



Be Waste Smart

Achievements 2021

- Sustainability
- Waste
- Natural Areas
- Parks

Looking for a new activity in 2022?



Bushcare volunteering may be just the thing! We are recruiting for new volunteers, just like you, to join our Bushcare Program.

Have fun, meet your neighbours and help improve the local environment. Our Bushcare groups meet at a park near you for two hours, once a month, on weekends and weekdays. Experience is not necessary – our Bushcare supervisors will provide all the training to get started, along with all the tools and gloves.



Bushcare Volunteers:

- Help to improve bushland areas
- Learn about local flora and fauna
- Meet other local residents
- Enjoy a great outdoor work environment
- Participate in a healthy activity
- Learn new skills
- Enjoy a sense of achievement.



For more information please visit
www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/bushcare
We look forward to seeing you at a group soon!

A Year in Review

In 2021, we commenced the year ahead with a fresh outlook after a very challenging year of climate impacts through to ongoing global pandemic. Despite these times, our teams here at Ryde rose to the challenge and delivered some amazing achievements for the City. We modified our community programs as we moved into 2021 and COVID-19 round two, to connect with community via online platforms for delivering some very successful webinars and workshops.

In June, we hosted our annual Sustainability Festival held at Wilga Park, a festival first for many in 2021 and for the City. It attracted crowds from all over Sydney who came to engage with stalls and increase their environmental awareness and learn about the local area.

A key focus for the Environment Department this year was in carbon reduction and developing plans to reduce our emissions in the City. A Net Zero Emissions Plan draft has been prepared with final approval aimed for 2022.

In 2021, the City of Ryde joined 24 Councils across NSW towards procuring 100% renewable energy for our Council owned electricity contracts, lowering our greenhouse gas emissions from our electricity and our 100% Renewable Energy target towards 2030. If successful, we will reach our target eight years early!

To support Council's carbon emissions reduction path, a Sustainable Transport Strategy was also developed, to be launched in 2022. This strategy aims to reduce single car passenger trips, improve our air quality, promote innovative technologies and active lifestyles to move us through our City. With this we also installed our first two new electric vehicle public charging stations in Top Ryde and Macquarie Park which featured in a Federal Government ad campaign.

The lockdown period did not keep everyone indoors, new wildlife monitoring cameras were set up and detecting an increased buzz activity of fauna through our bushland areas and even into our streets!

We were also successful in receiving four grants to assist us funding works in protecting our natural areas for; addressing biosecurity weeds (the second year in a row), for indigenous land and water care through a 'designing for country' grant, towards developing a new Coastal Management Program and grant, and in increasing canopy coverage to cool our City long term.

The Waste department investigated ways to shift toward a circular economy and increase resource recovery. Our focus being on compiling quantitative data to understand the composition of waste and find opportunities to optimise current services to residents. By increasing the scope of our services and working to educate our community, we will achieve better waste practices, Masterplans and higher rates of resource recovery.

The Parks Team focused on the continuation and development of Park Masterplans and Plans of Management incorporating several environmental and biodiversity considerations. This included a Plan on how Council will manage its largest piece of natural area, the Field of Mars Reserve and a generic Plan for the majority of natural area land within the LGA. Draft plans have been prepared and consultation commenced for the Green Links Masterplan. Aligning with the Greater Sydney Commission's North District Plan, this will provide a vision for three open space corridors – County, Shrimptons Creek and Terrys Creek Green Links.

Over 1,200 street trees were planted with support from the NSW Government's Greening Our City Grant Program and a project commenced in Meadowbank Park that will see over 50 trees planted at this location. The annual Spring Garden Competition was again conducted, encouraging residents to get close to nature in their 'own patch'.

It was an extremely busy year for all and some highly successful outcomes for our City.

We thank you for your support,

Regards,

**Environment, Waste and Parks
teams at the City of Ryde**

Climate Action

Energy



We conducted an **audit of Council's 18 most energy intensive buildings** providing energy reduction recommendations for Council to deliver to reduce consumption.



An energy optimisation audit for the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre (RALC) was undertaken in 2020-21 to provide a plan for future efficiency works.



We reduced our overall annual energy consumption for 2020/21 by 5% compared to 2003/04. Savings are from earlier energy efficiency measures together with implementation of an Ausgrid residential road lighting upgrade project.



We continue to participate in the 155 Australian wide, Council climate action partnership to deliver on our pledges by delivering support activities such as:

Renewable Energy Target



In April 2020 Council adopted a 100% renewable energy target by 2030 ensuring we continue to reduce our reliance on fossil fuel derived energy sources.



We commenced procurement towards our 100% renewable energy target. Outcomes of this are expected in mid 2022.



For **2020/21 renewable energy made up a total of 46.9% of Council's electricity usage.**



Providing free home sustainability assessments for residents to reduce their carbon footprint.



