

City of Ryde
Help protect our
community, bushlands
and waterways

Have you
seen these
priority
weeds?



Be Waste Smart

Achievements 2021-2022

- Sustainability
- Waste
- Natural Areas
- Parks

Looking for a new activity in 2023?



**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 2021/2022, our teams here at Ryde delivered some amazing achievements for the City.

A key focus for the Environment Department this year was on finalising and adopting our Net Zero (Carbon) Emissions Plan for the City. The Plan ensures we do all we can as responsible leaders to limit emissions across the City. Community engagement assisted in the framework and action development which will guide delivery towards Net Zero. The Plan is set for adoption in 2022/2023.

It was a big year outside of this, seeing our Sustainable Transport Strategy 2032 adopted and launched in 2022. This strategy aims to educate the community on reducing single car passenger trips, improving the health and wellbeing of our community and places through more sustainable options for moving through our City. With this, we also installed a further two new electric vehicle public charging stations at the new Rowe Street East car park in Eastwood, adding to other public charging stations we own and operate.

In 2021, COVID-19 restrictions saw our community programs modified, moving to connect with community via online platforms. This provided an opportunity for many to join our programs and saw the successful delivery of a series of home sustainability webinars and other workshops during the lockdown period. Our annual Sustainability Festival held in June 2022 and was the best one yet, the community enjoyed learning about environmental sustainability.

We also continued our work to deliver on the response areas of the Ryde Resilience Plan. Given the recent years events of bushfires and flooding, we focused on strengthening individual preparedness and emergency response. For the delivery of our Natural Areas and Ryde Biodiversity Plan, the relaxation of COVID-19 restrictions in 2022 meant that we were able to recommence face-to-face community programs for Bushcare, biosecurity and biodiversity programs. These included community planting days and tree giveaways, education workshops and partnership projects for tree canopy, wildlife monitoring and management plans contributing to Council's tree canopy target of 40 percent by 2030.

The Waste department continued to focus on service excellence for our community and achieving better waste practices. We conducted an extensive research trial to investigate opportunities to provide organics recycling and maximise resource recovery in households. Council also secured two large scale grants to tackle litter hotspots and develop our litter strategy. To address the targets outlined in the Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy 2041, Council is actively assessing existing programs and potential for future service improvements in waste management.

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 held, encouraging residents to get close to nature in their 'own patch'.

It was an extremely busy year for all with some very successful outcomes for our City, thanks for being apart of the journey and for all your support.

Regards,

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

Resilience

Building Resilience for our City

The Environment team continued to deliver on the key response areas presented in the Ryde Resilience Plan 2030. The Plan aims to strengthen the community's resilience in responding to challenges ranging from chronic stresses, such as climate change, transport congestion, and air pollution, to acute shocks, such as severe weather events and disease crises.



The Key Resilience Response Areas



Energy security



Climate change, extreme weather events and natural hazards



Health and wellbeing



Water security



Biodiversity and natural systems



Emergency preparedness response and recovery



Resource efficiency



Transport and connecting our community



Governance with direction, collective leadership and collaboration



Health and Wellbeing

To support the City's resilience through Health and Wellbeing, Council developed the new Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP), endorsed in May 2022. Health and Wellbeing actions in the Resilience Plan includes improvement of connectivity and enhancement of mental and physical wellbeing within the community to better respond to major shocks, and acute chronic stresses.

To foster community connections, Council held numerous events throughout the year, including Neighbour Day, Clean Up Australia Day, National Tree Day and World Clean Up Day. We also provided a suite of educational materials in multiple languages during workshops and events, including 'Connecting the Disaster Dots' videos and 'How to prepare for emergencies' flyers, in association with Willoughby and Lane Cove Councils.



Governance with Direction, Collective Leadership and Collaboration

City of Ryde continued to be an active Ambassador Council of the 33 Council partnership to support the implementation of the Resilient Sydney strategy. This involvement encourages a connected, inclusive, and resilient City to better manage community risks in Sydney and NSW.

The Environment team worked with a number of teams across Council to embed resilience planning in policy development and day-to-day activities. Council continues to monitor and report against the implementation of our Ryde Resilience Plan and include feedback in planning and decision-making.



Emergency Preparedness, Responses and Recovery



We ran a series of workshops and provided educational materials at our Sustainability Festival in June 2022. The attendees engaged with the State Emergency Services (SES) and our Environment team members to learn more about emergency preparedness, response, and recovery.

