs. This is a significant reduction from the previous year. Complaints of barking dogs generally occur when dogs experience insufficient space, provocation, lack of exercise or adequate shelter, ill health, or an unsuitable diet. The majority of these complaints were resolved through mediation and negotiation. However, in the case of ongoing problems, Notices of Intent to issue Nuisance Orders, and Dog Nuisance Orders were issued under the Companion Animals Act 1998.

## SUSTAINABILITY TRENDS

Environmental Indicator	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	Movement towards sustainability
Number of noise complaints	65	154	434	500	490	415	↔



- A booklet, *My Bondi Summer*, was again used to distribute information about the Safe Summer in Bondi campaign. Together with event details, the booklet also contained information on alcohol free zones (the Sober Santa Campaign), safe summer parties (controlled licensed events) and the noise complaint hotline (noise complaint coordinators working with production managers to reduce the volume of events). This booklet was widely distributed through cafes, shops, clubs, pubs, backpacker hostels, Waverley Library, Bondi Pavilion, Council Chambers, and a letterbox drop to residents. There were no reported noise complaints during the licensed events.
- The Safe Summer Initiative (SSI) Christmas & New Year Campaign for 2007/2008 was evaluated in February and March 2008. The evaluation included de-brief reports from the event organiser, Mi5 and the Bondi and Beaches Division. The SSI 2007/2008 was a success, again achieving key objectives to improve safety, mitigate alcohol consumption and anti-social behaviour and create a family friendly and fun environment for all.
- As a requirement of Council's Visitor Management Strategy, all boarding houses now have a Management Plan in place to mitigate potential noise impacts on nearby residents. Council's Visitor Management Strategy focuses on reducing the adverse impacts of visitors on the Waverley area.
- As part of the Noise Management Plan, Council is working closely with the police to mitigate noise pollution throughout the Waverley area. Council receives monthly reports from the police on noise-related complaints. The problem areas highlighted in these reports are targeted by Council and ongoing noise pollution prevented. Any residences receiving two or more noise complaints are visited by a Council officer, and sent a letter of warning.
- In August 2005, Council entered into an agreement, or Accord, with local licensees, police, and the Department of Gaming and Racing to help prevent alcohol-related harm. Through this Accord, liquor licensees now have the opportunity to meet regularly with authorities and other stakeholders to develop holistic strategies to deal with local alcohol-related issues.

***Council received approximately 415 noise complaints... approximately 190 were attributed to barking dogs. This is a significant reduction from the previous year.***

DRAFT

# Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Heritage

**Heritage is defined** as a place, object, custom or culture that has historic, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, aesthetic, natural or Aboriginal significance. Heritage consists of those places and objects that we as a community have inherited from the past and wish to hand on to future generations.

The 1994 Waverley Heritage Study identified over 400 items of either natural, built, or Aboriginal significance with an additional seven heritage conservation areas. To ensure their conservation and protection, each of these items was scheduled within the Waverley Local Environmental Plan 1996. Waverley LGA also has eight listings in the State Heritage Inventory under the Heritage Act 1977.

***Council continues to offer a free heritage and urban planning advisory service to assess the impacts of proposed development works on identified heritage sites.***

Waverley Council is committed to the protection and conservation of our Aboriginal heritage. In partnership with the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, Council is responsible for the protection, preservation and management of all Aboriginal relics throughout Waverley irrespective of land tenure. Waverley LGA has nine Aboriginal Heritage sites recorded on the Aboriginal Sites Register under the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1994. These include rock engravings, camps, caves and midden sites.

It is likely this area supports far more unknown or unlisted sites throughout the municipality.

## PRESSURES ON OUR HERITAGE

- Recognised need to expand current heritage register
- Lack of enforceable maintenance provisions for listed sites
- Inappropriate infill development in heritage conservation areas
- Increased applications for onsite parking provisions within listed heritage areas
- Insufficient expertise in dealing with listed items
- Unrealistic expectations of floor space ratio applied to listed buildings
- Cultural change in favour of replacement rather than maintenance of built fabric
- Lack of understanding and recognition of Native Title rights and interests
- Erosion or damage of sites from wind, water, sun and human activities
- Private construction techniques in Bondi's sandy soils are not congenial to sifting for Aboriginal artefacts
- Environmental performance and access legislation.

## SUSTAINABILITY TRENDS

Environmental Indicator	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	Movement towards sustainability
Heritage items listed in Waverley LEP	432	432	432	432	432	432	↔
Number of traits listed on the NPWS Aboriginal Sites Register	209	209	209	209	209	209	↔



## RESPONSES TO THESE PRESSURES

- The Draft Waverley Heritage Assessment (DWHA) was placed on public re-exhibition from May to June 2007. The aims of the Draft Waverley Heritage Assessment (DWHA) are to identify and analyse the environmental heritage of the Waverley LGA and to make practical recommendations for its conservation. An independent heritage review panel was convened as part of the assessment process and considered objections at six meetings and site inspections. The DWHA was adopted by Council in September 2007. In December 2007, Council resolved to change the name of the Waverley Heritage Assessment to Waverley Heritage Policy as a policy title carries more weight. The Waverley Heritage Policy includes approximately 180 proposed heritage items, 10 proposed heritage urban conservation areas and one proposed landscape conservation area. The proposed heritage items and proposed heritage conservation groups and areas will be formalised by way of an amendment to Waverley Local Environmental Plan 1996 (Amendment No. 33).
- Council continues to offer a free heritage and urban planning advisory service to assess the impacts of proposed development works on identified heritage sites. This is available two days a week (Tuesdays and Fridays). Where the impact is identified as excessive, applicants are required to address identified issues, engaging specialist heritage planners if needed.
- Heritage Information kits have been prepared and are now being included in development application kits. The kits include information regarding permissible activities on heritage sites.
- The annual 2008 Waverley Council Heritage & Design Awards (now a part of the Civic Pride Program) were held in April 2008 at the Bondi Surf Bathers SLSC. The awards aim to inspire, recognise and promote good design solutions. They also help to ensure that the significant qualities of heritage buildings and heritage urban conservation areas are maintained and that contemporary design contributes to the existing streetscape.
- Heritage conservation is included in the Waverley DCP 2006 (precinct-based plan containing heritage conservation controls for development on private and public land).

*The Heritage & Design Awards aim to inspire, recognise and promote good design solutions... They help to ensure heritage buildings and urban conservation areas are maintained and that contemporary design contributes to the existing streetscape.*



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# Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Heritage

- Due to the significance of place, the Waverley area boasts 180 individual Aboriginal entries on the NPWS Aboriginal Sites register and 209 traits. These include rock engravings, middens, shelters with middens, shelters with art, open campsites, shelters with deposits, axe grinding grooves, burial sites, contact mission, and a historic place. It is also important to note that due to sea level rise around 10,000 years ago, it is estimated that hundreds of sites are located off the coast.
- Two significant archaeological sites located at Bondi summarise Aboriginal occupation of the Waverley area prior to European settlement. These comprise a large open campsite located during the 1890s in the sand dunes at the back of Bondi Beach and the extensive rock engravings at Bondi Golf Course / Williams Park. Artefacts that were relocated from the Bondi Beach middens to the Australian Museum in the 1930s are currently being identified.
- Council has commissioned a consultant to prepare the Waverley Aboriginal Heritage study for the whole Waverley LGA. It is intended that the proposed Aboriginal heritage items and proposed Aboriginal conservation areas which will be identified in the study will then be incorporated into the Waverley Local Environmental Plan 2010. The draft study will be finalised in October 2008.

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