We continued to participate in Ausgrid Residential Roads and Main Roads LED Lighting Retrofits program converting Council owned lighting to LED.



Installing two new public electric vehicle (EV) charging stations to encourage the uptake of this low emissions technology to our community.



We commenced development of our first ever, City-wide Sustainable Transport Strategy to communicate our priority towards lowering emissions from transport in our City.



The City of Ryde has continued to support sustainable transport through its support of Macquarie Park Innovation District (MPID).



HOME WASTE & SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY SERVICE



We modified our program to go online during COVID-19 to enable us to connect with community during the lockdown period. We continued to deliver individual tailored home assessments by phone consultation, assisting households to reduce their waste, energy and water use.



Utilising advice from this program, participants saved on average over **\$560/year** on their electricity bill and over **\$360/year** on their gas bill. We assisted **73 percent** of participants to actively participate in composting and worm farming to manage their organic waste.



We further supported our residents to achieve their energy saving goals with the launch of an energy efficiency video series on our website – www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/SustainableLivingVideos



Council continues to offer free DIY power kits to measure energy efficiency in your home. Kits contain a thermal gun, power meter, thermometer, and stopwatch. We have a total of **nine kits available** for loan from City of Ryde libraries. These have been **borrowed 264 times** since the program began.

SunSPoT

We continue to provide the SunSPoT tool (in partnership with Australian Photovoltaic Institute) to enable residents to ascertain the solar potential of their home and make informed decisions about installing solar on their rooftop.

Over
5,163 Homes in Ryde
now have solar.

Residents with PV solar
systems on average save **\$988**
annually.



Fossil fuel Divestment



Continued to divest from fossil fuel aligned investments in our Council portfolio currently at:

21.1 percent of our total portfolio as at August 2021.

Sustainable Transport

Electric Vehicles and Charging



Council added an additional two 100 percent electric vehicles (EVs) into its fleet. These join the two EVs introduced in 2020 and support our transition of our fleet and increase of hybrid models.

The charging stations for the Council's EVs are powered by solar energy generated at a Council facility to ensure the energy is renewably sourced.

Two public electric vehicle charging stations have been installed at Top Ryde (Church Street carpark) and Macquarie Park (Giffnock Avenue) and currently offer two hours free charge for users.



Shop Ryder

(free community shuttle bus)



Approximately

30,000

passenger trips in 2021

This number was slightly reduced this year due to COVID-19 restrictions and continues to service our key town centres that currently have limited access to public transportation such as trains and major bus links towards reducing our reliance on single person car usage.

Sustainable Transport Strategy

The City of Ryde's draft Sustainable Transport Strategy (STS) was developed and placed on public exhibition for community comment in 2021. This strategy aims to encourage uptake of active and more sustainable transport choices contributing to lowering our City's emissions from transport and improve air quality, urban mobility, health and wellbeing, while providing community and Council with practical information to achieve more sustainable transport outcomes that will benefit us all. It complements the City's new overarching Integrated Transport Strategy to be finalised in early 2022.





Green Travel Planning – Major Developments



We continued to work with our Development & Assessment teams towards improving major development sustainable transport solutions by assessing applications that reduce the number of single cars, connect to alternative travel modes such as on site car share, bicycle, EV and public transportation modes.

We also partnered with our Northern Sydney Council's group (NSROC) to provide comment on the State Government's plans for transport in new developments to lobby for increasing private electric vehicle charging infrastructure into both new and old apartment buildings. This is to ensure charging access for community will be provided into the future private electric vehicle charging infrastructure.



Bicycle Action Plan and Strategy

The City of Ryde Bicycle Action Plan and Strategy is currently being updated. The Action Plan sets out the infrastructure strategy to progress the 2022 bicycle plan to meet the needs of current and future planned communities living and working in City of Ryde. The City of Ryde Bicycle Strategy 2022 – 2030 is Council's comprehensive plan to enable more people to safely and efficiently use a bike for transport and recreation.



Car Share



Council remains committed to increasing the uptake of car sharing in our City and in late 2020 we **introduced 25 new spaces** to our City to assist connection and mobility for our residents. In 2021 we have continued to work with car share operators towards continuing to expand this program. For more information visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/CarShare

Get the Site Right

The Get the Site Right education and compliance campaign is now in its sixth year. The campaign is a joint initiative between the Councils of the Parramatta River Catchment Group (PRCG), Cooks River Alliance, Georges Riverkeeper, Sydney Coastal Councils Group and Lake Macquarie Council, and the NSW Environment Protection Authority and Dept of Planning, Industry and Environment. Of the **29 sites inspected** in a one-day blitz in the City of Ryde LGA, **three sites were issued with a written warning and an additional 11 sites were issued with prevention notices for non-compliance.**

The program aims at tackling pollution issues from development sites and the adverse impacts of sediment runoff on water quality, marine life, recreational activities, and stormwater infrastructure.