To improve preparation for major shocks, City of Ryde, in collaboration with Lane Cove and Willoughby Councils, conducted two online emergency preparedness workshops for the community, particularly for vulnerable residents, such as culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) groups.

City of Ryde, in conjunction with the SES and Australian Red Cross, delivered five sessions with 177 participants on flood preparedness, including preparing an emergency kit and emergency plan. These workshops were held in line with '10,000 Resilience-Ready Residents by 2025' target and will continue to be rolled out across the City.

Climate Action

Resilience and Climate Change, Extreme Weather Events and Natural Hazards



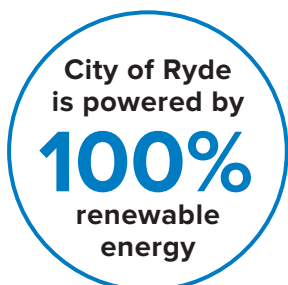
We continued to maintain Asset Protection Zones and monitor fire risk under the Hunters Hill, Lane Cove, Parramatta, Ryde Bush Fire Risk Management Plan.

Our residents continued to take advantage of the free Climate Wise Communities 'Ready Check' tool to help them prepare their homes for floods, bushfires, storms, and heatwaves.

Ryde Aiming High for Zero Emissions



Renewable Energy Target



On 1 July 2022 the City of Ryde became 100 percent powered by renewable energy for its operations. This achievement is **8 years earlier than the 2030 target**.

City of Ryde along with 24 other councils across NSW, entered into one of the largest renewable energy contracts ever brokered for local government. Sourcing energy from three solar farms across NSW delivering **more than 214 gigawatt hours of energy per year** to City of Ryde and the other participating councils across more than 300 council facilities, 210,000 streetlights and over 3,000 individual sites.



Fossil Fuel Divestment

Divestment from fossil fuel aligned companies in Council's investment portfolio continues and is currently at 32.4 percent as of 30 June 2022.



Reducing Community Emissions



City of Ryde has replaced more than 99 percent of its residential streetlighting globes with more energy-efficient LED globes by participating in the Ausgrid Residential Streetlighting Retrofit program. This program has resulted in average energy savings of 16 percent in 2021/2022 compared to 2017/2018 before the program.

Other key initiatives to reduce emissions included solar PV

installation on Council buildings and improving streetlighting for residential roads.

A 7.8 kW solar PV was installed at Trafalgar Community Centre in 2022 and another added at Meadowbank Park to support the amenities building.



Energy Use

We reduced our **overall annual energy consumption** for 2021/2022 by 14.07 percent compared to the baseline usage in 2003/04.



Home assessments continued as we adapted to a 'digital' delivery model to offer online education and audits during the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. Those who participated **saved on average \$920 per year** on their electricity, gas and water bills.



City of Ryde has once again partnered with SunSPot to help residents make informed decisions regarding solar installations and provide community services to reduce household energy and water consumption. This partnership led to 684 solar installations with 7035 kW capacity in the 2021/2022 financial year.

684 Solar installations in the 2021/2022 financial year

Solar installations in Ryde LGA since 2001

Total installations	5,669
Residential installations	5,052
Commercial installations	611
Power stations	6
Annual CO ₂ offset (all installations)	31,100 tonnes



Community Education and Workshops

A series of seven entertaining short videos were developed to provide home energy saving tips. Topics included: **solar power, standby power, house batteries, understanding your energy bill, heating and cooling, hot water, and insulation and sealing.**

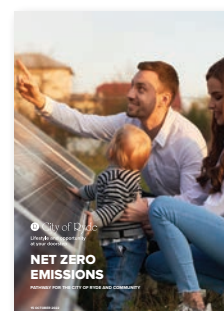
The 'Your Home' workshop series on 'Energy Efficiency' and 'Solar and Batteries' attracted 106 residents to the online workshop. The webinar on 'Solar for Apartment Buildings' was viewed by 805 people.

Resilience and Energy Security

Net Zero Emissions Plan

To address the climate emergency, City of Ryde developed a draft Net Zero Emissions Pathway. Incorporating feedback received in community consultation in 2020, the Plan includes **118 actions to reduce emissions and climate change impacts and plan for a sustainable future.** This plan outlines a strategy for achieving Net Zero emissions for both Council's operations by 2035 and the community by 2040.

