

ANNUAL NUTRIENT SURVEY for Local Government Authorities

City of Bayswater

Nutrient Management Score Card 2020

The Swan and Canning River systems, and many wetlands, are suffering from regular, sometimes toxic, algal blooms. These blooms occur due to excessive inputs of nutrients, particularly phosphorus and nitrogen, combined with low water flows. Local authorities are responsible for nutrient use on turf areas, reserves and in local planning decisions and thus have the opportunity to lead the community by setting examples in best practice.

Each year Local Government Authorities (LGA's) in Perth are surveyed on their nutrient practices by the Phosphorus Awareness Project of the South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare (SERCUL). The results from the questions asked in the survey have been used to provide these Score Cards for each LGA that responded and clearly show where and how improvements can be made. LGA's should also refer to the *Annual Nutrient Survey for Local Government Authorities Results 2020* report (www.sercul.org.au/fertilisewise) for further recommendations on how to improve nutrient Best Management Practices (BMP's).

The survey is broken up into different sections including nutrient monitoring, fertiliser applications, nutrient management, nutrient education, water quality monitoring and development control. The results from these sections are shown below, for the last five years, so that the LGA knows exactly how they responded and where improvements can be made. Recommendations on how to improve practices have been made where needed.

Please note that not all of the questions asked in the survey were used to determine the overall best management practice score. We have provided an overall score based on results provided since 2000, those for the last 5 years and those for this year. This will allow LGA's to see how they are doing over the long-term, short-term and at the current time. Any additional information about nutrient practices provided by an LGA is summarised at the end of this scorecard.



Best Management Practice Scores

Overall (2002 - 2020): 80% - Above Average **Last 5 years: 84% - Excelling** **2020: 100% - Excelling**

The City of Bayswater has made definite improvements in adopting Best Management Practices since it completed its first survey in 2002. Every survey has been submitted with the exception of 2019. In 2020 the City has excelled and achieved a score of 100% by adopting all of the scored Best Management Practices. Some changes to fertiliser application practices are recommended.

Key for following tables:

■ Best management practice has been achieved ■ Best management practice has not been achieved ■ No response ■ Not Applicable

Nutrient Monitoring

Question Number	Question	Year				
		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
1	Conducted soil tests					
3	ASPAC analysis					
4	Colwell test used					
5	PRI measured					

Over the last 18 years, the City of Bayswater has excelled in nutrient monitoring. It is recommended that they continue to implement their current practices.

Fertiliser Applications

Question Number	Question	Year				
		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
7(b)	Fertiliser used in foreshore areas					

The City is not using fertiliser on foreshore reserves and parks. It is recommended that they continue to implement their current practices.

Analysis of Question 8 from the 2020 survey indicated that the City is using fertilisers with nitrogen levels at higher than the maximum recommended average application rates of 40 kg/ha in some of their active turf areas and is applying some of these fertilisers in winter when the couch grass would not be growing and fertilisers are easily lost to waterways through runoff and groundwater. It is recommended the City fertilises according to the results of nutrient monitoring, though not in winter and only in summer if nutrient testing indicates that it is required. Soil, leaf analysis and moisture testing of irrigated parks and dry grass areas is recommended if these areas are fertilised.

City of Bayswater

Nutrient Management Score Card 2020 *continued*

Nutrient Management

Question Number	Question	Year				
		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
10(a)	Grass clipping measures					
11	NIMP for streetscapes					
12	Local plants policy					
13(b)	Deciduous tree leaf removal					
14	Dog poo bins					

Over the past five years, the City has achieved an average result in nutrient management. This year the City has adopted all of the Best Management Practices. This is to be commended and these practices should continue.

Deciduous trees are found in the City's area. It is recommended that no further deciduous trees be planted.

Nutrient Education

Question Number	Question	Year				
		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
15(a)	Discourages public waterbird feeding					
16(a)	Provides fertiliser advice to rate payers					

Over the past five years, the City has excelled in nutrient education. It is recommended that the City continues to undertake these practices.

Water Quality Monitoring

Question Number	Question	Year				
		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
17(a)	Monitors wetlands for nutrients					
17(b)	Monitors stormwater drains for nutrients					
17(c)	Monitors comp basins for nutrients					

Over the past five years, the City has excelled in nutrient education. It is recommended that the City continues to undertake these practices.

Development Control

Question Number	Question	Year				
		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
18(a)	NIMP developers conditions imposed					
19	Town Planning env enforcement policies					

Over the past five years the City has excelled in development control. It is recommended that they continue to implement their current practices, including monitoring developments for compliance. If developers are found not to be in compliance they should be prosecuted as new developments are potentially major sources of nutrients to groundwater and waterways.

Additional Information Provided

Completion of the NIMP across multiple departments ensures there will be best practice in water management. Completion of a case study for the Sediment Task Force with input from Environmental Services, Building and Health which helps to reduce nutrients entering the stormwater system. Construction of living streams and wetlands (ESBS, Weld Square, Russell, Jakobson, Peters Place), and rain gardens (Bath St, the RISE, Railway Pde) which help to filter out nutrients out of the stormwater before entering the Swan River. Parks and Gardens officers completed Fertiliser Wise training managed through SERCUL, to train turf managers and officers in fertiliser best management practices. "Clean Drains River Gains" drainage kerb markers installed around the City with the help from school students. School events to teach students about the connection of stormwater and the River and the role of nutrients. Waterwise Bayswater Strategy finalised and provides more detailed guidance on the creation of a Waterwise City. Other techniques used by Parks and Gardens: verti draining, shockwave aeration, retic upgrades, top dressing, hydrozoning, mulch, wetting agents, sand banding.



For further information please contact Natasha Bowden, South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare on 9458 5664 or email natashabowden@sercul.org.au.

The Annual Nutrient Survey for Local Government Authorities Results 2020 Report is available at www.sercul.org.au/fertilisewise