

# ANNUAL NUTRIENT SURVEY for Local Government Authorities

## Shire of Mundaring

### 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 turfed 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](http://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 (2003 - 2020): 50% - Average**    **Last 5 years: Not Applicable**    **2020: 50% - Average**

This is the first year since 2011 that the Shire has opted to participate in the survey and the overall score has been determined from the results of the nine surveys completed since 2003. Further improvements can be made in the areas of nutrient monitoring, nutrient management, water quality monitoring and development control and it is recommended that the Shire continues to participate in future surveys.

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					

The Shire of Mundaring does not have a nutrient monitoring program. It is recommended that they implement one to ensure they are applying fertiliser according to the nutrients required.

### Fertiliser Applications

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

The Shire is not using fertiliser on foreshore reserves and parks. It is recommended that this practice continue.

Analysis of Question 8 from the 2020 survey indicated that the Shire is applying the same organic fertiliser to its active and passive turf areas, with an additional amount of complete inorganic fertiliser being applied to active turf. It is recommended the Shire implements a nutrient monitoring program and fertilises according to these results.

# Shire of Mundaring

## 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					

Overall, the Shire has scored average in nutrient management, however this year it performed at a below average level. It is recommended that the Shire implements measures to prevent grass clippings and leaves entering stormwater drains and waterways and a Nutrient and Irrigation Management Plan (NIMP) for their streetscapes.

Deciduous trees are found in the Shire's area. It is recommended that no further deciduous trees be planted and that measures be implemented to prevent leaves from entering stormwater drains, such as street sweeping.

### 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					

Overall, the Shire has performed unsatisfactorily in nutrient education, however this year has excelled. It is recommended that the Shire continue to implement it's current 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					

Overall, the Shire is scoring below average in the area of water quality monitoring. It is recommended that they implement a water quality monitoring program for their stormwater drains and compensation basins and report their results to the local community.

### Development Control

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

Overall, the Shire has achieved an average result in the development control area. It is recommended that they implement a Nutrient and Irrigation Management Program, 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.