To support electric vehicle charging infrastructure for new buildings, City of Ryde partnered with the Northern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (NSROC) to submit a letter to the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces to advocate for higher environmental standards and improvements to current planning controls.



Sustainable Transport



Resilience Transport and Connecting our Community

City of Ryde's first ever **Sustainable Transport Strategy 2022-2032** was **adopted** in 2022. This strategy aims to reduce 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.

The Sustainable Transport Strategy compliments the Council's Integrated Transport Strategy 2041 also adopted in 2022. This strategy focuses on maximising the efficiency of people movement around the City of Ryde through the integration of transport systems into the built environment.



Fleet Vehicles

In alignment with our City's goal of achieving Net Zero Emissions, we commenced a review of councils fleet vehicles. The review assessed the current demand and increased both hybrid and electric vehicle options.

We continued to grow our share of hybrid and EV options to a total of 21 in Council's fleet by 2022.



Shop Ryder Passenger Trips



Approximately
17,259
passenger trips in 2022

The Shop Ryder services our key town centres that have limited access to trains and major bus links helping our community reduce our reliance on single person car usage. Numbers were reduced this year due to lowered capacity limits in response to the COVID-19 restrictions.



Electric Vehicle Charging Stations



2

Electric vehicle charging stations installed

Two new public electric vehicle charging stations were installed at the new Rowe Street Carpark in Eastwood. There are now four electric vehicle charging stations in three locations of Council owned and operated charging stations (Macquarie Park, Top Ryde and Eastwood) contributing to the 21 other publicly accessible stations in the City.



Bicycle Action Strategy

The **Bicycle Action Strategy**, was adopted by council in July 2021. This comprehensive plan will enable more people to safely and efficiently use a bike for transport and recreation, supporting our City's growth, improve the quality of our environment, and the health and well-being of our community.



3

Bicycle repair workshops held at the 2022 Sustainability Festival



Water

As we work towards this target, the City of Ryde continues to monitor and plan for the protection of our waterways through various programs and infrastructure projects.

The City of Ryde in conjunction with the Parramatta River Catchment Group (Our Living River) is working towards the target of making the Parramatta River Swimmable by 2025.

Water Quality Monitoring



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

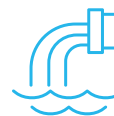
Findings from this year's report are indicative of urbanised catchments and impacts from neighbouring properties and development and has seen peak waste water event overflows during the La Niña wet weather period. This is not expected to be detrimental to aquatic species long term and is monitored through a dedicated program by Sydney Water and the EPA.

Sydney Water and the Riverwatch program are also partnering with Parramatta River councils to monitor waterway health in the river as we prepare for increasing swimming activity in the near future.



Seawalls, Retaining Walls, and Coastal Assets

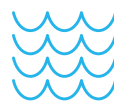
Council has applied for a grant to remediate the existing seawall at Putney Park. If successful the grant will provide added coastal resilience to the aging infrastructure, improve levels for future sea level rise and overall king tide impacts on the adjoining recreational space long term.



Stormwater Infrastructure



Targeted projects to provide essential drainage upgrade works, on the City of Ryde's 4,000-hectare stormwater drainage catchments, are improving existing flooding problems at sites throughout the City. These projects provide significant community benefits by reducing the risk of inundation of private properties located in the upstream catchments.



Coastal Management Grant

City of Ryde continues its 21 council partnership with the Parramatta River Catchment Group and Sydney Coastal Councils group under a grant for the development of a new **Coastal Management Program** for Greater Sydney Harbour. Stage 1 and 2 are almost complete and have focused on impacts on waterway health including pollution, ecosystems and climate change to inform the program.



Parramatta River Catchment Group



We continued to be a leading contributor to the Parramatta River Catchment Group. This period saw numerous initiatives from grant commencement for the Coastal Management Program, Designing with Country indigenous and regional litter grants. Collaboration with Sydney Water for waterway monitoring, swim site monitoring through a new interactive community dashboard and swimming guidelines as well as continuing our community outreach programs for improving waterway health, reducing pollution and impacts. Planning also commenced for a review of the current 'Our Living River Masterplan' by a working group panel consisting of the Executive Team for the PRCG and Sydney Water representatives. The review considers future impacts and the ongoing need for strong governance as we grow in population and under climate change.

Smart Sensor Irrigation Project

In partnership with Sydney Water, Council installed 'Smart' sensors to monitor soil moisture, air temperature and other parameters to inform the required volume of irrigation supply at high use sports fields at Eastwood, Bremner, Magdala, Marsfield and Waterloo parks.