This joint venture proactively works to lift on site development controls towards improving river water health long term and contributes towards the PRCG's aim for making the river swimmable again by 2025.



The “See it, Report it, Stop it.” campaign targeted **10,000 households** across Terrys Creek, Buffalo Creek, and the Parramatta River. A direct mail campaign was run which outlined how to report an incident and this was supported through a website and social media campaign. This program is seeing increased reporting that is assisting Council to monitor and target known problematic areas to stop illegal dumping and improve water quality long term.

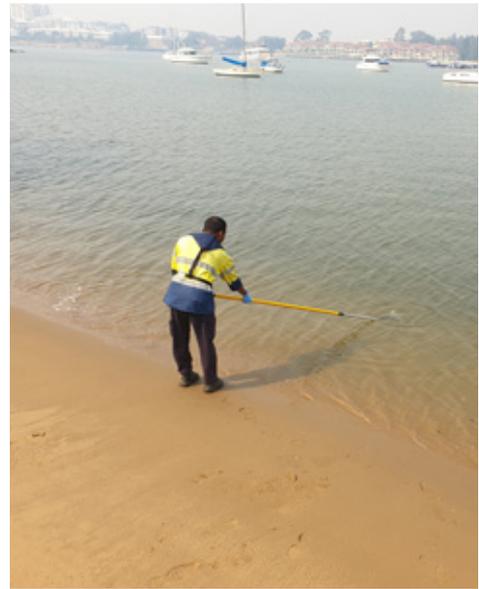


Coastal Management

The City of Ryde participated in the NSW Government's Coastal and Estuary Grants Program and **successfully secured a joint grant of \$274,000**, to address the impact of urban stormwater discharge on Greater Sydney Harbour as part of Stage two for developing a new Coastal Management Plan for the Lane Cove, Parramatta River and Greater Sydney Harbour. The project is **joint contribution of 20 Councils making it the largest grant award of its kind for waterway management** and will help in the development of a Sydney Harbour Coastal Management Program for managing our waterways long term.

Putney Park Beach

City of Ryde has become the first Parramatta River Catchment Group Council to launch a new beach activation site along the Parramatta River foreshore, with new steps at Putney Park now complete. Water testing towards future swimmability commenced in 2020 and monitoring will continue as Council continues at the site. This site delivers one key step under the Parramatta River Masterplan towards improving the liveability of the river and providing a new recreational space for our community.



Water Quality Monitoring



Water quality monitoring continues to monitor the health of our five major creeks: **Terrys, Archers, Buffalo, Shrimptons and Porters**. Reports are published on Council's website and help to inform decisions that impact on our waterways and help to inform where we undertake future works to restore banks, provide flood mitigation and riparian revegetation assisting to improve these biodiversity corridors.

Resilience

Year one of delivering our Resilience Plan



The 10-year plan has been developed to strengthen the community in becoming more resilient to the many challenges that are presented from chronic stresses (for example climate change, transport congestion and social isolation) and acute shocks (for example severe weather events, disease crises and other acute disruptions).

The key response areas of delivery are energy security, water security, resource efficiency, climate change, extreme weather events and natural hazards, biodiversity and natural systems, transport and connection, health and wellbeing, emergency preparedness, response and recovery, governance and leadership. Delivery of biodiversity and natural systems, sustainable transport and climate action of this plan are covered in their own sections of this document.

The five main pillars for resilience in the City of Ryde are:



These respond in nine key areas of:

- Energy security
- Water security
- Resource efficiency
- Climate change, extreme weather events and natural hazards
- Biodiversity and natural systems
- Transport and connecting our community
- Health and wellbeing
- Emergency preparedness, responses and recovery
- Governance with direction, collective leadership and collaboration.

