



Tuesday 23 February 2016

## COME ON RYDE! LET'S CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA

It's time to take a look around your local area – your streets, parks, sportsgrounds, waterways and bushland - to find those rubbish hotspots that need extra attention in the lead up to Clean Up Australia Day Sunday March 6.

The Mayor said: "Clean Up Australia Day is a chance for all members of the community to take to their local park, beach, bushland or streets and help collect rubbish. There are many sites already registered in the City of Ryde where you can volunteer. You can also organise your own site or nominate your own day."

Register a site at [www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au](http://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au)

For information on local sites go to [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/cuad](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/cuad)

Our beautiful waterways and foreshores can end up littered in a number of ways. Items dropped in the waterways become tidal litter, but often items are washed from a street or paved area down the drain and into the waterways. It is very important that people dispose of their rubbish thoughtfully, because every piece of litter has an impact on the environment. Clean Up Australia Day is a great event that anyone can take part in. With so many people *doing the right thing*, let's hope CUA Day will motivate everyone to be more responsible with their litter, every day.

In the lead up to Clean up Australia Day on Sunday 5 March, Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, met with members of two community groups who are dedicated to keeping our parks, foreshore and town centres litter free.

Kim Austin the Founder of FITA Fraternity in Truth Association, said: "I migrated to Australia from Korea over 40 years ago. After I retired, I spent a lot of time bush walking and I found the litter on the sidewalks disgusting. I thought to myself, I'm grateful to Australia for giving me such a beautiful place for retirement, and so started thinking about how I could reciprocate. That led me to set up Fraternity In Truth Association (FITA) in 2003 to promote cleaning up Eastwood and Ryde. We are now a proud partner of Clean Up Australia Day."

<https://www.facebook.com/humansofeastwood/photos/a.1104392666255262.1073741828.1104390289588833/1174335285927666/>

Yuling Du, organiser of LOPAR (Love our Park and River Neighbourhood Group), said: "I know the impact of the pollution to the sea life, especially the plastic rubbish. People don't realise that littering on the ground often ends up in the storm water system which then causes damage to the sea life. "I live near Meadowbank Park which is a big part of our life style. I don't like to see unsightly rubbish in the lovely green grass and the debris of rubbish floating near the mangrove on the shore of Parramatta River. We all have the responsibility to look after the park and keep it beautiful and Clean-up Australia Day is an opportunity for the neighbourhood to contribute to the maintenance of the park and increase awareness of our behaviour and the environment." Contact Yuling on 0403 651 698