Unfortunately due to the high levels of rain received under the La Niña period, findings from this were not indicative of general conditions to inform a future irrigation program. The monitoring program is likely to be expanded to continue for 2022/2023.

Resilience and Water Security - Harmonisation of Flood Studies

Assets and Infrastructure engaged a consultant to undertake the relevant flood and catchment studies within the City of Ryde, ensuring all four flood and catchment studies within City of Ryde LGA are homogenous and fully updated in relation to current legislation, guidelines and most advanced flood modelling software.

A Flood Study Working Draft has been developed and submitted to Council for review, this will assist with the creation of the Flood Risk Management Study and Plan.

Educating the Community to Protect our Waterways



- The expansion of our previous drain stencilling education works by stencilling the stormwater drains in the Meadowbank area as a reminder for residents that **'The drain is just for rain'**.
- Interactive stalls on stormwater, impacts of flooding and the urban water cycle were hosted as a part of our annual Sustainability Festival in June 2022.
- Through our **Ryde Environmental Educators Network (REEN)** teachers were provided with options for incursions and excursions on stormwater, the urban water cycle and water catchments that align with the NSW curriculum.
- **'Love your Waterways'** community education campaign was run in conjunction with the Parramatta River Catchment group. The campaign encourages people to take up five simple actions to reduce their litter, pet waste, gardening materials, chemicals and other pollutants from entering our waterways, and forms part of the River Aware residential stormwater education program that we actively participate in each year.
- The biannual **'Get the site right'** education and compliance campaign was held in November 2021 and May 2022. A total of 46 inspections were conducted targeting erosion and sediment controls on commercial and residential building sites across the City of Ryde.
- Since beginning the **'See it, Report it, Stop it'** campaign in 2020 we have contacted over 38,000 households in our catchment areas with educational information outlining how to report an incident. This program is helping us work towards improving waterway health awareness.

Community Programs



Resilience and Resource Efficiency

Council's **Reduce Single-use Plastics Policy** was updated in line with the NSW Government's Plastics Ban which prohibits the use of many single use plastics from 1 June 2022.

We continued to implement the **2019-2024 Waste Management Strategy** with a focus on waste diversion through the provision of efficient and innovative services and the delivery of projects and behaviour change programs.

In July 2021, Council joined the Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC) '**Paving the Way**' program to uptake recycled crushed glass into local roads, aiming to create a market for approximately one-third of council domestic glass collections (equivalent to **93 million glass bottles** per year) by replacing natural sand with recycled crushed glass in asphalt, non-structural concrete, and pipe bedding. This initiative leads to sustainable procurement for councils through bulk purchasing and reducing greenhouse gas emissions and quarry depletion.



Apartment Living

Almost half of the residents of the City of Ryde live in apartment complexes. Managing waste in high density housing requires great coordination between residents, building managers and maintenance staff. To assist and guide all our residents, Council provides educational resources and programmes to improve resource recovery, reduce contamination and prevent illegal dumping.

To achieve this the Waste team engaged with property managers over 1,000 times during the year. Staff also held on-site meetings at over 30 apartment buildings and handed out 750 educational resources.



Staff surveyed 48 real estate agents to identify their key priorities for apartment waste management. A dedicated webpage was established for real estate agents and building managers to facilitate better uptake of educational resources and waste services.



Bulk recycling bins were introduced in 20 apartment buildings servicing **2,800 apartments**. This significantly reduced the volume of cardboard boxes in household clean-up collections.



Clothing bin collections were introduced at **13 properties**, diverting **21,600 kg** of textile waste from landfill.



300 bulk waste collections were booked for large apartment complexes to address kerbside dumping and safety issues.

Community Programs



Our Common Ground

The Waste Project and Environment teams collaboratively ran a sustainable apartment living program which established shared food garden beds, provided compost bins and worm farms, and ongoing education.

72 apartment complexes applied for the project and four successful applicants were selected with a total of **466 households engaged**.

The four participating apartment complexes each received an introductory workshop, on-site 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 horticulturist.

Despite extreme rainfall events and COVID-19 restrictions, all participating groups were able to successfully harvest produce. Council also successfully trialled two foodcube wicking beds, which significantly decrease water requirements and are made from recycled soft plastics.



Don't let your Recycling go to Waste



This project was designed to provide all residents with recycling information installed on their bins to encourage best practice recycling behaviour and reduce contamination.