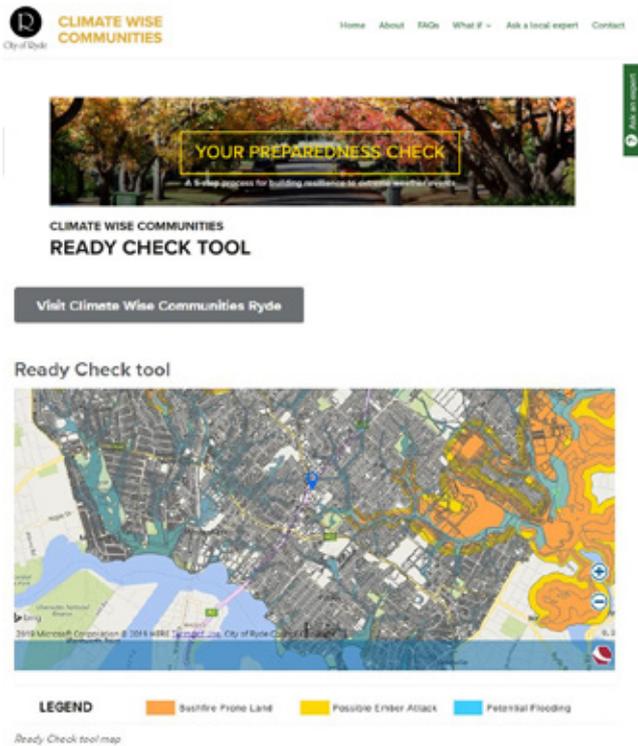


Emergency Preparedness



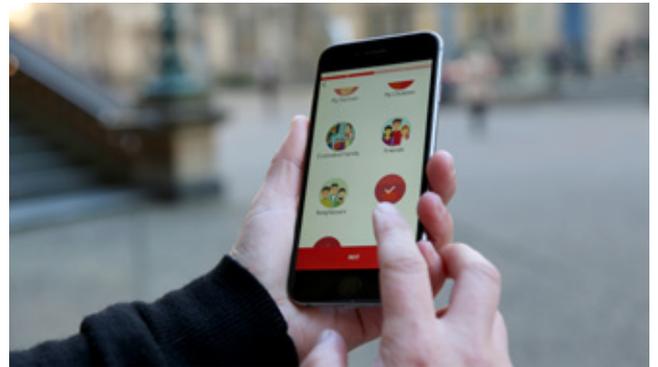
We held two resilience stalls at the Sustainability Festival in June 2021. Attendees engaged with the State Emergency Services (SES) and our Environment team to learn more about emergency preparedness, response and recovery.

Council in collaboration with Australian Red Cross, Lane Cove Council and Willoughby City Council conducted two online emergency preparedness workshops for the community.



Council published education resources to enhance the resilience knowledge of our community. These tools and guidelines on bushfire preparedness, heatwaves, storm readiness can be viewed at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/ResilientRyde

During the emergency ready week, we conducted an online campaign to encourage individuals to download the Australian Red Cross 'Get Prepared' App.



Promotion continued for the 'Climate Wise Communities Ryde' website for emergency management offering a range of online resources and a Ready Check tool to help individuals develop a personalised local emergency plan.

Learn more www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/ClimateWise

Resilience



Monitoring our Carbon Emissions

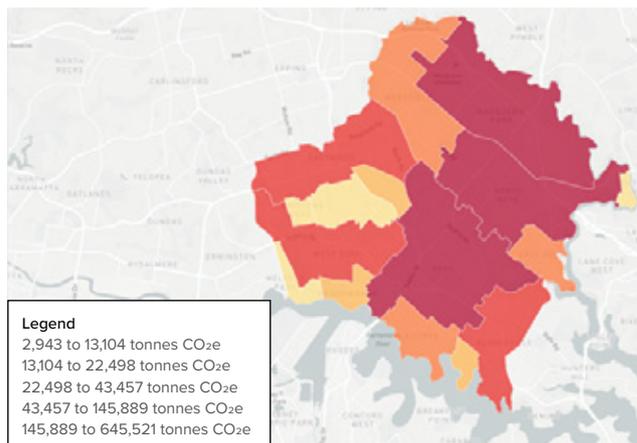
Council continues to participate in the Resilient Sydney 'Sydney Metro Carbon Project' platform measuring and tracking City carbon emissions informing new programs for reducing these across areas of residential, business and industry.

We also continue to monitor our own operational emissions in areas of transport, energy and water and build efficiency programs and projects towards continued reduction in these areas.

We commenced development of a Net Zero Emissions Pathway for City of Ryde Council and Community. We undertook extensive emissions modelling and sought community input regarding potential actions and emission reduction targets to be included in the Pathway.

Results from community consultation showed that over 92% of respondents agreed that Council should set a long-term emissions target for both community

and Council. An initial report was provided to Council in late 2021 requesting information towards a possible future 2030 target for Council operations and 2040 for community. This is due to be presented to Council again in 2022.



Risk Management



Ryde partners with Sydney Water to report high rainfall wet weather overflow incidences for infrastructure attention and upgrading as needed. This reduces the negative impact of overflows in high rainfall events impacting our waterways and human health.

For our own assets we continue our condition assessments for stormwater infrastructure, bridges, seawalls and coastal assets, to ascertain if they are 'fit' for flood events. In 2021 Council launched a new Asset Management system that registers, tracks, and ensures we maintain assets across the City to the safest possible standards.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Council reviewed all current services, practises and programs developing new COVID-19 safety plans and risk assessments to minimise possible harm or impact to both community and service delivery.



