

ANNUAL NUTRIENT SURVEY for Local Government Authorities

20 21 City of Bayswater Nutrient Management Score Card



The Swan and Canning River systems, and many wetlands, are suffering from regular, and sometimes toxic, algal blooms. These blooms occur due to excessive inputs of nutrients, particularly phosphorus and nitrogen, combined with low water flows and warm temperatures. Local authorities are responsible for nutrient use and management on turfed areas and in reserves, in drainage systems 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 (LGAs) in Perth are surveyed on their nutrient practices by the Phosphorus Awareness Project of the South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare (SERCUL). 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 the questions asked in the survey have been used to provide a Score Card for each LGA that responded and clearly show how the LGA is performing and where and how improvements can be made. LGAs should also refer to the Annual Nutrient Survey for Local Government Authorities Results 2021 report (www.sercul.org.au/fertilisewise) for further recommendations on how to implement nutrient Best Management Practices (BMPs).

Please note that not all of the questions asked in the survey were used to determine the overall best management practice score. Any additional information about nutrient practices provided by an LGA is summarised at the end of this scorecard.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE SCORE 2021

100%
BMPs

Overall BMP: **100% EXCELLING**

The City of Bayswater should be commended for having all of the assessed nutrient Best Management Practices in place.

RESPONSE KEY:

BMP has been achieved BMP has NOT been achieved Not Applicable Response not assessed

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE (BMP) KEY:

Excelling Above Average Average Below Average Unsatisfactory

NUTRIENT MONITORING

QUESTION	RESPONSE	SECTION BMP
Are regular soil tests &/or leaf tissue analyses conducted in grassed and turf areas?	YES	EXCELLING
Is analysis conducted by a lab affiliated with ASPAC?	YES	
Is plant available phosphorus in the soil measured using an appropriate test?	YES	
Are rates of phosphorus determined by soil testing and Phosphorus Retention Index (PRI) results?	YES	

The City performs leaf tissue analysis and soil and moisture testing of sports fields, golf courses, irrigated parks and foreshore areas. It is recommended that this testing regime continue. If dry grass areas are fertilised then nutrient testing should be performed.

FERTILISER APPLICATIONS

QUESTION	RESPONSE	SECTION BMP
Are there foreshore reserves and parks in the LGA?	YES	EXCELLING
Is fertiliser added to foreshore reserves and parks?	NO	
Does the fertiliser contain phosphorus?	N/A	
Is it a controlled release, low water soluble fertiliser?	N/A	

The City does not apply fertiliser to foreshore areas and it is recommended that this practice continue. It is recommended that the City continue to implement their current practices in other turfed areas, with the exception that fertiliser not be applied during the winter months.

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT

QUESTION	RESPONSE	SECTION BMP
Are structural BMPs in place to reduce nutrients entering waterbodies?	YES	EXCELLING
Are non-structural measures in place to prevent nutrients from grass clippings entering waterbodies via stormwater drains?	YES	
Are there deciduous trees in parks and streetscapes?	YES	
Are non-structural measures in place to prevent nutrients from deciduous leaves entering waterbodies via stormwater drains?	YES	
Are there non-structural measures in place to prevent nutrients from sediment entering waterbodies via stormwater drains?	YES	
Is a Nutrient and Irrigation Management Plan (NIMP) implemented for streetscapes?	YES	
Is there a policy to use local native plants as the first choice in public (LGA) and private (developers) landscaping?	YES	

It is recommended that the City continue to implement its current practices. It is recommended that no further deciduous trees be planted on road verges or near waterbodies.

WATER QUALITY MONITORING

QUESTION	RESPONSE	SECTION BMP
Are wetlands regularly monitored for nutrient levels?	YES	EXCELLING
Are stormwater drains regularly monitored for nutrient levels?	YES	
Are compensating basins regularly monitored for nutrient levels?	YES	

It is recommended that the City continue to implement their current practices, including the reporting of results to the community.

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL

QUESTION	RESPONSE	SECTION BMP
Are there provisions in the Town Planning Scheme or Planning Policies to enforce environmental conditions on development?	YES	EXCELLING
Do you impose conditions on development which include Nutrient and Irrigation Management Plans (NIMPs)?	YES	
Do you have mechanisms in place to regulate sediment management?	YES	

It is recommended that the City continue to implement their current practices, including monitoring developments for compliance. If developers are found not to be in compliance they should be prosecuted.

NUTRIENT EDUCATION

QUESTION	RESPONSE	SECTION BMP
Are dog poo bins and bags provided in parks and foreshore reserves?	YES	EXCELLING
Are measures taken to educate the public about not feeding bread to waterbirds in foreshore reserves and parks?	YES	
Are ratepayers provided with advice on best practice in fertiliser management according to soil type?	YES	

It is recommended that the City continue to implement their current practices.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PROVIDED

Raingardens, living streams and micro wetlands continue to be constructed. School events are held to teach students about the connection of stormwater to the river and the role of nutrients. "Clean Drains River Gains" drainage kerb markers are installed around the City. The Waterwise Bayswater Strategy provides guidance on actions to create a more waterwise city. 30,000 plants were installed by community groups over weekend planting days. Residents continue to install native verges and street trees.

The following practices continue to be undertaken by Parks and Gardens: verti draining, shockwave aeration, retic upgrades, retic training programmes - efficiency etc, top dressing, hydrozoning, mulch, wetting agents, sand banding, testing of additional tennis clubs and turf cricket wickets with results passed to the clubs themselves in addition to wetting agents and growth retarder used in summer. Grass also mown slightly higher to protect the canopy and reduce the requirement for weed spraying, fertilisers, sweeping of grass tailings etc.