Stage 2 of the recycling bin sticker project was completed in June 2022, with stickers being applied to over 26,000 bins across the Ryde LGA. Audit results showed a 28 percent reduction in the number of recycling bins presented with contamination and 54 percent reduction in the amount of visible contamination in recycling bins.

Problem Waste Stations

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

A total of **2,892 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 2021-2022.

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



Problem waste items collected from stations

Kilograms / diversion from landfill

Items	Kilograms
Batteries	1,988
Mobile phones and accessories	218
Ink cartridges	331
Light globes and bulbs	334
Smoke detectors	18
Other	3.5

2,892 kg

**Small household
problem waste items
were collected through
the drop-off stations**



Waste Wise Ryde

The Waste team recruited 35 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. Participants were asked to audit their waste using the provided recording booklet to see the impact of these behaviour change activities.

All 35 households were able to reduce their waste by at least 50 percent and became community champions by encouraging their family and friends to reduce their waste too.



Community Programs

Community Driven Resource Recovery



To understand the community's perspective and knowledge about the current City of Ryde waste services, the Waste team **conducted a Community Waste and Recycling Survey (via phone and online) with 844 residents**. The survey results were used to develop various behavioural change programs associated with further waste diversion opportunities.

The survey results helped the team develop a tailored Household Waste and Recycling guide outlining Council's waste services translated in three different languages, which is now available on City of Ryde waste resources for your home page www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/wasteresources.

Based on the key knowledge gaps and opportunities found through the survey, Council is developing additional recycling programs that focus on targeted materials including appliances, household batteries, soft plastics, and textiles for 2022 and 2023.



844

Residents surveyed



Sustainable Nappy Program Trial

All 43 households involved in a two-month program to trial different styles of reusable nappies were able to reduce their nappy waste, save money and meet like minded members of the community.

43

Households participated in the sustainable nappy program





193
Entries

63
Artworks
exhibited

11
Workshops

A total of 11 SWAP workshops were held to encourage participants to enter the SWAP Competition. These workshops encouraged creativity and imagination by creating 2D and 3D artworks using reclaimed and recycled materials.

The exhibition, held at Brush Farm House and online via a video and virtual tour, showcased 63 artworks.



Ryde Environmental Education Network (REEN)



REEN provides educators with tools, resources, and support to incorporate sustainability into the curriculum.

140 members of REEN had the opportunity to engage with programs and presentations from CSIRO, Sydney Water, Cool Australia, Keep Australia Beautiful NSW, Oz Harvest, Ryde unit NSW SES, Australian Environmental Education, Sustainable Schools NSW, Young Change Agents, Bushcare, Cleanaway, Good for the Hood, Regenerating Australia, and Climate Clever.

An additional four SWAP workshops, four Train the Trainer early learning centre waste education workshops, 20 Keep Australia Beautiful primary school workshops and an Edible Gardens Project with a secondary school were provided.

Environmental Education



Sustainability Festival



The Sustainability Festival is a community education and engagement event run by the Waste and Environment teams to celebrate World Environment Day.

The Sustainability Festival held on 5 June 2022 was successful in engaging with the local community and raising awareness of waste and environmental issues impacting the local area. 202 attendees completed the feedback survey on the day and reported a **95 percent satisfaction rating**, with 99 percent saying they would return for future events and 97 percent saying they would recommend the event to a friend.

Over 800 participants attended, most of whom were local residents or visitors from surrounding council areas.

25 information stalls promoting waste and recycling, resilience in our community,



sustainable transport, biodiversity, bushcare and preservation of our natural areas, garden care and maintenance, water security, water quality and best practice for keeping stormwater clean, sustainable products and food organics.

Fifteen interactive activities including workshops, talks, demonstrations and hands-on activities were run throughout the day for people of all ages.

Four food stalls were also on hand and were provided with reusable plates, cutlery, drinkware and coffee cups to avoid single-use item waste at the festival.

Over
800
Participants
attended

25
Information
stalls

15
Activities/
workshops

4
Food
stalls



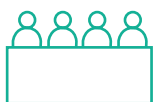
Smarter, Cleaner, Greener Newsletter

Now in its sixth year the 'Smarter, Cleaner, Greener' e-newsletter is your one stop shop to learn about councils sustainability, waste and environmental news, green living tips, and free council run events and workshops.