Governance

Council continues to be an active Ambassador Council of the 33 Council partnership, Resilient Sydney. This involvement works to address metropolitan scale shock and stress issues. In 2021, the program focus for the group addressed impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on **businesses, vulnerable community and mental health, urban heat island, address built environment planning concerns and carbon emissions.**



We partnered with Northern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (NSROC) to lobby Minister for Planning and Public spaces to advocate for a higher environmental standards and improving current planning controls to support electric vehicle charging infrastructure for new buildings. The uplift of built environment standards will not only ensure residents can live in thermally

comfortable home but will reduce long term energy and water costs as well as contribute to reducing the 40% of carbon emissions generated by this industry and improve individual health as our climate changes. Higher Building Sustainability Index (BASIX) standards were also advocated through the Parramatta River Catchment Group (PRCG).



Health and Wellbeing



Council's Community Services team continues to deliver implementing the community Social Plan.

Towards improving our resilience to the threat of cyber risk, Council has transitioned our information systems to remote and cloud services.

The Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2022 – 2026 is currently being updated. We invited the community to have their say in the first stage of consultation. City of Ryde Reconciliation Action Plan 2020 – 2022 is in its second year of implementation.

Programs



Apartment Living

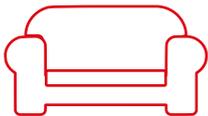
City of Ryde has a growing number of apartment complexes. These properties house thousands of residents, with many new to our LGA. To assist and guide all our residents, Council provided education resources and programmes to reduce the incidence of recycling contamination and illegal dumping.

The Waste Project Team worked with property managers from 80 high-density apartment complexes and provided bin room signage and bin stickers. Over 3,000 households were provided with educational materials including guides, magnets and videos.

On-site meetings were held at over 35 apartment buildings (containing 700 households) to discuss waste issues with more than 2,200 waste educational items provided.



Recycling bin audits were carried out at 214 apartments to provide residents with feedback on their recycling. Reusable bags and tubs were also provided to help residents sort their recycling correctly, with a focus on reducing plastic bag contamination.



Monthly bulky household waste collection services and clothing bin collections were trialled at several large apartment complexes to improve safety and curb illegal dumping.



A behavioural survey was also conducted to help develop a strategic Illegal Dumping Plan. Nearly 80 properties were identified as illegal dumping hotspots and managing agents of these sites were asked to complete the survey and provide feedback, with a view to establish a better understanding of Council waste services and resource recovery options.



Don't Let Your Recycling go to Waste

This project has been designed to provide all residents across the Ryde LGA with everyday visual reminders of best practice recycling, to encourage behaviour change and substantially increase direct awareness of recycling bin compliance.

Stage one of the project saw over 6,600 recycling bins at apartment complexes stickered with recycling information.



This stickering work, in conjunction with a bi-annual recycling education implementation and monitoring project (run over four recycling cycles), achieved a 54 percent reduction in the number of apartment complexes presenting contaminated bins.



Stage two of the project will be rolled out early 2022, to residents living in single unit dwellings.



Our Common Ground



The Waste Project team ran a food waste reduction project for apartment complexes which involved the establishment of shared food garden beds, provision of compost bins and worm farms, and ongoing education.

35 apartment complexes applied for the project and four successful applicants were selected with a **total of 382 households engaged**.

The four participating apartment complexes each received an introductory workshop, onsite visit to set up their shared food garden beds, follow up educational sessions to set up their composting systems and maintain their food garden beds, and ongoing support from an expert horticulturalist.

The participants all met together at a local community garden at the end of the project to share their experiences and celebrate their successes which added to the sense of community shared by the residents.



Waste Wise Ryde – Towards Zero Waste

The Waste Project team recruited **50 City of Ryde households** to take part in a three-month trial encompassing waste reduction, reuse and recycling activities aimed at helping our residents on their journey towards a zero-waste life.

Participants were provided with resources to help reduce their waste including an action toolkit with helpful information, composting equipment and reusable item packs, and were asked to audit their waste using the provided recording booklet to see the impact of these behaviour change activities.

All 50 households were able to reduce their waste by at least 50 percent and became community champions by encouraging their family and friends to follow suit.



Programs

Waste and Recycling App

The Waste Project team partnered with app provider RecycleSmart to provide a **Waste and Recycling app** for residents with a bin collection day and event calendar, 'Recyclopeda' containing a list of items accepted in our bins and collection services, and the ability to report issues such as dumped rubbish or damaged bins to Council. **Over 600 City of Ryde residents have downloaded the RecycleSmart app to date.**



Problem Waste Station – ELS Hall Park YMCA Sports hall

Council is making recycling of tricky items more accessible by providing residents of Ryde with more opportunities to take their unwanted items such as household batteries, fluoro light globes, mobile phones and accessories, ink cartridges and smoke detectors, to a small problem waste station to drop-off for free.

