



KEEP YOUR BEST MATE SAFE

Our four-legged friends are an important part of our community! But did you know it's a legal requirement that all dogs and cats are microchipped and registered?



Owners are required by law to ensure:

- their animal has identification tags
- their property has adequate fencing
- their pet is effectively controlled when in public
- they update their address details when they move.

While councils are empowered to ensure public safety, it's everyone's responsibility to obey the law and care for their animals. By microchipping, registering and keeping your details updated, you can relax knowing your pet will be returned home in the event it is lost or stolen.

When pet owners do the right thing everyone wins – the animals, their owners and our community. Find out more about responsible pet ownership by visiting midcoast.nsw.gov.au/pets



A strategy for greening our region

Increasing the quality and quantity of vegetation is the aim of a Greening Strategy, which will be prepared for the MidCoast region.

The strategy will look at where vegetation controls will be harmonised across the region and how native vegetation will be protected. Currently there are tree protection controls in parts of Great Lakes, but no controls in place across the rest of the MidCoast Council area.

Community engagement will be a critical part of developing the strategy to ensure we take the views and aspirations of our community into account in the preparation of the strategy.

Cleaning up across the MidCoast



The 2019 Bulky Waste Collection will kick off in Forster on 29 April, so now's the time to start thinking about those bulky, unused items cluttering your garage, garden shed, or inside the house.

Mark your calendar with your region's collection period:

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| GREAT LAKES | 29 April – 14 June |
| MANNING | 24 June – 9 August |
| GLOUCESTER | 19 - 30 August |



Look out for the brochure in your letterbox in the lead-up to the collection in your area. It outlines what items will be collected, and those that won't, and provides strict guidelines on how to place your waste out for collection.

- Help us avoid sending general waste to landfill – if an item is still in working order, think about selling it or giving it to someone else
- This year we're also collecting electronic waste – simply place it in your General Waste pile
- No-one likes a trashy neighbourhood, so do the right thing by preparing your waste for collection according to our guidelines, and only place it out at the specified times.

Items placed out earlier, or rejected items left out after the collection is finished, will be classed as illegal dumping and may attract hefty fines.

Visit midcoast.nsw.gov.au/bulkywaste to find out when the collection will take place in your zone, and for information about what will be accepted.

Re-Imagine Waste is a region-wide initiative aimed at reducing the amount of waste going to landfill.



FOCUS ON THE ROADS THAT CONNECT US

Providing safe driving conditions on our 3,574km road network, and 542 bridges, remains our number one priority.

In this financial year, \$55million is being invested in renewal and rehabilitation works and another \$15million on maintenance works. That's \$777 for every MidCoast resident, compared to as little as \$30 per resident in some Sydney suburbs.

A series of major projects in this year's program have been funded by the NSW Government in association with council, as part of the \$100M Road Upgrade Package, These cover rehabilitation of connector roads in areas such as Bungwahl, Krumbach, Old Bar, Rainbow Flat, Charlotte Bay and Barrington.



A 630m stretch of busy Avalon Road at Krumbach connecting travellers between Gloucester and the Pacific Highway, was targeted for reconstruction. The project which is nearing completion includes widening of lanes and construction of the additional road width, a full reconstruction of the existing road pavement, line-marking, and installation of signage for improved safety.

Visit midcoast.nsw.gov.au/roads to find out more and to search for roadworks near you.



STRONGER COMMUNITIES

Shading our playgrounds

We know shade at our local playgrounds is important to our community, and we are currently working on designs to deliver shade to eight playgrounds across our region.

Over the next six months we will be rolling out structured or natural shade improvements over playground equipment as part of our commitment to improving facilities for our community. Much of this is the result of a \$550,000 funding package received under the NSW Government's Stronger Country Communities Fund late last year.

Parks we are currently designing shade structures for include Lone Pine Tuncurry, Palmgrove Park Forster, Central Park Wingham, Billabong Park Gloucester, Allan Park Stroud, Oxley Reserve Harrington, Coolonglook Reserve and Providence Bay Park, Hawks Nest.



Did you know! We manage 86 playgrounds across our region, with 10 identified as high use/ regional parks.

Office centralisation

For the latest information about centralising our Taree and Forster administrative functions at Biripi Way, visit midcoast.nsw.gov.au/headoffice

Let us know

To report an issue or request a service, complete the form at midcoast.nsw.gov.au/report

Contact us

MidCoast Council Tel 6591 7222

Email council@midcoast.nsw.gov.au

or message us on Facebook [f MidCoastCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/MidCoastCouncil)

Water update

A big thanks to our community for their support during our recent water restrictions. It has been, as we all know, a long hot summer.

As a result we had to implement water restrictions across the region during late summer. Our trigger levels for water restrictions are based on flows in our rivers. While there is enough water flowing there is no need to restrict our community's water use. Restrictions are required when the flow of the rivers drop to a level where we are unable to pump.

Four of our five water supplies are reliant on river flows – the Manning scheme (which provides water to all of the Manning region plus Forster and Tuncurry residents), Bulahdelah, Stroud and Gloucester. The Tea Gardens and Hawks Nest water supply is drawn from an aquifer, however lack of rain also has an impact on underground water levels.

Given the long-term outlook, at some stage we may need to go back into restrictions. We encourage our community to frequently check the [Latest News](#) section on our website for details.



Want to know more? Keep an eye on our website – it is regularly updated so you know what is happening in your council area