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

3,300
subscriptions





Workshops

A mix of **18 online and face-to-face workshops** were provided to the community with **402 attendees**. Topics included composting, worm farming, food waste reduction, plastic-free living, green cleaning, and decluttering.



Clean Up Australia Day



This year's Clean Up Australia Day activities in the City of Ryde attracted **38 participating groups**. During February and March, these groups collected a total of **2,010 kg of litter** from our local streets, parks and reserves, waterways and foreshores. This is over double the kilograms collected in 2021, massive thank you to everyone involved.

8 Business groups	10 Schools	2 Youth organisations	18 Community groups
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2,010 kg
of litter collected

Educational Resources for Residents

The Waste Projects team provides residents with resources to help clarify waste management confusion, improve resource recovery and encourage rethinking disposal to landfill. **The team distributed over 5,000 educational resources** including translated guides, signage, posters, magnets, and stickers. Reusable items including shopping bags, water bottles and coffee cups were given out to help our community say no to single-use plastic. Council also distributed the annual Waste Collection calendar to all 55,820 households to provide information about bin collection days, services and events.



Waste and Recycling



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.

667

People attended

21,867 kg

of household chemicals
were disposed of



Chipping and Mulching Service

731

Bookings



Clothing Bins

119 tonnes

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

Household Recycling



8,299

Tonnes of recycling
from



54,366

Households



Composting and Worm Farming

Number of items sold

49

Compost bins

32

Worm farms

Household Garden Organics



11,255

Tonnes of garden
organics from



48,603

Households



Community Recycling Centre

2,584

Ryde residents visited
CRC Artarmon

21,479 kg

Estimated kilograms (combined
materials) by Ryde residents



Medical Waste Service

14

Participating pharmacies



Second Hand Garage Sales

17

Bookings



690

Bookings

1,981

Total items

33,163 kg

Total weight

Items	Total	
	No. items	Kilograms
Monitors	239	5,975
Hard drives	59	1,357
Keyboards	79	39.5
Televisions	623	24,440
Stereos	6	120
Other	975	1,231.1



The Bower Collection and Rehoming Service

28

Collections

716 kg

Diverted from landfill

Natural Areas

Resilience and Biodiversity and Natural Systems



Council continued to increase biodiversity awareness to our community through our Bushcare, education and biodiversity plan programs. This included planting days and tree giveaways and partnership projects including tree canopy and management plans which contributed to Council's tree canopy target of 40 percent by 2030.

Implementation of the Greater Sydney Regional Weeds Management Plan continued through the monitoring of high-risk pathways and significant bushland assets to detect changes in weed growth.

The Habitat – Community Nursery and Garden

1,815

Visitors in 2022

72

Volunteers

3,612

Volunteered hours

Produced

12,013 plants

including natives and food plants

Distributed

9,201 plants

including a proportion at no cost to schools and Bushcare groups





Natural Areas and Biodiversity

To increase protection, enhancement and awareness of natural areas and biodiversity, we continued our program of planting, delineation, fencing and signage in natural areas. Council undertook regular inspections to monitor priority weeds, inspect bush regeneration areas and Bushcare group sites and address issues raised by the local community.

Feral animal control was undertaken in nine parks and reserves and saw a **41 percent decrease in the number of fox sightings reported** to Council. The program has helped to protect native wildlife in our parks and reserves, whilst ensuring the safety of the community and their pets.



Bushcare Program



A major part of Council's efforts to care for and enhance the City's 205 hectares of natural areas, waterways, catchments and ecosystems involves collaborating with volunteers, businesses and community. Members of our community **volunteered 2,538 hours** of their time in 2021/2022, which was an enormous effort during the pandemic, helping to restore and enhance our natural areas.

Bush regeneration works were undertaken in **54 of our parks** and reserves across the City of Ryde, **totalling over 104 hectares**.

Community workshops were held on a variety of topics including priority weeds, saltmarsh and Bushcare.



Members of our community volunteered

2,538 hours

of their time in 2021/2022

54

areas of bush
regeneration

Totalling over

104

hectares

Natural Areas



‘Weed Watch Ryde’ – Working with the Community to Tackle Priority Weeds



This grant funded program focuses on educating and working with businesses and community around weeds classified as ‘priority weeds’ by the Local Land Services (LLS).

Prevention and eradication measures through engagement are proving to be the most successful form of weed management, the ‘Weed Watch Ryde’ brand has produced educational flyers, targets social media platforms, newsletters and informative videos to assist our community.