Council already have nine existing problem waste stations in the LGA with an additional location added in 2021 bringing the **total stations to 10.**

A total of 4,131 kg of small household problem waste items were collected through the drop-off stations and taken to the Northern Sydney Community Recycling Centre (CRC) at 8 Waltham Street, Artarmon to be recycled in 2020-21.

For more information visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/ProblemWaste



Problem waste items collected from stations

Kilograms / diversion from landfill

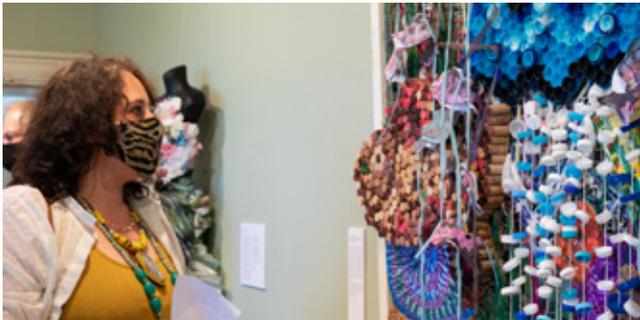
Items	Kilograms
Batteries	2,726
Mobiles and accessories	475
Ink cartridges	379
Light globes	536
Smoke detectors	10
Other	5
Total	4,131

4,131 kg
Small household problem waste items were collected through the drop-off stations



193
Entries

63
Artworks exhibited



SWAP is a chance to express creativity through repurposing rubbish and recovered materials. At a time when reducing waste is more important than ever, SWAP presents a fun opportunity to explore the artistic potential of items that would normally be thrown away, and improve awareness of environmental issues.

193 artworks and design objects made from upcycled waste materials were submitted for the 2021 SWAP environmental art competition.

63 artworks were showcased at the exhibition at Brush Farm House and online via a video and virtual tour.

\$5,000 in prize money was shared amongst the winners from six categories.



Junk House
by Henrietta Robinson



Fossil Faces
by Felix Watson



Diatoms
by Tracie Axton



Are you gonna throw that out...?
by Ben Gibson

Sustainable Nappy Program Trial



43 households with babies took part in a 2-month program to trial different styles of reusable nappies in an effort to reduce waste from landfill.

Participants were provided with a reusable nappy pack, educational guide, workshops, and ongoing correspondence from local reusable nappy company owner Laura from One Little Sprout.

All 43 households were able to reduce their disposable nappy waste, save money, and meet like-minded members of the community.

Environmental Education

Sustainability Festival

To celebrate World Environment Day, the Waste and Environment teams held a free family-friendly community behaviour change event at Wilga Park, Macquarie Park on Sunday 6 June 2021.

A number of stalls and activities were provided including:



20 information stalls run by Council staff, local community groups, and local businesses covering topics including waste and recycling education, weed identification, reusable nappies and bike checks.



16 interactive activities including Sustainable Waste 2 Art Prize workshops, Green Cleaning and Natural Skincare demonstrations, and hands-on games.



All food stalls using reusable plates, cutlery and coffee cups provided by Ruzi.



Approximately 750 participants attended, most of whom were young local families.

The festival was successful in engaging with the local community whilst providing a fun social activity and helped to raise awareness of waste and environmental issues impacting the local area.



Ryde Environmental Education Network (REEN)

REEN provides educators with **tools, resources, and support to incorporate sustainability into the curriculum**. The network meets once a term and is free to attend. This year, 180 members of REEN had the opportunity to engage with programs and presentations from Sustainable Waste 2 Art Prize, The Habitat Community Garden and Nursery, Ocean Action Pod, UNSW Climate Change Research Centre, Field of Mars, Sustainable schools NSW Teacher of the year, Cool Australia, Sydney Water and CSIRO. This year we continued REEN both online and face-to-face with an accompanying e-newsletter created to ensure educators in the network were kept up to date with REEN.



Smarter, Cleaner, Greener Newsletter

Our sustainability e-newsletter, 'Smarter, Cleaner, Greener' – now in its fifth year – delivers to over 3,300 residents each month the latest sustainability, waste and environmental news and topics, green living tips and free Council-run events from our sustainability, bushcare, waste and active recreation teams.



To sign up visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/SCGNews

Educational Resources for Residents

The Waste Project team provided our residents with over 5,000 educational resources including translated guides, signage, posters, magnets, and stickers to help them reduce, reuse, recycle and correctly dispose of their waste.

The annual Waste Collection calendar containing information about Council's bin collection days, services, and events was delivered to all 54,704 households.

Reusable items including shopping bags, water bottles and coffee cups were also provided at events to encourage our community say no to single-use plastic.



Workshops

A mix of **20 online and face-to-face workshops** were provided to the community with **461 attendees**. Topics included Composting, Worm Farming, Food Waste Reduction, Plastic-free Living, Green Cleaning, and Decluttering. An additional **four SWAP workshops**, **20 Train the Trainer** early learning centre workshops and **70 Keep Australia Beautiful school workshops** were provided.



Household Chemical CleanOut Drop Off

Annual Household Chemical CleanOut drop off days are provided to help residents safely dispose of hazardous items such as chemicals, paint and oil which can not be put in kerbside bins or clean-up collection services.

898 people attended this year's event and disposed of **27,273 kg** of household chemicals.



Clean Up Australia Day



This year's Clean Up Australia Day activities in the City of Ryde attracted **34 participating groups**. During February and March, these groups collected a total of **940 kg of litter** from our local streets, parks and reserves, waterways and foreshores.

7	5	6	18
Business Groups	Schools	Youth organisations	Community Groups

940 kg
of litter collected

Waste and Recycling



Chipping and Mulching Service

1,005
Bookings



Clothing Bins

48,417 kg

of unwanted clothing diverted from landfill via the clothing bins collection.



Composting and Worm Farming

Number of items sold

76 | **64**
Compost bins | Worm farms



Household Recycling



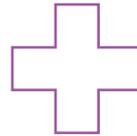
8,197

Tonnes of recycling from



54,544

Households



Medical Waste Service

14

Participating pharmacies



Community Recycling Centre

3,713

Ryde residents visited CRC Artarmon

30,806 kg

Estimated tonnages (combined materials) by Ryde residents

Household Garden Organics



10,493

Tonnes of garden organics from



48,401

Households



Second Hand Garage Sales

38

Bookings



The Bower Collection and Rehoming Service

65

Collections

3,934 kg

Diverted from landfill

TV and Computer Collection Service



957

Bookings

1,900

Total items

34,881 kg

Total weight

Items	Total	
	No. items	Kilograms
Monitors	343	8,575
Hard drives	100	2,306
Keyboards	60	30
Televisions	578	22,520
Stereos	16	320
Other	803	1,130

Natural Areas



Protecting our Bushland

Ryde Biodiversity Plan works included:

The preparation of a Saltmarsh Management Plan to guide the management of this very special endangered ecological community along the Parramatta River foreshore and at Field of Mars Reserve.

A walking trail audit carried out in 21 of our bushland reserves for inclusion in Council's Asset Management System. The audit will help prioritise walking trail improvements and promote their use so people can enjoy experiencing our bushland areas.

Protection of bushland at Stewart Park, Waterloo Park and Lucknow Park with the installation of new fencing



and bollards. The work at Stewart park will help to regenerate a further 280m² of endangered ecological community.

Support of local research projects. City of Ryde partnered with Macquarie University for a study into the effectiveness of our Wildlife Protection Areas, with monitoring of compliance and a community survey.

Corridor planting along Shrimptons Creek at ELS Hall Park is helping to strengthen this important wildlife corridor.

Feral Animal Control, targeting foxes in significant bushland areas and rabbits at Ryde Park, Yamble Reserve, Dunbar Park and Pembroke Park.



Tree Give-away

A free native tree give-away proved to be popular at The Habitat Community Nursery in May. The 457 native trees supplied to local residents will provide many benefits to the City, such as providing more shade, cleaner air, attracting native wildlife, providing habitat and cooling our City.

The giveaway also contributes to Council's tree canopy target of 40% by 2030.

457 Native trees supplied to local residents





Tree Canopy Mapping

Artificial intelligence and machine learning has helped to accurately map the tree canopy coverage across the City of Ryde using aerial imagery. This new technology has enabled a benchmark to be set, allowing for changes in canopy coverage to be measured over time. As we work **towards our target of 40 percent canopy coverage**, this data will be invaluable, providing a way to measure the success of Council's tree planting projects as well as protection of trees across the City. Trees in home gardens contribute to the overall canopy cover so residents that protect, maintain and plant trees in their gardens can contribute to the target while enjoying the benefits that trees provide in terms of cooling, cleaner air, enhancement of liveability as well as visual appeal.



This project was a first of its kind for a local Council to undertake and has seen much interest by the State Government for increasing greening of our City.

The habitat community garden

2,617

Visitors in 2021

180

Volunteers

4,553

Volunteered hours



Produced

12,293 plants

including natives and food plants

Distributed

6,512 plants

including a proportion at no cost to schools and Bushcare groups

Natural Areas



Working with the community to tackle priority weeds



City of Ryde was successful for year two of the Weeds Action Program (WAP) grant. With another year for the WAP, City of Ryde continued to fulfil responsibilities under the *Biosecurity Act*, carrying out priority weeds inspections and raising awareness under the Weeds Action Program.

Grant funding will allow the program to be delivered until June 2022 and will continue to focus on educating the broader community on priority weeds, preventing the sale of weeds listed as prohibited matter in the Biosecurity Regulation 2017, working with property owners that back onto significant bushland and inspecting high risk sites for new weed incursions.