A dedicated priority weeds education stall at the Sustainability Festival provided an opportunity for our community to proactively seek advice and information to manage weed related issues. Other education activities including capacity building workshops for volunteers and staff, weed displays at Ryde and West Ryde Library, and a tree giveaway event, were held throughout the year.

The program has been expanded to include monitoring of City of Ryde’s bushland and reserve assets. This will further assist Council’s Natural Areas and Operations teams in minimising weed incursion and localised issues requiring action.



Priority weed inspections totalled:

399

High risk site inspections

134.23 km

High risk pathways including identified roadways, rail corridors creeklines and rivers

254

Private property inspections

52

Online marketplace reviews

95 percent

of eradication and control activities were completed



Community Partnership Activities



The Rotary Club of Ryde spread 40m³ of mulch to assist with the preparation for the 2022 National Tree Day activity at ELS Hall Park. They planted a mixture of trees, shrubs, grasses and groundcovers to help strengthen this important wildlife corridor.

Volunteers from St Joseph's College participated in a community partnership activity at Field of Mars Reserve. Weeds such as Lantana and Privet were cleared at the Strangers Creek Bushcare site to allow for natural regeneration of native plants.

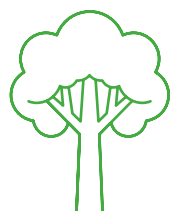


Tree Canopy



Council continues to work towards reaching the NSW Government's **40 percent tree canopy cover target by 2030**, with dedicated street tree planting, community and natural area planting programs.

Growing canopy cover



Upwards of

1,700 trees

and shrubs were planted in the City's bushland areas, parks, streets and private properties.



Tree Giveaway

The 2022 free tree giveaway was a success at Tyrell Park, where local residents were able to choose from a selection of locally native trees to plant in their backyard. We look forward to the annual event next year, with residents collecting more and more trees each giveaway.



Trees play a really important role in our City and provide many benefits, such as providing more shade, contributing to a cooler City, improving air quality, supporting biodiversity outcomes by attracting and providing habitats for native wildlife and improving overall wellbeing.

Natural Areas



Ryde Biodiversity Plan



Works included

- Upgrade of the Kittys Creek Walking Trail, including construction of sandstone steps and native plantings. This project has improved safety and access for the local community and encouraged more park users to explore the bushland area along Kittys Creek.
- Implementation of 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. This included community education, saltmarsh signage, a workshop, and ongoing bush regeneration to help expand the endangered saltmarsh.
- 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. The study highlighted opportunities for further education and promotion of Wildlife Protection Areas in Ryde.
- Protection of bushland included weed control activities and the installation of bollards at McCauley Park to help protect a small patch of remnant bushland. Sandstone boulders were installed at Pellisier Road, Putney to protect the hard work of the Bushcare volunteers regenerating the bushland at the site.
- Biodiversity Education Strategy implementation commenced with the development of a bush-friendly neighbour brochure to educate the community on the importance of our bushland areas and how they can help protect it, create habitat in their backyard, control environmental weeds and protect our waterways. The brochure was distributed to 2,800 residents that live near bushland in the City of Ryde.
- An online Habitat Havens for Native Birds webinar was hosted during National Bird Week to showcase the diversity of native birds found in the City of Ryde. Attendees were able to learn about how they can create a bird habitat in their gardens to help attract our feathered friends.
- Corridor plantings at ELS Hall Park along Shrimptons Creek to improve the habitat corridor. 550 plant species consisting of trees, shrubs and groundcovers were installed to strengthen the vegetation corridor and provide habitat for native wildlife.

Parks



Guided Walks

Over
100

**people attended guided
walk program**

including bushland, historical
and NAIDOC week walks



Masterplans

Council prepared a number of new Park Masterplans. This included for **Field of Mars Reserve** (adopted August 2021), **Magdala Park** (adopted August 2021), **Olympic Park** (adopted November 2021) and **Anzac Park** (adopted May 2022).

Green Links Draft Masterplan developed, and community consulted (pending adoption July 2022).



Plans of Management

Field of Mars Reserve Draft Plan of Management has been developed (pending public exhibition).



Spring Garden Competition 2022

This year's completion saw **251 participants** across the **ten categories** Including the popular Children's Seed Growing Competition.

251
Participants

10
Categories





Be Waste Smart

 City of Ryde

www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/SCGAchievements