Education has been a key focus of the program, with the development of flyers, social media and newsletter items and the production of 'Weed Watch Ryde' videos for the community. This has been coupled with weed awareness stalls at events and community workshops.



Private property inspections conducted



Businesses inspected



High risk sites inspections



Volunteer Bushcare Program



Significant disruptions to the Bushcare Program due to COVID-19 restrictions did not dampen the enthusiasm of our Bushcare Volunteers. Working across **18 sites** the volunteers worked at regenerating our bushland, helping to transform areas.

A recent survey of Bushcare volunteers indicated that the top two reasons for participation in the program included: to help improve bushland in the local area and to stay active and involved in the community. With a 78 percent satisfaction rating the program will focus attention in the coming year on further promotion of the Bushcare sites, training opportunities for volunteers and in reviewing of current sites management.

Respondents indicated that the top two aspects of volunteering they enjoyed most were seeing the sites improve over time and giving back to the environment.

Special thanks to these tireless volunteers, working together to improve the local environment.



Community Partnership Activities



Volunteers from Tzu Chi, the Rotary Club of Ryde, EnviroPacific and St Joseph's College lent a hand with bushland regeneration projects at Waterloo Park, Olympic Park, McCauley Park and Martin Reserve. Their assistance with planting projects and works is much appreciated and has helped to restore our bushland areas.



Protecting our Assets

Council continues to maintain Asset Protection Zones (APZ) in accordance with the Hunters Hill, Lane Cove, Parramatta, Ryde Bush Fire Risk Management Plan. Asset Protection Zones are fuel-reduced areas surrounding a built asset or structure which provides a buffer zone. Commonly seen as mown strips on the perimeter of bushland areas but can also be areas where the vegetation has been thinned. The size of an APZ can vary, depending on the slope, the type of vegetation present and the Forest Fire Danger Index.



1

New filtered water station installed at Fontenoy Park



Over
1,200

street trees were planted



130

People attended guided walk program including bushland, historical and NAIDOC week walks

Plans of Management

- Plans of Management adopted by Council ELS Hall Park Plan of Management and Generic Plan of Management – Natural Areas.
- Draft Plan of Management for Field of Mars Reserve had been developed and put forward for community consultation.

Masterplans

- New Park Masterplans were adopted for Field of Mars Reserve, Magdala Park and Olympic Park.
- Draft Masterplans Green Links and Anzac Park have been developed and put forward for community consultation.

Land Management

- Land re-categorisations were adopted by Council for Gannan Park and ELS Hall.



Spring Garden Competition 2021

This year's completion saw **162 participants** across the nine categories including the popular Children's Seed Growing Competition.



Park Plans / Strategies:



Kissing Point Park summer avifauna study report

The Kissing Point Park summer avifauna study report with InSight Ecology as a major input into the proposed new off-leash trial areas completed in January 2021. The purpose of the study was to assess and mitigate the potential impact of the proposed dog off-leash trial on shorebirds and other aquatic birds and their habitat at Kissing Point Park.



Youth Infrastructure Plan

Adopted in April 2021.

The purpose of the study was to assess the need for, and community demand for additional youth recreation spaces and facilities in the City and identify the design principles, scale, preferred components and most appropriate locations for the needed facilities.



City of Ryde Inclusive Recreation Strategy

Draft completed in August 2021.

The purpose of the Strategy was to build a better understanding of Council's potential to build more inclusive sport and recreation in the City – both through its own programs and through influencing groups that use Council facilities and influence more generally – and to provide a roadmap for improving sport and recreation access for all (including 'low participation' groups) via the equitable distribution of open space and recreation facilities, universal design and inclusive programming.



City of Ryde Open Space Future Provision Strategy

Adopted in May 2021.

The purpose of the study was to identify the demand for open space and recreation facilities in the City to 2041, the scale and location of gaps in the current network, and priorities for addressing these gaps. The study report provides important context for both the design of sport and recreation facilities (including masterplans), as well as facility specific (e.g. sports field, courts, off-leash area) management strategies.



Tree Management Plan and Street Tree Masterplan

The purpose of the project is to update review the adopted Tree Management Plan (TMP) and update to bring it in line with best practice and the LSPPS. The Street Tree Masterplan (STMP) will be reviewed and updated as an implementation plan of the TMP. It will include incorporate the LSPPS tree canopy target (i.e. 40 percent tree canopy by 2030).



City of Ryde Parks Water Use Study

Draft completed in September 2021.

The purpose of the Strategy was to establish a sustainable water management framework, including improvements to water use efficiencies (i.e. less waste) and diversification of water supply (to ensure continuity of supply from alternate and affordable non-potable water sources during mains water use restrictions).



Be Waste Smart

 City of Ryde

www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/SCGAchievements